The Ascension News.

VOL. I. PHILADELPHIA, PA., JANUARY, 1888. No. 1

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANTS:
REV. H. O. DUBOIS,
2015 De Lancey Place.

REV. W. B. THORN,
802 N. 7th St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
WM. F. SMITH.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
407 So. 13th St.

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Morning Prayer, 11 A. M.
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5.00 P. M., Evening Prayer.
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For Young Men, Sunday, 2.30 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Grimball.
For Ladies, Sunday, 2.30 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Haverstick.

KALENDAR.

JANUARY.

1 Circumcision—Sunday after Christmas.
6 The Epiphany—Fast.
8 1st Sunday after Epiphany.
13 Friday—Fast.
15 2d Sunday after Epiphany.
20 Friday—Fast.
22 3d Sunday after Epiphany.
25 Conversion of S. Paul.
27 Friday—Fast.
29 Septuagesima.

GUILD MEETINGS.

3 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
10 7.45 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
17 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. John's Guild.
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8 Sunday School Teachers.
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Miss A. Jackson,	Miss M. Jackson,
Miss M. Harper,	Miss Blackwell,
Miss Florence Smith,	Miss Bond,
Miss T. G. Harper,	Miss Parmalee,
Miss Carman,	Miss Haslett,
Miss Hiller,	Miss Calder,
Miss Duncan,	Miss B. Spear,
Miss Young,	Miss Schock,

Mr Purell.

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A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published by S. John's Guild, under the direction of the Rector.

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Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

GREETING!

With the first month of a new year, the ASCENSION NEWS makes its first appearance and joins the great company of periodicals, which are issued daily, weekly, monthly from the press. In these days when the pen has become so much mightier than the sword, and in which the functions of the pulpit even have been largely superseded by the press, it is wise for the Church to make use of this new instrumentality to reach more persons than she can now reach from the pulpit, and more regularly, for you can always read at home, if you cannot always go to church, and more effectively, for you can understand the sense better of what you read than what you hear, and in order that she may speak on a greater variety and different character of subjects than she can speak of from the pulpit. For these reasons, there are a large number of parish papers now being published throughout our Church, and have been found most useful in disseminating information, keeping the people acquainted with what is going on in our parishes, and inciting them to do their duty.

We have long felt that such a paper would be of great benefit in our parish, but in the multiplicity of duties falling upon the Rector, he was not able to look after it, and there did not seem to be any one else to do the work. Now, however, the new warden of S. John's Guild, our assistant minister, the Rev. W. B. Thorn, has kindly consented to assume its editorship, and the Guild enters upon the enterprise with the full hope and confidence that it will be of great service to the parish.

We have taken the name of THE ASCENSION NEWS, because the purpose of the paper will be primarily to keep the parishioners and friends of the parish informed of all that is going on in it. A great many persons do not take part in church work, or assist it, simply because they do not know what is going on or what is needed, and it is difficult to acquaint them. Notices from the pulpit are not always correctly understood, and many do not stop to look at the notice board in the vestibule of the church, nor is it possible to explain things fully in either of these ways. But a paper issued monthly and placed in the hands of each one attending the Church, and which the parishioners can show to their friends too, will be just the medium for disseminating information that we need. Our first aim therefore, will be to supply all the news we can about the Church and its work, and its wants, and about everything that is going on in connection with it. We shall also use our columns for the purpose of explaining anything about the Church or its services, which seems to require explanation and for giving instructions in regard to Church doctrines or practices.

Such being our plan and aim, we ask the patronage of every person connected with, or interested in the Ascension Parish. We hope to secure a sufficient number of subscribers to pay the cost of printing, so that the paper can be gratuitously distributed, thus extending its influence as far as possible. We feel that the Church of the Ascension stands now in a position in which if its buildings can be completed, its debt removed, and a partial endowment at least be provided,—for we believe that all churches, especially free churches, should have some endowment,—a work can be accomplished scarcely second, in its extent and usefulness, to that of any other church in this city. To getting our Church thus equipped and helping her to do this work, we propose to devote our energies, and every one who subscribes to, or even reads our paper, will be helping us.

Record for December.

Baptisms	2
Burials	3
Communions of the sick	2
Communicants added—	
New	2
By removal	6
Died	1
Removed	2

OFFERINGS.

Current expenses	$102.71
On Christmas day, for interest on mortgage	635.78
Poor	8.57
Salary of assistant minister	300.00
Christmas decorations	11.35
Payment of debt	30.00
Building Fund	15.00
Sunday School	8.77
	$1112.18
Proceeds of Kaffee Klatsche for church debt	180.02
Proceeds of children's sale for building chancel	34.07

PARISH NOTES.

A LITTLE GIRL belonging to S. Peter's parish, but much interested in this Church, which she thinks is, "the prettiest in the city," had a sale this autumn, in her aunt's parlor, of things made entirely by herself, and a few friends, and realized the sum of $34.07, which she has given towards the building fund, because she says she "wants to see the boards at the end of the church knocked down" and the chancel built. If all our own people took the same interest, might it not soon be done?

CARVING THE CAPITALS.—In the last month we have had four of the capitals of the columns in the Church carved, which has added very much to the beauty of its interior. We need only $25 more to secure the carving of the two remaining ones. Would any one like to give it? If it is not done now, it will cost more than double that sum to do it in the future.

MEMORIAL WINDOWS.—The glass for the remaining aisle window, and also for the light over the small door, has been ordered from England. This leaves only the clerestory windows to be filled with handsome glass. Designs for these can be seen in the vestry room. They consist of single figures of saints. They will cost about $50 each.

A BIER.—Our Church is now pretty well provided with necessary articles of furniture for the present. But we still need a bier. We have nothing on which to place the body when it is brought to the Church for the performance of the last solemn rites.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS.—Some of our young men have made this year, a temporary wooden screen covered with greens, placed in front of the choir. It forms a very pretty feature in our decorations. Perhaps some day, when the chancel is built, we may have a permanent handsome metalic screen. It could be made very beautiful, and is useful in making a separation between the chancel and the body of the Church, and protecting the former from danger of desecration in a church which is left always open. I. is very effective also in elevating the Cross so prominently before the people's eyes, and teaching them that they cannot approach the Altar of God without being willing to pass under it. From this purpose it is called "rood screen," rood meaning in old English the rod or cross on which Our Lord was hung.

THE TEN CENT COLLECTION PLAN.—What is known as the A. B. C. collection scheme was started in the parish some weeks ago, for the purpose of raising money for the payment of the mortgage on the property, and for building the chancel. Some money has been received from it, but not very much as yet. Many do not seem to understand it, and others find difficulty in getting those who will undertake to ask others to take the papers. In this case it will be better not to regard the bundles of papers, but break them and endeavor to give out as many F. papers as possible. Each person who takes an F. paper simply promises to give ten cents himself and to ask ten people for ten cents, or if he gives or collects in any way $1.10, it will be the same thing. If all the F. papers could be worked off in this way, the whole scheme would be accomplished, for all the other papers are only worth 10 cents each, and could easily be disposed of. Let every one who has the papers try to give out all the F.'s he can.

ORDERS FOR EMBROIDERY.—The embroidery class of the Altar Chapter of the Women's Guild will be glad to take orders for stoles, altar cloths, vestments or any kind of church needlework. They have one or two stoles now on hand for sale. Perhaps there are those in the parish who would like to buy such things as presents to clergymen or churches, or they may mention it to their friends who might be wanting them.

The class would be glad to embroider for the Church one or two handsome banners which we need, if some one would donate the material. Perhaps some have handsome pieces of silk that would answer.

HAND IN YOUR NAMES.—It would be a great satisfaction to the Rector if the persons attending the Church regularly, but who are not known to any of the clergy, would give in their names and addresses. A clergyman is naturally anxious to know personally those who attend his church, and it will be an advantage to the persons themselves to be so known. It is impossible to have the same feeling for interest in a church you merely attend, as you would in one to which you regularly belong. Give your name to the Rector if he does not know you.

PHOTOGRAPHS of the interior of the Church can be had in the vestry. They are 25 cents each.

CHRISTMAS.—We had a beautiful day for our Christmas Festival this year. The Church looked very well as dressed by the members of S. John's Guild. And we had good congregations, good music, and good offertories.

There were 66 communicants at 7.30 A. M., 19 at 8.30 A. M., and 76 at 11 A. M., making in all 161. Last year there were only 109 communicants at Christmas. This year the offerings were $635.78 last year $432.39 This shows decided progress.

Still the clergy looked in vain for many faces of parishioners who ought to have presented themselves at the altar on Christmas day, which did not appear. All ought to remember that whether they communicate at other times or not, communion at the great Festivals is obligatory.

CHOIR IMPROVEMENT FUND.—Some weeks ago there was started among the members of the choir, a fund known as the "Choir Improvement Fund." Its object was to fit up the choir room with some degree of convenience and comfort; and afterward purchase new Hymnals and other music, as needed.

In order to start the fund in a methodical way, cards were printed, each containing ten dots, one dot to be punctured for every cent received. About two hundred cards were distributed; nearly all have been returned, and in consequence nearly twenty dollars have been raised for the fund.

This method, however, does not reach a large number of persons who may desire to contribute to this fund but who have no opportunity presented to them. In order, therefore, that every one may contribute to the Choir Fund, it is asked that every one in the congregation will determine to give a certain fixed amount every week, whether it be *one cent* or *ten cents*, and place it in the proper box in the vestibule. The main point is to make the contribution regularly, no matter how small it may be.

S. ANDREW'S BROTHERHOOD.--Some weeks ago there was formed in this parish a chapter of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew. Its object cannot be better told than in the first article of the *Constitution*:

"The sole object of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew is the spread of Christ's kingdom among young men, and, to this end, every man desiring to become a member thereof must pledge himself to obey the rules of the Brotherhood so long as he shall be a member. These rules are two: The Rule of Prayer, and the Rule of Service. The Rule of Prayer is to pray daily for the spread of Christ's kingdom among young men, and for God's blessing upon the labors of the Brotherhood. The Rule of Service is to make an earnest effort each week to bring at least one young man within hearing of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, as set forth in the services of the Church and in Young Men's Bible Classes."

All the young men of the parish are most earnestly asked to join this Brotherhood, and thus help on the work in God's Kingdom on earth. The meetings are announced on the first page.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

On Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 21 and 22, there was held in the Parish Building a Kaffee Klatsche and Sale. The room was tastefully decorated, and the bright costumes of the young lady aids added much to the attractiveness of the scene. Supper was served and each guest was presented with a cup and saucer as a souvenir of the occasion. An entertainment was also given on Monday evening, and was well received. Altogether the Klatsche was a grand success, $180.02 being realized and given towards the payment of the church debt, in addition to purchasing a quantity of china and kitchen utensels, to be kept permanently for use on such occasions, and building a closet to contain them.

On Tuesday evening, Dec. 20, S. John's Guild gave its first public entertainment. The programme was lengthy, and consisted of vocal and instrumental solos and duets, recitations, and feats of legerdemain, and concluding with the enjoyable operetta, "The Seven Old Ladies of Lavender Town."

The success of the entertainment was due in great measure to the untiring efforts of Mr. Wm. McAuley, to the talent he secured, and to the ladies of S. Mary's Guild who so kindly volunteered their services.

On Monday evening, Dec. 26, S. John's Guild sat down to its annual supper. Delegations were present from S. Mark's Church, and from S. John's and S. Barnabas' Churches, Camden. Making in all, with the members of our own Guild, 56 young men and boys. An impromptu programme proved very successful; addresses were made by the Rector and by members of the visiting guilds; and the pleasant evening closed with a merry game in which all participated.

Tuesday evening, Dec. 27, was the monthly recreation night of S. Mary's

Guild. The members of the guild and as many as would pay a small admission fee, were entertained by Mr. B. F. Duane, with his "Ninety Minutes in Kweer Kompany."

The audience was thoroughly appreciative. It was however small, and this was regretted by the guild, not only on account of the enjoyment missed by those who were absent, but also because they had hoped, after paying expenses, to have left a sum that would form the nucleus of a coal fund for the poor. This object was stated on the tickets.

On Holy Innocent's evening, the Sunday School met in the Parish Building, and with their banners marched into the Church, singing a glad Christmas hymn. After a short service, carols by both the main school and the infant classes, and a ringing Christmas address by the Rector, they returned to the Parish Building for their treat. Here they found a tree prettily trimmed and lighted by many tapers. Mr. McAuley read "T'was the Night before Christmas," and a member of the infant school recited a short poem. Then came a sad piece of news, announced by telegraph to the Rector, Kriss Kringle was on his way but had broken down. However shortly after another telegram stated that he had mended his sleigh and would be present. This was hailed with cheers, which were renewed when Kriss himself walked in and bowed to the merry audience. He brought with him a large bundle of toys for the little ones. Then each scholar received a box of mixtures, a piece of cake and an orange. And the happy evening was brought to a close by the school singing another carol.

An unusually large number of parents and other members of the congregation were present and seemed to enjoy themselves as much as the little ones.

The music was good, and Mr. Remont is to be congratulated on his success in training the school.

Sunday School Honor Roll.

Under this head, we shall publish each month, the names of such Sunday School scholars as deserve special mention and commendation for their regular attendance upon the sessions of the School and Litany Service, their good deportment and uniform attention to their lessons. Such a roll, we think will serve a twofold purpose ; it will act as an additional incentive to the children to do their duty, and it will incite parents to pay some little regard to the religious training of their children.

Letters of Transfer.

It seems strange that persons removing to or from a parish should neglect to bring or take letters of transfer. In ordinary business transactions, letters of recommendation are highly valued, and so it should be with regard to letters of transfer. Moreover, the law of the Church is plain: "A communicant removing from one parish to another *shall* procure from the Rector (if any) of the parish of his last residence, or, if there be no Rector, from one of the Wardens, a certificate stating that he or she is a communicant in good standing ; and the Rector of the parish or congregation to which he or she removes shall not be required to receive him or her as a communicant until such letter be produced."—TITLE II, CANON 12, § 1.

To-Day.

This is John Ruskin's motto, and a grand one it is. If you have a plan, carry it out to-day ; if you have been meaning to do a certain kind act, to write a gentle letter, to make a call that will carry comfort, do it to-day. How often the day drifts by while we go about our every day duties in a half lethargy of benumbed will power. Up, then to-day, and accomplish something!

Down goes the temptation, the pampered pet sin, conquered to-day, just as it was beginning to draw its sluggish coils about us. The windows of our higher nature fly open, and in pours the sweet pure air, straight from the skies. Let the past be past ; yesterday is dead. It is bright, living, glorious to-day.

A Chapter for Men.

Most men prefer that their wives and daughters should be members of the communion of the Church. Unless they happen to be so pious that their piety interferes with my lord's pleasure, he rather thinks it a right and proper thing for women. But, as we read God's Word, man was made in the image of God, and women is the glory of man. God expects more from man than He does from woman. He should be to her an example of goodness and purity and piety that she could look up to, and in so doing be aided to the eternal kingdom. Here is an able-bodied man that can work six days in the week, but is too weak to walk to church on Sundays. The woman who is termed "the weaker vessel," can stand up and say her creed, and kneel down and say her prayers, but he, the lord of creation, the image of God, can do nothing of the kind. This specimen of God's image had better do a little thinking for himself. He will not be here many years longer ; will have to go forth some of these days, and there will be no wife to wait on him or help him ; he will go forth a stranger, into a strange country, and at the appointed time he will have to stand up; can no longer loll and vote Christ's service a bore ; will have to stand up before the Christ he was ashamed of, and account to Him for the way he lived; for what he did, and for what he did not. Certain, is it? As certain as the sunrise. O man, made in the image of God, redeemed by the precious blood of Christ, bestir yourself and act as one who must soon give an account to the Righteous Judge.

A Street Incident.

A reporter called to a little bootblack near the City Hall to give him a shine the other day. The little fellow came rather slowly for one of that lively guild and planted his box down under the reporter's foot. Before he could get his brushes out another larger boy ran up and calmly pushing the little one aside said "Here, you go sit down, Jimmy." The reporter at once became indignant at what he took to be a piece of outrageous bullying, and sharply told the newcomer to clear out. "Oh, dat's all right, boss," was the reply, "I'm only goin' to do it fur him. You see he's been sick in the hospital for mor'n a month, and can't do much work yet, so us boys all turn in and give him a lift when we can, savy?" "Is that so, Jimmy?" asked the reporter, turning to the smaller boy. "Yes, sir," wearily replied the boy, and as he looked up the palid, pinched face could be discerned even through the grime that covered it. "He does it fur me, if you'll let him." "Certainly, go ahead," and as the bootblack plied the brush, the reporter plied him with questions. "You say all the boys help him in this way?" "Yes, sir. When they ain't got no job themselves, and Jimmy gets one, they turns in and helps him, 'cause he ain't very strong yet, ye see." "What percentage do you charge him on a job?" "Hey?" queried the youngster. "I don't know what you mean." "I mean, what part of the money do you give Jimmy, and how much do you keep out of it?" "You bet yer life I don't keep none, I ain't no such sneak as that." So you give it all to him, do you?" "Yes, I do. All the boys give up what they gets on his job. I'd like to catch any feller sneaking it on a sick boy, I would." The shine being completed,

the reporter handed the urchin a quarter saying, "I guess you're a pretty good fellow, so you keep ten cents and give the rest to Jimmy there." "Can't do it, sir; it's his customer. Here, Jim!" He t rew him the coin, and was off like a shot after a customer for himself, a veritable rough diamond. In this big city there are many such lads, with warm and generous hearts under their ragged coats.—*N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.*

List of Subscribers.

Each month we propose publishing the names of new subscribers. If your name appears in the list, and you have not paid the subscription price, please look upon it as a notification that your subscription is due.

The following are the subscribers to date:

Mrs. Larzelere, Mrs. G. H. Haverstick (2 copies), Mr. Harry Carson, Mr. A. T. Moore, Mrs. Bond, Mr. H. M. Wright, Mr. John Haslett, Mr. W. M. Newnam, Miss Jane B. Hewson, Mrs. Milliken, Miss Atkinson (2 copies) Miss E. Parmalee, Mr. Jno. Leach, Mrs. Grimball, Miss Emily Thomas, Mr. E. L. Teakle, Miss M. G. Harper, Mr. W. F. Smith, Mr. W. H. Cope, Mr. Benj. Johnson, Mr. C. L. S. Tingley, Mr. F. S. Keese, Miss Hettie Dickerson, Miss Wurts, Mrs. Pollock, Mrs. Augustus Jackson, Miss Zantzinger.

THE following rubric from the order of the Visitation of the Sick, appears to have been forgotten by the majority of people: "When any person is sick, notice *shall be given* thereof to the Minister of the Parish."

THE chiefest Saints before God are the least in their own judgments; and the more glorious they are, so much the humbler within themselves.—*S. Thomas A. Kempis.*

"THE ANGELS," says one of the Fathers of the church, "always carry their heaven about with them wheresoever they are sent, because they never depart from God or cease to behold Him, ever dwelling in the bosom of His immensity, living and moving in Him, and exercising their ministry in the sanctuary of His divinity."—*Bp. Huntington.*

NOTICE!

THE Ladies' Aid Society will take orders for any kind of plain sewing: aprons, underwear, etc. Orders can be sent to Miss Hewson, 1912 Pine street, or Mrs. Bond, 1502 Arch street, or they can be seen at the Church on Thursday afternoons, at 3 o'clock. or after prayers on Friday mornings, at 10 o'clock.

Ferkler & Stuckert,
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Chestnut Street, Phila'a.

CORSON & CRENSHAW
Insurance Brokers,
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KALENDAR.

FEBRUARY.

2 Purification B. V. M.
5 Sexagesima.
12 Quinquagesima.
15 Ash Wednesday—Fast.
19 1st Sunday in Lent.
22 Ember Day—Fast.
24 S. Matthias—Ember Day.
25 Ember Day—Fast.
26 2d Sunday in Lent.

All the days in Lent, except Sundays, are Fasts.

GUILD MEETINGS.

7 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
14 7.45 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
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Miss Florence Smith,
Miss T. G. Harper,
Miss Carman,
Miss Hiller,
Miss Duncan,
Miss Young,
Miss Davis,
Miss M. Jackson,
Miss Blackwell,
Miss Bond,
Miss Parmalee,
Miss Haslett,
Miss Calder,
Miss B. Spear,
Miss Schock,
Mr. Buell.

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LENT.

We have already entered into the shadow of Lent, which begins with Septuagesima Sunday,—so called because it is about the seventieth day before Easter,—and in a few days the Holy season itself will have begun. In thinking of Lent, it is important that we should remember that its observance is something which the Church requires from every one. It is not only for the specially pious, for those who are professedly religious. The Church knows no such distinctions. She expects all her children to be pious. Her observances are for all. Yet a great many people think that Lent, for instance, is something which only concerns those who are very good, and have plenty of leisure for extra church-going, and enjoy it. But on the contrary, if it is intended for any class especially, it is for those who have been careless and forgetful, for the sinful. It is the Church's time for revival. What the other denominations do spasmodically as occasion arises, the Church does systematically. Every year she appoints this season of prayer and penitence, not only for the purpose of cultivating more the spiritual life of those who are trying to do their duty, but for the arousing of the impenitent and negligent, and trying to awaken all men to a sense of their duties and responsibilities, and furnishing them with the aids which they need to discharge them.

So the call of Lent comes to all. In the very midst of the gayest season of the year it commands all to stop and think of higher, more solemn things. And it imposes upon all a discipline, which they need to give and strengthen the power of self-control. There is nothing so essential for the perfection of one's character as self-mastery, and that power, like all others, can only be gained by exercise. That is the purpose of fasting. If men have to abstain from that which is in itself lawful, as a means of discipline, they will gain the strength to resist the temptation to do what is wrong when it comes to them. So the Church calls upon all her members during the forty days of Lent to give themselves to special prayer and fasting. If the God-man Himself needed such a discipline, must not each human soul? If He fasted forty days and forty nights before He was tempted of the devil, do not we need the same preparation to fit us to resist the assaults of evil that continually come to us. If all kept Lent devoutly there would be less evil living, and more good done in the world.

As to the special way in which each one should keep Lent, our Church does not lay down the stringent, invariable rules for all that other branches of the Church do. She rather leaves each to lay down rules for themselves. What would be fasting for one would not be for another. Let each one lay down a rule for himself in regard to meat and drink, and abstinence from recreations and indulgences which may be perfectly lawful ordinarily, but which abstaining from for a time will cultivate the power and habit of self-control at all times, and in regard to all things. Let each also use the special opportunities for prayer and devotion which Lent gives for real seeking for greater grace from God, for the real growth and development of his spiritual life.

The clergy of the parish fervently pray that this coming Lent will be a real season of spiritual revival, that the Holy Spirit may be poured out in full measure upon each member of the congregation enabling them to overcome their sins and weaknesses and live a more truly religious life. And they trust that the special services and opportunities for spiritual cultivation which will be given, will be used by all, and not merely formally, but with the earnest desire and effort to be really benefitted. As thorough plowing and sowing produce a rich harvest, so a well kept Lent will bring forth fruit in one's after life.

CONFIRMATION.

The Bishop of the Diocese has appointed the evening of April 13th, to administer Confirmation in this Church, and the Rector trusts that all in the parish who are of sufficient age and have not yet been Confirmed will give him their names to be presented to the Bishop at that time.

Confirmation is obligatory upon all. When children are baptised the Sponsors are told that they "are to see that these children be brought to the Bishop to be Confirmed by him, so soon as they can say the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments;" that is of course, intelligently, so that they can understand them, "and are sufficiently instructed in the other parts of the Church Catechism set forth for that purpose." It is the duty of Godparents therefore to see that children are Confirmed, and they are to be Confirmed as soon as they are old enough to understand, and are sufficiently instructed in, the principles of the Christian religion. And the purpose of it is, "that they may with their own mouth and consent" assume the obligations of religion, and may receive the invocation of the Spirit of God upon them that they may have the grace to fulfil those obligations. And those obligations are binding on them whether they will or no. It is not a voluntary thing whether a man will lead a religious life or not. God requires it of us, and if any man refuses to fulfil the duties of religion he is only adding sin to sin. A great many people look upon Confirmation and other religious acts as if they were entirely voluntary things. But they are duties. And it is wrong to neglect a duty. And every obligation we assume in Confirmation is binding upon us, whether we are Confirmed or not. The difference between one who is Confirmed and one who is not is, that the one acknowledges his sense of his obligation and seeks God's help to enable him to fulfil it, and the other neither acknowledges it nor tries to do it. No one therefore need shrink from Confirmation from fear of assuming responsibility, for he is bound to live a Christian life if he knows what a Christian's duty is, and he is assuming a greater responsibility by not being Confirmed in refusing to perform a duty and in neglecting the aid he needs.

The Church does not specify the age at which one should be Confirmed because it will vary with individuals, some reach "years of discretion" sooner than others. But the intention of the Church is that every one should be Confirmed at that period of life when he is beginning to act for himself and direct his own life. When we are children we do what is right because our parents and teachers tell us, but when we get old enough to understand what is right and wrong for ourselves, and become our own masters, then we should undertake to do what is right of ourselves, and then it is that we need especially to seek the strengthening influences of the Spirit of God to enable us to do what we cannot do in our own strength. And many a man succumbs finally to the temptations of evil simply because he has not bound himself by this promise and sought for this grace. While on the other hand a man's Confirmation has often been

the means of guarding and restraining him from evil, and assisting him to be good, when otherwise he would inevitably have fallen.

If one has had the misfortune, through his own fault or the fault of others, of not having been Confirmed when he was growing up, he should remedy that misfortune at the first opportunity he has, no matter at what time of life he may be. And in this country where so many come into the Church from the different Denominations who do not practice Confirmation, we have at every Confirmation persons of all ages presented. Let no one put it off. If it is right to be done, it should be done at once. Every year it is postponed a duty is neglected and privileges are being lost. None should wait as some do for a religious "experience." The Church teaches that religion is a matter of soberness and determination. If one knows what is right, and is determined, seeking God's help, to do it, then he is fit to be Confirmed, and he does wrong if he is not.

The clergy therefore earnestly call upon all the adult members of the parish who have not yet been Confirmed to fulfil their duty and avail themselves of the privilege offered them at this time.

Special instructions preparatory to Confirmation will be given by the Rector every Monday at 4 P. M., in the Guild room, from February 20th to April 9th, and by the Rev. Mr. Thorn every Thursday evening, at 8 P. M., from February 23d to April 12th. If there are any who cannot attend one or other of these classes, the Rector will be glad to meet them privately at such times as may be convenient for them. But he particularly requests all intending to be Confirmed to give him their names at once, and to be particular in attending regularly the instructions arranged.

Any persons, whether they intend to be Confirmed or not, or who may already have been Confirmed, are welcome to attend the instructions if they desire to do so.

Record for January.

Baptisms	2
Burials	1
Communions of the sick	2
Communicants added—	
By removal	6
Removed	3

OFFERINGS.

Current expenses	$192.29
Poor	15.02
Sunday School	10.08
General Missions	14.16
Children's Christmas Festival	16.25
Building Fund	121.35
Church debt	50.00
S. John Guild	3.00
Total	$422.15
Estimated current expenses of the Church for month	$271 00

PARISH NOTES.

During the last month a lady belonging to the parish has presented three-and-a-half yards of beautiful, hand-made lace for the front of the altar. Gifts of this kind, which involve personal labor are doubly valuable.

Bible Classes.— There is nothing so important as that Christian people should be thoroughly instructed in, and be familiar with the use of, the Bible. We have in this parish abundant opportunities for its study. The Rector lectures each Wednesday on one of the books of the Bible, teating of its date, authorship, and general character and contents. The Rev. Mr. Du Bois has a Bible Class for men and women every Saturday evening in the Guild room, and every Sunday at 2.30 P. M. for men. In addition to which there is a a young men's Bible Class, and a female Bible Class, Sunday afternoon in connection with the Sunday School. We trust that all who possibly can do so, will avail themselves of one or other of these means for Bible study.

Missionary Collections. — In churches which are supported by pew rents there are also collections, quarterly, monthly or weekly for Missionary or charitable purposes. But in churches which are free and in which the ordinary Sunday collections are for the support of the Church, there ought to be some opportunity given for contributions for these objects. If what one gives through the offertory for the support of the Church corresponds to what is paid as pew rent in another church, he should make his benevolent contributions in addition. In order to provide for this, the Rector has determined, with the approval of the financial committee of the Vestry, to have envelopes prepared with a benevolent object printed upon them, and have them distributed to the members of the congregation on the morning of one Sunday in each alternate month during the winter, with the request that a contribution will be put in them and placed in the offertory *in addition* to the giver's ordinary offering for the support of the Church. Envelopes for the General Missions of the Church were so distributed on the fourth Sunday in January, and similar ones for Diocesan Missions will be given out some Sunday in March. These are objects to which every parish should contribute, and it is trusted each member of the congregation will give to them.

Mission Churches.— The Rector has constant applications from the clergy of Mission and Country Churches for aid in furnishing their churches with vestments, altar linen, &c. These things are necessary to the reverent Celebration of Divine Worship, and yet in poor parishes it is very difficult to supply them. We have lately instituted a committee of the Altar Chapter of our Women's Guild for the purpose of furnishing such things for poor churches. The members of this committee will gladly make up the things needed, if the material can be supplied. But this requires money.

During the last month the Rector has received a letter from a clergyman in New Jersey asking if he can give him some coverings or hangings for his altar, lectern, &c., as they have none of any description. Also a clergyman in Oregon asks for vestments for himself. If any one in the congregation would give the material for these things the Altar Committee will make them up. The clergyman in Oregon asks also if there is not some one in our congregation who would supply his church with "Altar ornaments."

Collection Cards.—Quite a number of persons, members of the congregation, children of the Sunday School, and others who took the $5.00 Collection Cards for the Building Fund, have never returned them. Those having them are requested to return them with the amount collected, no matter whether it is the full amount of the card or not. They must remember that any money collected by them belongs to the Church, and should be used for no other purpose whatsoever.

Sermons on Church Unity.—The Rector proposes to preach a course of sermons on Sunday evenings, beginning with Sexagesima Sunday, Feb. 5, in the interest of Church Unity, taking up each of the principal Denominations, giving an account of their rise and history and peculiar tenets, and considering them in relation to the question of Church Union.

The money necessary having been contributed, the two remaining capitals of the columns in the Church have been carved during the past week. Thus gradually is our Church being com-

pleted, and little by little we hope to get the funds to erect the chancel and tower and carry out the full scheme of ornamentation proposed.

PHOTOGRAPHS of the interior of the Church can be had in the vestry. They are 25 cents each.

MISSIONARY BOX.—A full account of the Missionary box, sent by the members of the Women's Guild to a clergyman in Virginia, and his acknowledgment of its receipt, will appear in our next issue.

FROM Septuagesima to Easter we are passing through the great penitential season of the Church year. The festive decorations we have had during the Christmas and Epiphany tides have been removed. The color of the vestments and hangings of the Church is violet. The music assumes a penitential tone, the joyful hymns "Te Deum" and "Gloria in excelsis" are not sung, but in place of the one we have the Benedicite, and in place of the other we sing "Jesus Lover of My Soul." And everything is done to try to make each Christian realize his sinfulness, and impress upon him the necessity of true repentence and amendment of life. Thus by the arrangement of her services throughout the year, the Church teaches us the great truths we should learn, and the duties we should perform.

ENTERTAINMENT.

"The Bohemians," of West Philadelphia, who so kindly, about eighteen months ago, gave an entertainment for the benefit of this parish by which nearly two hundred dollars was cleared, will give another theatrical entertainment at 8 P. M., Wednesday, February 8, at the new "Drawing Room," Fortieth and Locust streets.

The price of admission will be fifty cents, and tickets may be procured from Mrs. C. B. Nancrede, 2109 Pine street, Mr. Ed. A. Carpenter, 228 S. 21st street, Mrs. Haverstick, 318 S. Broad street, W. H. Cope, Esq., 4009 Chestnut street, and at the Parish Building, on Broad, below South street, from the sexton.

The proceeds of the entertainment will be devoted to the building fund and current expenses of this parish.

The evening will begin with "The Loan of a Lover," in which Mr. and Mrs. Henry M. Janvier, specially excel—followed by "Place aux Dames" or, "the Ladies speak at last," an amusing burlesque of some of Shakespeare's heroines who are taking tea with Lady Macbeth. Both plays will be short, enabling those coming from a distance to reach home at a reasonable hour. From this side of the river, the Drawing Room can be reached by taking the green cars of the Walnut Street line to 40th and Chestnut Streets, while in returning, the Lombard Street cars pass its doors.

It is hoped that the members of this parish will show their appreciation of the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. Janvier, who are taking much trouble in the rehearsing of these plays by distributing and selling tickets so that the entertainment may be a success.

THE CHOIR.

The Choir now numbers twenty-six, as follows:—Sopranos, 14; Altos, 3; Tenors, 4; Basses, 5.

The Altar Chapter of the Guild is making a number of new Cassocks for members of the Choir.

The Choir is in need of two or three more boys, also additional basses and tenors, men with good voices and knowing how to read music, application may be made to the Choirmaster on Monday and Thursday evenings after 7.30 o'clock, or on Friday evenings after 7.45.

As stated last month, a *Choir Fund* has been established, with a view to fitting up the Choir room; and purchasing new Hymnals and other music. All of the members and friends of the Church are asked to make weekly contributions to this Fund. One of the contribution boxes in the vestibule has been devoted to this purpose and will be properly labelled. Every issue of THE ASCENSION NEWS will contain the amount of the contributions for the preceding month.

During Lent a portion of the Choir will be present daily at Evening Prayer.

To the Parishioners of the Church of the Ascension.

The undersigned committee was appointed by the Vestry to communicate with you as occasion might require, in regard to the financial needs of the parish. You have just the same interest with them in its welfare, and you, with them, must provide the means to carry on its work. It is therefore proper that you should be fully aware of what is needed to this end, that you should be fully advised not only of the money *receipts*, but also of the *expenditures*.

You are aware that for more than two years prior to September 1st last, your Rector had not received any salary, having most generously relinquished it with a view of aiding the parish in securing its new site and buildings. You, as well as ourselves, have greatfully appreciated this act of self-sacrifice on his part, but we have all felt keenly that too much of the financial burden was falling upon him. Responding to this feeling, the Vestry unanimously decided that this condition of things must cease, and that from September 1st last, a salary must be assured to the Rector. They were able to pay this salary for the months of September and October, but there is now due him three months' salary, and there is not a cent to meet it. On the contrary, we are in debt on account of current expenses to the amount of $150.

It may be well to state in this connection, that the entire salary of the Assistant Minister is provided for by the liberality of two gentlemen of the congregation.

Another source of great complaint in the parish was the very unsatisfactory character of the music. The Vestry decided that the demand for a more beautiful and attractive rendering of the music of the Church must be met, and therefore doubled the previous appropriation for the choir. The result is that everyone has been gratified by the marked improvement, but the money has not been forthcoming to meet the increased expenditure.

The action of the Vestry on these two points, means briefly that we require for the current year, an addition of $2,000 to the previous income of the Church. This can only be obtained by every individual member of the parish increasing their weekly offerings. The question we bring to each one of you is—will you do your share towards raising the additional sum required? You want to do justice to your Rector, you want good music—will you help to accomplish both ends?

It is the duty of every member of the parish to decide conscientiously *how much* they ought to give, and having decided that point, to give it in the offertory every Sunday regularly and systematically. Don't wait till you find yourself in church, the offertory about to be made, and then put your hand in your pocket, and give the smallest amount you find there. Decide what it is your *duty* to give, and bring that amount every Sunday, and if you should be absent, remember that the next Sunday demands not only its offering, but also that for the Sunday which was missed. This is a most important point. Resolve firmly that your proportion of the offering on God's Altar shall never be missing simply because you have been absent.

Again, as to increasing your offerings. Can you not do this without doing injustice to yourself? If you have put in one cent can you not increase this to five or ten cents? Do you know what such an increase means? It may be but a trifle, but it means that you are increasing your proportion five or ten fold. Let every man, woman, and child seek to make some increase in their weekly offering, and assuredly you will find yourself no poorer at the end of the year.

Finally, as to present needs on this last day of January. We want $150 to meet a present deficiency; $250 to pay the salary of the Rector for the last three months; $135 to pay choir and sexton for the month; $40 to pay assessment for Convention Fund, and $20 to pay water rent for the present year. This total amount, $595, *we must have at once*: Will you give it?

WM. F. SMITH,
FRANCIS S. KEESE,
THOS. ROBB,
Committee.

The Churchman's Catechism.

Q. What is the meaning of the word "Church?"

A. It is ordinarly taken for the house of God, or *place* of divine worship.

Q. Is it anywhere so taken in the Scripture?

A. In 1 Cor. xx: 22, it is used for the house or place of worship, in which Christians assembled together.

Q. What doth it signify farther?

A. If signifies the settlement of the Christian religion in any city or country; which is what we understand by "the Church of Ephesus," "the Church of Antioch," "the Church of England," &c.

Q. But does it not signify more than that?

A. It signifies the whole Christian society, or Catholic church, of which Jesus Christ is the Head; and of which every national church, properly so called, is a member.

Q. Why is the Church called "holy?"

A. For several reasons. First, to distinguish it as a society different from the world, which is "wicked," and "out" of which they are "called" who are brought into the church.

Q. On what other account is the Church "holy?"

A. From its relation to God; to whom whatever belongs, whether it be a place, a person, or a thing, it must be holy from that relation.

Q. What farther reason is there?

A. Because the church, from its relation to God, is a cause of holiness in man. Its principal use is to sancitify those who are in it, and who are called "saints," that is, holy persons. (I Cor. 1: 2.)

(To be continued.)

List of Subscribers.

Each month we propose publishing the names of new subscribers. If your name appears in the list, and you have not paid the subscription price, please look upon it as a notification that your subscription is due.

The following are the new subscribers to date:

Miss Pattie Calder, Miss Duncan, Mr. J. E. Carpenter, Miss Agnes Haines, Mrs. M. E. Spear, Dr. C. B. Nancrede, Mrs. Hiller, Mr. Robert Armstrong, Mr. Thos. Robb, Dr. R. Keys, Miss Pearson, Miss Helen S. DeBeust, Mrs. Nicholson, Mrs. Hayward, Mrs. Buell, Miss Anna E. Trucks, Miss E. L. Stokes, Mrs. M. H. White.

NOTICE!

THE Ladies' Aid Society will take orders for any kind of plain sewing: aprons, underwear, etc. Orders can be given to Miss Hewson or Mrs. Bond, at the Church on Thursday afternoons, at 3 o'clock, or after prayers on Friday mornings, at 10 o'clock.

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The Ascension News.

Vol. I. PHILADELPHIA, PA., MARCH, 1888. No. 3

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANTS:
REV. H. O. DuBOIS,
2015 De Lancey Place.
REV. W. B. THORN,
802 N. 7th St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
WM. F. SMITH.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
407 So. 13th St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, 11 A. M.
Litany and Instruction, 3.30 P. M.
Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, 10.00 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5.00 P. M.

DAILY:
10.00 A. M., Morning Prayer.
5.00 P. M., Evening Prayer.
7.45 P. M., Wednesdays, Evening Prayer and Lecture.

DURING LENT:
Thursdays, Holy Communion 7.30 A. M.
Fridays, Lecture after Evening Prayer.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoons.

BIBLE CLASSES.

For Adults, Saturday, 7.45 P. M.
Teacher, Rev. H. O. DuBois.
For Men, Sunday, 2.30 P. M.
Teacher, Rev. H. O. DuBois.
For Young Men, Sunday, 2.30 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Grimball.
For Ladies, Sunday, 2.30 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Haverstick.

KALENDAR.

MARCH.

4 Third Sunday in Lent.
11 Mid-Lent Sunday.
18 Passion Sunday.
25 Palm Sunday—Annunciation B. V. M.
26 Monday before Easter.
27 Tuesday before Easter.
28 Wednesday before Easter.
29 Maundy Thursday.
30 Good Friday.
31 Easter Even.

All the days in Lent, except Sundays, are Fasts.

GUILD MEETINGS.

6 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
13 7.45 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
20 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. John's Guild.
27 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

4 S. Andrew's Brotherhood.
11 Sunday School Teachers.
18 S. Andrew's Brotherhood.
25 Sunday School Teachers.

These are held in the Guild room immediately after the Litany Service.

The Industrial School, every Saturday at 10 A. M.
Mothers' Meeting, every Saturday at 7.30 P. M.
Ladies' Aid Society, every Thursday at 3 P. M.
Embroidery Class, every Wednesday morning after Morning Prayer.

SERVICES IN HOLY WEEK.

7½ A. M., daily, Holy Communion.
10 A. M., daily, (except Good Friday) Morning Prayer and Holy Communion.
5 P. M., daily, Evening Prayer.
8 P. M., daily, Sermon on the Passion.

GOOD FRIDAY.

11 A. M., Morning Prayer, Litany and Singing of the Reproaches.
12 to 3 P. M., Preaching of the Cross.

NOTE.—Copies of the words of the Reproaches will be distributed to the congregation at the service. Persons who may not be able to remain during all of the service and preaching on Good Friday, can come or leave the Church at any time during the singing of the hymns, with which the preaching will be varied.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published by S. John's Guild, under the direction of the Rector.

As the Guild desires this paper to be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, (if sent by mail 60 cents) to be paid in advance, to Mr. Chas. L. S. Tingley, 305 Walnut Street, [redacted]

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

THE PASSION TIDE.

The Lenten season culminates in the solemnities of the Passion tide, which comprises its last two weeks. Some persons speak of the last week in Lent as Passion week, but this is incorrect; it should be spoken of as Holy week. The second Sunday before Easter was always called in the old liturgies Passion Sunday, and the Passiontide then began. The reason is that the earlier part of Lent is devoted to the confession of sin, the effort to excite true penitence and devotion and the performance of good works. But on the fifth Sunday in Lent the eyes of the sinner are lifted to Christ as the all sufficient High Priest and sacrifice for sins. This appears especially in the Epistle for that day. And from then on to Easter our thoughts are directed to Christ in all the details of His suffering and death for us. Then we begin to sing the Passion Hymns. And to mark the solemnity of the time we remove all the extra ornaments from the Church. We cover with purple cloth our richly colored reredos behind the Altar, and drape the Altar cross, Processional cross and the candlesticks with crape. And during the last three days of the Holy week we omit, in accordance with ancient usage which required all glorias to be omitted then, the Gloria Patri after all the Canticles and Psalms, excepting after the whole portion of the Psalms, where our rubrics direct it "shall be said."

On Palm Sunday there will be a procession of the choir and clergy round the Church, carrying palm branches. There will also be palms on the retable behind the Altar. During Holy week there will be a celebration of the Holy Communion each morning at 7.30 A. M. Morning Prayer and a second celebration at 10 A. M., excepting on Good Friday. Evening Prayer each afternoon at 5 P. M., and a sermon on the Passion will be preached each evening at 8 P. M. On Good Friday there will be Morning Prayer and Litany at 11 A. M., followed by the singing of the Reproaches and the preaching of the Cross from 12 to 3 P. M. Thus we try to enforce the great truths our Church seeks to teach us by the services of this sacred season. And these services form the most solemn and effective that we have in all the year. This is the way in which in previous years we have kept this Holy tide, and we are sure that those who have gone through them before have found them most impressive and profitable. They have been always well attended, and we trust that larger numbers still will take part in them this year. One week in all the year is not much to give up entirely to religious observances. And if any one believes that the Son of God suffered and died upon the Cross for him, surely it is but fitting that he should devoutly keep the anniversary of His sufferings and death. And if he does, the remembrance of those solemn hours, and the lessons that they teach, cannot fail to affect his after life, to reveal to him the meaning of all suffering, and give him grace to bear the sufferings, and the kind of death, that in the Providence of God will come to him.

The clergy of the parish affectionately call upon all the parishioners to attend as many as they can of the services of the Holy week.

Record for February.

Baptisms	7
Burials	5
Communions of the sick	1
Communicants added—	
By removal	8
Removed	6

OFFERINGS.

Current expenses	$282.90
Poor	6.22
Sunday School	7.88
General Missions	.60
Domestic Missions	60.05
Foreign Missions	5.00
Building Fund	3.10
Church debt	77.30
Total	$443.05
Estimated current expenses of the Church for month	$318.52
Proceeds of entertainment in West Philadelphia, after payment of expenses, for Building Fund	$50.00
For current expenses	19.00
	$69.00

PARISH NOTES.

MEMORIAL WINDOWS.—The glass for two more memorial windows has just arrived from England and been put in position. One is for the last aisle window on the Broad street side of the Church. The subject is Christ stilling the tempest. It is in memory of Miss Anne Hewitt, who died very suddenly last May. She had been attending the services of the Church for some years. The other is the light over the door adjoining this window. It represents Christ blessing little children. It is in memory of Miss Anna Wetherill Earle. She was not a member of our parish, but was much beloved by one of our members, who was connected with her, and has placed this in her memory.

This completes the series of windows illustrating our Lord's life, so far as the Church is built. The story begins with the two windows on the west side of the Church, representing the Annunciation and the Nativity; next come the first two windows on the east side, representing Christ's obedience to the Law in His Circumcision and Presentation in the Temple; the next two representing Him as the Teacher, appearing among the Doctors in the Temple at twelve years of age, and preaching the sermon on the Mount; in the next two He appears as the great Physician, in healing the impotent man at the pool of Bethesda, and in raising from the dead the son of the widow of Nain. The last one illustrates His power over nature, in stilling the tempest; and the light over the door, showing Christ's love for, and benediction of, little children, is especially appropriate here, as the font will probably stand permanently in the neighborhood of this door, and our Lord's action on this occasion affords one of the grounds for the administration of infant baptism.

When the chancel is built, the windows in it will carry on the history of

Christ's life through its later scenes, as His Crucifixion, Resurrection, Ascension, etc.

We are glad to add that the order for the first of the handsome clerestory windows has been received and sent to England.

LITANY BOOK.—A very handsome book bound in red turkey morocco, with a metal cross inlaid on the cover, has been presented to the Church during the last week as a thank offering for a recovery from sickness.

SUNDAY NIGHT SERVICES.—An effort has been made during the past month to increase the attendance at the Sunday night service. The subjects of the sermons preached have been published in the daily papers, and a special sign and invitation to the services placed on the outside of the building during Sunday. Cards of invitation have also been distributed before service on the street, by members of the S. Andrew's Brotherhood. The result has been most gratifying, the attendance having been more than doubled, it being larger now in the evening than in the morning. It is hoped that by this means the influence and teaching of the Church will not only be largely extended but that the permanent congregation will be materially increased. The position of the Church is so central and prominent that there is no reason why it should not be filled at every service.

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERINGS—During Lent the offerings of the Sunday School will be devoted as in previous years to domestic missions, as we try to teach the children the same principle that we teach the congregation, that we ought to do something for others as well as for ourselves. As their offerings during the rest of the year are used for themselves in providing their Sunday School papers, books for their library, etc., so during Lent they give their offerings away, to assist in maintaining churches in the newer or poorer portions of our country where the Church is yet too weak to sustain itself.

THE EASTER OFFERINGS.—The congregation is reminded as in previous years of the necessity of making a large Easter offering towards the support of the Church. The ordinary Sunday offerings are by no means sufficient for this purpose, and during the summer months they are of course very much smaller than in the winter. The only way by which the average for the year can be maintained is by each member of the congregation making a special and large offering at Christmas and Easter. Persons should remember too, that although they may resolve to put a certain amount in the offertory every Sunday, they are often kept away from church by sickness, bad weather and other causes, and unless they make special offerings of this kind their intention will not be carried out. What each one gives in the course of the year should be equal to what he would give as the rent for a pew or sitting in the Church if the pews were rented, and he were able to rent one. And those who have the means should remember, that there are many attending the Church who would not be able even to pay for a sitting, and their offerings should be large enough to pay for such, as well as for themselves.

As the congregation saw from the appeal issued by the Committee of the Vestry in the last number of THE NEWS, the expenses of the Church have been largely increased during the past year, and it is essential that there should be a specially large Easter offering to meet all the engagements of the Church up to the first of May, the end of our financial year, and to have a sufficient sum left over to carry on the Church during the summer months, when our receipts are so decreased by the absence of so many members of the congregation from the city. If each one will be conscientious in doing his full share in giving according to his ability, the amount needed can be realized.

ANALYSIS OF THE OFFERTORY.—On the fourth Sunday in January envelopes marked for General Missions were distributed to the members of the congregation, with the request that they would put in them a contribution for that purpose *in addition* to their ordinary offerings for the support of the Church. Only 23 of these were returned on the plates, containing offerings amounting only to $14.76, and some of these we are afraid were made *in place* of the usual offering for the Church. It is true many of the female members of the congregation contribute to Missions through the ladies representing the parish on the different branches of the Women's Auxiliary, some $60 having been given alone for the materials in our Missionary box. But outside of them, all that the rest of the congregation thought necessary to give, in the course of a year, to the great cause of extending Christ's Kingdom throughout the world was $14.76.

So with our Christmas offering, it amounted to $635.78. But of this sum $400 was contributed by four individuals, leaving only $235.78 for all the rest of the congregation. Now ought not *each* member of the congregation to ask himself whether he is doing his share in these different offerings. And if all were as liberal as some are, would not far more be received.

On the second Sunday in March envelopes for Diocesan Missions will be given out, and this Church has been assessed $50 as the share it should give towards carrying on the Missionary work of the Church in our own diocese. It is hoped this amount will be contributed. An average of twenty-five cents additional from each contributor at a single Sunday morning's service would give the amount needed.

So we trust our Easter offering will be a large one, a large sum being still needed, as was seen by the appeal of the Vestry in our last issue, to meet our current expenses for the present year. And *each member* of the congregation should do his full share and not leave the burden of supporting the Church to fall on a few, or have the Church unable to meet its very modest obligations. We are sure no one would like to see the choir cut down, or the Rector go without his salary, or the Church left unheated. Yet all these things require money, and each one should contribute his full share towards these necessary expenses.

PEW RENTS.—Though the seats in the Church are all free, the Charter of our Church requires that the Vestry should be elected by those who "shall appear by the Vestry books to have paid two successive years for a pew or sitting in the Church." To meet this requirement the Vestry have fixed the nominal sum of $1 as the rent for an *unassigned* sitting in the Church; and all the members of the congregation should pay this sum to the Accounting Warden *before* March 21st of each year, and have themselves registered on the Vestry books.

RETIREMENT OF A VESTRYMAN.—Mr. John D. Henderson who has been a member of our Vestry for two years past, has requested that his name be not proposed at the next Vestry election, as he has removed to New York City, and finds it impossible to attend to Church duties here.

It is with great regret that we part with Mr. Henderson, as he was deeply interested in the parish, most regular in his attendance, liberal in his contributions and active in the work of the parish, especially in connection with S. John's Guild, of which he was one of the first Wardens. But it is pleasant to know that in being compelled to leave us he does not forget us, for he writes to the Rector that "in withdrawing from the Vestry, believe me, my heart and my prayers will not be a

bit the less with you personally and with your work." We trust some equally good man will be elected in his place on the Vestry.

LOST PARISHIONERS.—Persons leaving the parish or removing their residences would confer a great favor on the Rector if they would always notify him, as he often spends a great deal of time in trying to trace those who have moved. Recently he spent a whole afternoon in trying, unsuccessfully, to find a parishioner whom he was told was living in the neighborhood of Thirty-third and Wallace streets. He has now on his list of communicants the names of the following persons whose present addresses he cannot obtain. He would be glad if any persons could inform him of their whereabouts:

Mr. Louis McNeely, Mrs. Elizabeth Downing, Miss Anna M. Fosque.

LOST ARTICLES.—The following articles have been recently picked up in the Church. They can be had in the Vestry by proving ownership: A breast-pin, two pocket-books.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—We need a large number of additional subscriptions to continue the publication of this paper. It is hoped each member of the congregation will subscribe to it.

CONFIRMATION.—The Bishop of the Diocese has appointed the evening of April 13th for his regular yearly visitation to this Parish. Special instructions preparatory to confirmation will be given by the Rector every Monday at 4 P. M., in the Guild room, and by the Rev. Mr. Thorn every Thursday evening at 8 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL HONOR ROLL.—As announced in our first issue, under the above heading, we shall publish the names of such Sunday-school scholars as deserve special mention and commendation for their regular attendance upon the sessions of the School and Litany service, their good deportment and uniform attention to their lessons.

This month we take pleasure in presenting the following list:

Charlotte Milliken, May Smith,
Jeannette Milliken, Katie Hiller,
Sadie Milliken, Anna Lescure,
Lillie Ruleff, Alice Ruleff,
Mary Milliken, Blanche Remont,
Bessie Millken.

LECTURE. — On Tuesday evening, March 20th, Major J. Edward Carpenter our Rector's Warden, will lecture before S. John's Guild on "Reminiscences of the War." All members of the congregation are most cordially invited to be present. No admission fee will be charged.

PHOTOGRAPHS of the interior of the Church can be had in the vestry; they are 25 cents each.

THE CHOIR.

The members of the choir are very desirous of making the Easter service the best that the parish has ever had, and are working hard for that purpose. If there are any bass or tenor readers and singers who are willing to help make the services worthy the Dear Master, they can speak to the Rector or to the Choir-master af er any service, and may feel sure of meeting with a hearty welcome.

The choir-fund, which was started for the purpose of putting up in the choir-room closets for the ve tments and music, and for furnishing the choir with other necessary conveniences, has now nearly reached the sum of $20.00. The frame-work of the closets has been put up and made ready for the doors. Thirty-two of these doors are needed and those who desire to contribute to this purpose, should put their offerings in an envelope marked "closet fund," and drop it in the choir box.

One dollar and seventy one cents have been received from the choir box during February. The givers will please accept our hearty thanks.

The tune Penitence, sung last Sunday to hymn 443, was much admired.

The members of the congregation who know any really good hymn tunes that are not used by the choir, will confer a favor by making a list of them and putting it in the choir box.

The choir library has been increased during February by the addition of Henry Smart's Service in F, and Cruikshank's Service in E flats.

It is to be hoped that the congregation will remember the frequent requests of the Rector and join freely and heartily in the singing of the hymns, as they are intended not only for those who praise God in the chancel, but also and primarily for those who worship Him in the church.

The programme of music for the Easter services will comprise the Te Deum, Nicene Creed, Sanctus, Gloria in Excelsis from Smart's service in F; the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis from Tours' service in F; and the following hymns:

Proc. 98. Tune, *Monk.*
99. Tune, *Morgan.*
106. Tune, *Wirtemberg.*
100. Tune, *Salsburgh.*
Rec. 103. Tune, *Victory.*

MISSIONARY BOX.

Shortly before Christmas the members of the Missionary Chapter of our Women's Guild made up and sent to a missionary clergyman in Virginia, a box containing the following articles: new goods — 91 pieces underclothing, 3 pairs shoes, 1 clerical suit, 1 overcoat, 1 dress, 3 shirts and 4 collars, 9 handkerchiefs, 4 towels, 2 comfortables, 2 pounds soap, lot of groceries, canned goods, etc., 2 boxes candies; second-hand goods — lot books, toys, case of writing paper, clothing.

The total value of the box is $167.00.

The following reply was received from the missionary's wife:

CABIN POINT, VA.,
Jan. 2nd, 1888.

My dear Mrs. Cope:

Your kind letter received some days since and would have been replied to sooner but I've been waiting for the arrival of box; which came on Saturday, 31st. 'Tis needless for me to undertake to tell you of the perfect delight with which each article was unpacked and tried on. The boys were charmed with everything for them, but more especially the overcoats. My husband's delight at finding the lovely suit for himself would have done your heart good to witness. The dresses are beautiful and the little desk a treasure, just the thing I needed—as *every* thing *else* seemed to be. The groceries were an unexpected treat. In fact the *whole* was to us a *wonder*. Some of the second-hand clothes sent I find I can utilize in making over for the boys—the rest I'll gladly distribute to such of our parish poor as need them.

Now we desire that you give our sincers thanks to each individual contributor to the box; and say to them had they been present to witness the pleasure of our family circle, they must have felt amply compensated.

May God bless you all in your Christian work, and in our devotions we will not forget to beg for spiritual blessings for those who have so sweetly and kindly and substantially ministered to our temporal wants. Believe me ever Yours sincerely.

A happy New Year to you all.

The missionary also writes:

"I want to thank the ladies of the missionary society through you for my portion of that magnificent Christmas treat they sent us. The suit of clothes are so nice and fit me quite well. I shall never wear them that I will not think and pray for you all."

THE MEMBERS of the Altar Chapter of our Women's Guild have also sent to the church in New Jersey, whose application was referred to in the last number of the NEWS, a set of violet cloth hangings embroidered, for pulpit and reading desk, and the following letter of acknowledgement has been received:

HIGHSTOWN, N. J.,
Feb. 11th, 1888.

My dear Brother:

Allow me to convey through you the warmest thanks of our people, as well as my own, to the ladies of the Guild of the Church of the Ascension for their kindness in sending us the two beautiful specimens (of their zeal as well as) of their "raiment of needle-work," for clothing the bare places in this House of our Lord.

And to you, my Brother, I am profoundly grateful, and remain

Very sincerely yours,
HENRY L. PHILLIPS.

The Rev. G. Woolsey Hodge.

List of Subscribers.

Each month we propose publishing the names of new subscribers. If your name appears in the list, and you have not paid the subscription price, please look upon it as a notification that your subscription is due.

The following are the new subscribers to date:

Miss Davis, Mrs. H. G. Batterson, Mrs. W. F. Price, Miss Annie J. Stewart, Mrs. Jensen, Miss Schoch, Miss Voigt, Mrs. W. H. Webb, Mrs. Whelen, Mr. David Ray, Miss Ellen Ray, Mrs. Clement Tingley, Mr. Chas. E. Bonnet, Mrs. C. S. Singley, Mr. Asbury, Miss Goodman.

FERKLER & STUCKERT,

PRINTERS,

1123 CHESTNUT STREET, PHILA.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. Berkley Grimball.
Librarian, Mr. Chas. L. S. Tingley.

TEACHERS.

Miss Morrell,	Miss Davis,
Miss A. Jackson,	Miss M. Jackson,
Miss M. Harper,	Miss Blackwell,
Miss Florence Smith,	Miss Bond,
Miss T. G. Harper,	Miss Parmalee,
Miss Carman,	Miss Haslett,
Miss Hiller,	Miss Calder,
Miss Duncan,	Miss B. Spear,
Miss Young,	Miss Schock,

Mr. Buell.

NOTICE!

THE Ladies' Aid Society will take orders for any kind of plain sewing: aprons, underwear, etc. Orders can be given to Miss Hewson or Mrs. Bond, at the Church on Thursday afternoons, at 3 o'clock, or after prayers on Friday mornings, at 10 o'clock.

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WILSON'S LIBRARY,
111 S. 11th St., Phila.
Easter Cards.
Fine assortment of PAPER AND ENVELOPES.

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Low rates on Dwellings and Household Goods.

The Ascension News.

Vol. I. PHILADELPHIA, PA., APRIL, 1888. No. 4

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANTS:
REV. H. O. DUBOIS,
2015 De Lancey Place.

REV. W. B. THORN,
802 N. 7th St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
GEO. H. HAVERSTICK.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
407 So. 13th St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, 11 A. M.
Litany and Instruction, 3.30 P. M.
Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, 10.00 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5.00 P. M.

DAILY:
10.00 A. M., Morning Prayer.
5.00 P. M., Evening Prayer.
7.45 P. M., Wednesdays, Evening Prayer and Lecture.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoons.

BIBLE CLASSES.

For Adults, Saturday, 7.45 P. M.
Teacher, Rev. W. B. Thorn.

For Young Men, Sunday, 2.30 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Grimball.

For Ladies, Sunday, 2.30 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Haverstick.

KALENDAR.

APRIL.

1 Easter Day.
2 Monday in Easter Week.
3 Tuesday in Easter Week.
6 Friday—Fast.
8 Low Sunday.
13 Friday—Fast.
15 Second Sunday after Easter.
20 Friday—Fast.
22 Third Sunday after Easter.
25 S. Mark's Day.
27 Friday—Fast.
20 Fourth Sunday after Easter.

GUILD MEETINGS.

3 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
10 7.45 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
17 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. John's Guild.
24 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

8 and 22. Sunday School teachers in the Guild room immediately after the Litany Service.

S. Andrew's Brotherhood on the first Sunday in June and September, and the last Sunday in December and March, and at the call of the Executive Committee.

Mothers' Meeting, every Saturday at 7.30 P. M.

Embroidery Class, every Wednesday morning after Morning Prayer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. Berkley Grimball.

Librarian, Mr. Chas. L. S. Tingley.

TEACHERS.

Miss Morrell,	Miss Davis,
Miss A. Jackson,	Mrs. Thorn,
Miss M. Harper,	Miss Blackwell,
Miss Anderson,	Miss Bond,
Miss T. G. Harper,	Miss Parmelee,
Miss Carman,	Miss Haslett,
Miss Hiller,	Miss Calder,
Miss Duncan,	Miss B. Spear,
Miss Young,	Miss Schoch,

Mr. Buell.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published by S. John's Guild, under the direction of the Rector.

As the Guild desires this paper to be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, (if sent by mail 60 cents) to be paid in advance, to Mr. Chas. L. S. Tingley, 305 Walnut Street, Room C.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

EASTER.

Just what is the derivation of the word Easter is unknown. Most probably it is from the Anglo-Saxon goddess "Eostre," the Goddess of the East, in whose honor special sacrifices were offered in the Spring of the year. But though the name may have a heathen origin, yet is the Holy Day itself most Christian. Upon the event which it commemorates rests our faith. For, as an Apostle clearly puts it, "If Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that He raised up Christ."

There can be no reasonable doubt in ragard to the truth of the doctrine which this blessed day sets forth. It is a plain fact of history, just as capable of being proved as any other event of the past, of course men may profess themselves unable to receive it; but then, we must remember, they may reject or call in question any historical event. A Jewish rabbi recently denied that our Blessed Lord was put to death by his people. Archbishop Whately proved that Napoleon Bonaparte was a myth; as did also an ingenious French ecclesiastic, who showed how he was merely an impersonation of the sun. But looking at the matter calmly and dispassionately, and weighing all the testimony offered in its behalf and against it, men cannot but conclude that Christ did rise from the dead.

The Church therefore has from the very beginning observed Easter Day, regarding it as the queen or highest of festivals, and celebrating it with the greatest solemnity. The question that was discussed was not with regard to its observance, but as to the day on which it should be kept. The majority of the Eastern churches, pleading the practice of the Apostles, observed it on the same day as the Jews' Passover, the fourteenth day of the first moon in the new year, whatever day of the week that happened to be. The Western churches generally deferred it to the first Sunday after the first full moon. For this they pleaded the authority of S. Peter and S. Paul. The controversy was settled by the Council of Nice in 325 A. D., which decreed that all churches should keep the feast on the same day, *i. e.* the first Sunday after the full moon, which happens upon, or next after the vernal equinox, the twenty-first day of March.

The early Christians did not express their joy on this great festival merely by singing glad hymns of praise to their Risen Lord, but performed acts of mercy and love; attempting by their actions to show their appreciation of His great work of mercy and love in opening to mankind the gates of everlasting life. Christian Emperors, too, as symbolic of the Lord's loosing men out of prison, at this time liberated all who were confined for minor offenses.

Ought we not, at this blessed season, so far as it is in our power, imitate these early professors of our religion? Works of mercy and love we can perform if only we have the will. Christ's little ones surround us, why not try to make them happy now? And why not try to imitate the ruler's work? We are surrounded by men in bondage to Satan, bound by the strong chains of evil habits, why not by showing to them the power of His resurrection, lay before them the means of regaining the true liberty of the sons of God?

Again, in the early Church, this was one of the seasons appointed for the administration of Holy Baptism. Now we know that in that blessed Sacrament we are buried with Christ and raised again to newness of life. If then we be risen with Christ, we ought to seek the things which are above. And although this thought ought always to be before us yet especially ought we to have it in mind at this season; and not only bear it in mind, but put it into practice so that we may appear with our Blessed Lord at the eternal Easter-tide.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

This is the fourth issue of this paper, and we think we have now established our claim of being of use to the parish, in being a medium for keeping all acquainted with what is going on in the parish; and of our wants and plans. We are sure no one connected with the congregation would like to see THE NEWS discontinued. But if we are to continue we must have a sufficient number of subscribers to pay for the printing of the paper. We do not propose to make money, neither editor nor contributors expect any remuneration, all we want is to pay expenses. In order to do this however we need nearly *one hundred* subscribers more than we have yet received. We are sure there are that number of persons in the parish who have read and been interested in the numbers we have issued, and who could pay the small subscription we ask. Will they not do so at once, and thus secure the certain, regular issue of THE NEWS monthly. Subscriptions may be tendered at any time either to one of the clergy or to Mr. C. L. S. Tingley, treasurer.

NOT long ago a teacher asked a class of small boys in Sunday School what was their idea of heaven. It was curious to note how their replies were influenced by their own circumstances in this life. A ragged little urchin, who had been born and brought up in a squalid street, said it was all "grass and green trees." One from a better quarter said it was like a big, broad road, with tall houses on each side. A sweet-voiced choir-boy was of the opinion that people would sing a good deal in heaven. The last member of the class, a quiet, thoughtful boy, though one of the smallest in the class, answered just as the bell was ringing for the close of school hours: "A place where—where—you're never sorry."

Record for March.

Baptisms	1
Burials	4
Communions of the sick	2
Communicants added—	
By removal	5
Removed	2
Died	1

OFFERINGS.

Current expenses	$282.06
Poor	3.12
Sunday School	14.12
Diocesan Missions	25.32
Theological collection	50.00
Church debt	77.30
Building Fund	15.55
Flowers	25.45
Altar Chapter, Women's Guild	35.00
Total	$527.92
Estimated current expenses of the Church for month of March	$323.40

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—In the first issue of this paper we called attention to the fact that we had no bier belonging to the Church for use at funerals. In consequence of this a member of the parish has himself made us a very handsome, strong oak bier, which was sent to the Church during Holy week, and thus provides what we needed.

A lady of the congregation has painted a beautiful silk banner, the subject being Angels Heads, after Sir Joshua Reynolds. It was made up by the Embroidery Chapter of the Women's Guild, one of the members of which presented a handsome gilt cross bar and rings, from which to suspend it, and it was carried in procession for the first time on Easter day. This added a new and effective feature to our Easter Festivities.

We have also received from a gentleman, who is not a churchman, two large Prayer Books for the clergy stalls, bounded in red turkey Morocco, to match the Litany book which was presented to us a month ago.

Our hearty thanks are due to the donors of these articles.

EASTER COMMUNION.—The number of Communicants on Easter Day was the largest we have ever had in the parish, there were at 7.30 a. m., 104; 8.30 a. m., 31; 11 a. m., 70. Total, 205. Last Easter there were 170.

EASTER OFFERING.—The offerings on Easter Day amounted to $638.66. This will enable us, with what will probably be collected during April, to meet all the current expenses of the Church up to May 1st, but the next payment of interest on our mortgage is still unprovided for, and as it is due early in June there will be but little time to collect it. So the Sunday offerings should be unusually liberal.

AT THE ELECTION held on Easter Monday the following gentlemen were unanimously elected to serve as Vestrymen for the ensuing year:

Roger Keys, M. D.,
Charles B. Nancrede, M. D.,
Samuel Wetherill,
J. Edward Carpenter,
Thomas Sinnickson,
George H. Haverstick,
Francis S. Keese,
William H. Cope,
Thomas Robb,
Thomas R. Neilson, M. D.,
Salmon A. Buell,
Chas. E. Bonnet.

At a meeting of the Vestry held on Thursday evening, Mr. J. Edward Carpenter was reappointed Rector's Warden, and Geo. H. Haverstick elected Acounting Warden. Messrs. Samuel Wetherill, J. Edward Carpenter, and Dr. Roger Keys were elected delegates to the Diocesan Convention.

COAL ORDERS.—We have been much pleased by securing through some members of the congregation several orders for coal which have been given to the poor. This has been a very severe winter, and it has been especially hard on the poor owing to the unusally high price of coal, so that these orders were peculiarly acceptable. We should be glad to secure a regular number of them for use every winter.

GIFT TO ST. SAUVEUR.—The members of our Embroidery Class of the Women's Guild, have worked for the new French Church of St. Sauveur a beautiful white silk superfontal for the altar, the word Alleluia, being embroidered in the centre with fleur de lis on either side, also a pulpit fall with the sacred monogram and a fall for prayer desk with embroidered border. The material was presented by two members of the congregation. We congratulate the French congregation on getting possession of their new building and we are glad our parish was able to make this donation towards its furnishing.

The following letter of thanks has been received:

L'EGLISE DU ST.-SAUVEUR,
22d Street and De Lancey Place,
PHILADELPHIA, April 2d, 1888.

Rev. G. Wolsey Hodge:

Please accept for yourself and for the ladies of "The Ascension" my hearty thanks for the magnificent frontal and hangings, made for and offered to a sister church.

It is a most pleasant remembrance and renewal of the family relation the two churches now come to age entertained at the time of their infancy.

Coming through you, dear Mr. Hodge, this gift is the more valued by

Your grateful and devoted
C. MIEL.

SERMONS ON CHURCH UNITY.—The course of seven Sermons delivered by the Rector on Sunday evenings in the interest of Church Unity terminated on Palm Sunday. They evidently excited interest, as the Church was filled on each occasion when they were delivered. We trust they will not be without some result in conveying a more intelligent apprehension of the issues involved, in removing prejudices and contributing in some measure towards healing those sad divisions among Christians which do more than anything else to weaken the power and retard the progress of our religion,

In this connection we may mention that the Bishop of the Diocese has lately authorized in the public worship of the Church the two following collects at the discretion of the Clergy, especially in view of the conference of all the Bishops of the Anglican Communion which is to be held at Lambeth, England, this coming summer.

O GOD, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Saviour, the Prince of Peace; give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions. Take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatsoever else may hinder us from godly Union and Concord, that as there is but one Body, and one Spirit, and one hope of our calling, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God and one Father of us all; so we may henceforth be all of one heart and of one soul, united in one holy bond of Truth and Peace, of Faith and Charity, and may with one mind and one mouth glorify Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

GREAT and ETERAL GOD, Who didst form man without sin, and didst by the quickening advent of Thine Only-Begotten Son, our LORD and GOD and SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST, destroy death, which had entered by envy of Satan into the world; and didst fill the earth with heavenly peace; THOU whom the Choir of Angels celebrate, saying, GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST AND PEACE UPON EARTH, GOOD-WILL TO MEN: fill, O Lord, according to Thy good pleasure, our hearts with Thy peace; and cleanse us from all guilt, hatred, deceit, and ill; and all mortal recollection of injuries. Make us worthy, O LORD, of Thy gifts of grace; enable us to promote and forward the Unity of Thy Church according to

Thy Divine Wisdom; grant to all Thy faithful people the inward Unity and outward Communion desired by Thy blessed SON, in such manner and at such time as Thou shall see fit; that in all things we may be conformed unto Thy Holy Will; through JESUS CHRIST our LORD. AMEN.

SUNDAY SCHOOL HONOR ROLL.—We are pleased to note the large increase in the honor roll. Still there is room for improvement. Every scholar should try to have his or her name on the list. This month the following are reported as deserving special mention and commendation:

Charlotte Milliken, Katie Storey,
Jeanette Haslett, Mamie Harrison,
Sadie Milliken, Katie Hiller,
Lillie Ruleff, Maggie South,
Ida Harrison, Bessie Milliken,
Lottie Bryson, Lillie Fisher,
Anna Lescure, Alice Ruleff,
Emma Ruleff, Blanche Remont,
Gertie McKinley, Fannie Jackson.
Stanley Norris,

Several errors and omissions were made in our list of last month, and so we reprint it as corrected:

Charlotte Milliken, Mamie Harrison,
Jeanette Haslett, May Smith,
Sadie Milliken, Katie Hiller,
Lillie Ruleff, Anna Lescure,
Hattie Barton, Alice Ruleff,
Bessie Milliken, Blanche Remont.

LECTURES.— On Tuesday evening, March 20th, much to their regret, Major J. Edward Carpenter was unable through sickness, to lecture before the members of S. John's Guild. However he kindly secured an acceptable substitute in Col. W. Brooke Rawle, who gave a very interesting and instructive account of the Battle of Gettysburg.

On Tuesday, April 17th, Dr. Charles B. Nancrede will deliver before the Guild a lecture on "Respiration." All members of the congregation are invited to be present. No admission charge will be made.

ENTERTAINMENT.—On Tuesday evening, April 27th, there will be given in the Parish Building, an Old Folks' Concert, under the auspices of S. Mary's Guild. Some ladies and gentlemen of the parish have consented to take part, and they will be assisted by others from outside.

The price of the tickets is to be 25 cents, and as the proceeds will be devoted to paying the balance due on the piano, it is hoped the concert will be well attended.

NO ONE SHOULD FAIL to notice the special offer mentioned in our advertising columns. For only $1.50 may be obtained both *The Living Church* —a sixteen page weekly well worth having—and the Rev. A. W. Little's "Reasons for being a Churchman," a book which every churchman should read. Any one can get it by sending $1.50 and the name and address of a *new* subscriber, either your own or that of a friend. Don't lose this chance! The book contains a fine picture of Archbishop Parker's consecration after that by W. A. Dyce, R. A.

Memorials.

The growing custom of connecting the memory of the faithful departed with the constant worship of Almighty God, by placing in our churches memorial altars, fonts, lecterns and windows, or in building porches and towers, or with the ministries of love to man in the form of cottages for orphans, beds in the hospitals for the sick, or the endowments for the support of clergymen, teachers or nurses, cannot, I think, be too much commended. How much better to spend money wisely, in such modes, than to lavish it on meaningless marbles or brasses in cemeteries, which are almost sure, in time, to be neglected or abused, and often to become grotesque and ridiculous!—BISHOP BROWN, *Convention Address*, 1885.

The following Easter Carol was composed by one of the members of our congregation.

An Easter Song.

Nature awake! Thy slumbers break,
Let all thy inmost pulses thrill,
Through Winter's breath, like chill of death,
Shrouds ev'ry hidden glory still.

Thy risen Lord sends forth His word,
His mandate swiftly flies;
In robes of light and beauty bright,
He calls thee to arise.

O call to thee, o'er land and sea
Thy little minstrels dear!
From ev'ry throat let music float
In cadence sweet and clear.

Call lily bells in shady dells
To burst their cerements gray;
Tell roses sweet, their Lord to greet
In tints of beauty gay.

Let wild woods drear, in bloom appear,
Clothe each bare branch with light,
Let ev'ry spray with blossoms gay
Welcome thy summons bright.

O'er every cross that marks our loss,
Let Easter sunlight gleam,
And o'er each hour of death's dark power
Let hope eternal beam.

Let Nature's joy without alloy
Dawn on each saddened day,
As from the gloom of every tomb,
Christ rolls the stone away.

C. A. J.

THE CHOIR.

IT IS VERY gratifying to note the marked improvement in the singing of the congregation. Let the good work go on and let everyone who can sing, join in the responses, the Psalter, the Kyrie and the Canticles, until it can be said of the Ascension congregaton that it is a congregation that makes the services so hearty and attractive as to crowd the church with worshippers.

COMMENDATION. — The following choristers are entitled by their regular attendance and general good behavior during the past month to special commendation:

Walter Lynch, Chas. Goldburn,
Lawrence Gaff, L. Anderson.

THE EASTER DAY service at the 7.30 celebration was without doubt the best that the parish has ever had. The men of the Choir sang the Kyrie, Sanctus, Hymn 207, and the Nunc Dimittis, and received the Communion together. Smart's service at the 11 o'clock celebration gave general satisfaction, and at the evening service Tours Magnificant and Nunc Dimittis were sung.

THERE HAS been a marked improvement in the Choir in the past four months, and in the attendance this change for the better has been very great. Indeed, it is a very rare thing for any of the eleven men of the Choir to be absent, and it is doubtful if even the great choirs of the city, upon which are expended thousands of dollars annually, can show as good a record in this respect.

THE LADIES of the Altar Society have promised that the Choir shall have new cassocks instead of the torn and dilapidated vestments now in use, and it is to be hoped that they are very nearly ready as the Choir is really in sore need of them. Indeed, some of the members are reduced to such straits that they will soon have to remain out of the Choir until the new robes are ready.

WANTED FOR THE CHOIR—Bass and tenor *readers* and *singers* who are willing to volunteer their services and help make the worship worthy of the parish, the Church, and the good God to whom we owe so much gratitude for the many blessings we enjoy. The members of the Choir are making rapid strides toward making the Ascension Choir the leading choir of the city, and are determined with God's blessing to make all proper efforts to accomplish that end.

PHOTOGRAPHS of the interior of the Church can be had in the vestry; they are 25 cents each.

The Ascension News.

VOL. I. PHILADELPHIA, PA., MAY, 1888. No. 5

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. W. B. THORN,
802 N. 7th St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
GEO. H. HAVERSTICK.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
407 So. 13th St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, 11 A. M.
Litany and Instruction, 3.30 P. M.
Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, 10.00 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5.00 P. M.

DAILY:
10.00 A. M., Morning Prayer.
5.00 P. M., Evening Prayer.
7.45 P. M., Wednesdays, Evening Prayer and Lecture.

BIBLE CLASSES.

For Adults, Saturday, 7.45 P. M.
Teacher, Rev. W. B. Thorn.
For Young Men, Sunday, 2.30 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Grimball.
For Ladies, Sunday, 2.30 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Haverstick.

DEDICATION FESTIVAL.

ASCENSION DAY, MAY 10TH

7½ A. M. Holy Communion.
11 A. M. Choral Morning Prayer and Holy Communion.
5 P. M. Evening Prayer.
8 P. M. Choral Shortened Evening Prayer and Anniversary Sermon by the Rector.
May 11th. 8 P. M. Parish Tea for Parishioners and others, in the School room.
May 12th. 8 P. M. Anniversary of Guilds, Procession of Guilds and Sermon by the Rev. H. F. Nichols.

KALENDAR.

MAY.

1 SS. Philip and James.
4 Friday—Fast.
6 Rogation Sunday.
7 Rogation Day—Fast.
8 Rogation Day—Fast.
9 Rogation Day—Fast.
10 Holy Thursday or Ascension Day.
11 Friday—Fast.
13 Expectation Sunday.
18 Friday—Fast.
20 Whitsun-Day, Pentecost.
21 Whitsun Monday.
22 Whitsun Tuesday.
23 Ember Day—Fast.
25 Ember Day—Fast.
26 Ember Day—Fast.
27 Trinity Sunday.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoons.

GUILD MEETINGS.

1 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
8 7.45 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
15 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. John's Guild.
22 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

6 and 20. Sunday School teachers in the Guild room immediately after the Litany Service.

S. Andrew's Brotherhood on the first Sunday in June and September, and the last Sunday in December and March, and at the call of the Executive Committee.

Embroidery Class, every Wednesday morning after Morning Prayer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. Berkley Grimball.
Librarian, Mr. Chas. L. S. Tingley.

TEACHERS.

Miss Morrell,	Miss Davis,
Miss A. Jackson,	Mrs. Thorn,
Miss M. Harper,	Miss Blackwell,
Miss Anderson,	Miss Bond,
Miss T. G. Harper,	Miss Parmelee,
Miss Carman,	Miss Haslett,
Miss Hiller,	Miss Calder,
Miss Duncan,	Miss B. Spear,
Miss Young,	Miss Schoch,

Mr. Buell.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published by S. John's Guild, under the direction of the Rector.

As the Guild desires this paper to be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, (if sent by mail 60 cents) to be paid in advance, to Mr. Chas. L. S. Tingley, 305 Walnut Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

OUR DEDICATION FESTIVAL.

It has been the custom of Christian churches from the earliest times to celebrate the anniversary of the day on which they were consecrated as a Dedication Festival, and the Consecration of a Church usually took place on the day of the Saint, or the feast commemorating the mystery, after which the church was named.

As our Church is called the Church of the Ascension, the day on which its consecration should take place would be the Festival of the Ascension. And though unhappily, as we are not yet out of debt and we cannot formally dedicate to the Lord that which we do not fully own, our new Church has not yet been consecrated, still we naturally observe its name day as if it had been consecrated.

The special object of such a festival is to thank God for the gift of the Church, that He put it into the hearts of those who had the means to erect this House to the glory of His name and for the benefit of men, and to intercede with Him on its behalf, that He may grant it prosperity and peace. And it is also for the purpose of exciting and keeping alive the interest and affection which each member of the parish should have for his spiritual home.

So, as in former years, we shall keep Ascension Day, May 10th, as our special parish festival, and several new features will be added this year to its celebration. The services on the day itself will consist of Celebrations of the Holy Communion at 7½ and 11 A. M. And the clergy trust that every member of the parish will be present at one or other of these Celebrations and make the special object of their intercessions at that time, the good of their parish. We believe that God hears prayers, and we are sure that there is no prayer that He hears and answers so readily as that on behalf of a spiritual agency such as a Church. So we ought to use the power that we have of calling down His blessing upon the Church to which we belong. And no time is so fitting, or effective, for prayer as during the Celebration of the Blessed Sacrament. In addition to these services there will be Evening Prayer at 5 P. M. and shortened Evening Prayer and an Anniversary Sermon by the Rector at 8 P. M. The 11 A. M. and 8 P. M. services will be choral, and the choir is preparing some special music for the occasion. In his sermon in the evening the Rector will give the statistics of the work done in the parish for the past year, and speak of its progress, and present condition. We hope all will try to be at this service, that they may interest themselves in, and become familiar with the work and the wants of their parish.

Beside the usual daily services in the Church on Friday and Saturday, there will be on Friday at 8 P. M. in the School building, a Parish Tea, such as we had December a year ago, when we first entered the Church. Such occasions are very pleasant and profitable, affording an opportunity for talking over the affairs of the parish, and for its various members to become acquainted with each other. Addresses will be delivered by two or three clergymen and laymen. Tickets of admission will be issued to all members of the congregation, twenty-five cents each being asked from those who are able to pay, to defray expenses of the entertainment.

On Saturday at 8 P. M. will be the Anniversary of the Guilds of the Parish. The members of S. John's and S. Mary's Guilds and of S. Andrew's Brotherhood will assemble in the parish building and enter and leave the church in procession wearing their badges and carrying their banners. It is hoped there will be a full attendance of all the members. The front seats in the middle aisle will be reserved for them. The sermon on the occasion will be preached by the Rev. H. F. Nichols, the new Rector of S. James Church, in this city.

Thus we hope to make our parish Festival a bright time in the year and productive of good, both spiritually and temporally to the Church.

THE Rev. H. O. DuBOIS.

The connection of the Rev. H. O. DuBois as an Assistant Minister of this parish terminated at Easter, he having resigned the position, intending permanently to remove from the city. Mr. DuBois has been connected with the parish since 1883, though always away during the summer months. During this time he has most faithfully discharged all the duties which he undertook, and he has done all which his health and strength would permit. The parish is under special obligations to him because, at a time when it was impossible for it to employ an Assistant Minister at an adequate salary, he was willing to serve it for a very small compensation, and for the last six months has given his services entirely gratitutiously. He has thus enabled the Church to do a work for the past five years which could not otherwise have been accomplished We are sure the congregation appreciates what he has done, and that they have admired his reverence and devotion when officiating, and the uniform urbanity and courtesy of his manners. And those to whom he has especially ministered, know how kind and sympathetic he has been to them when they were in want or trouble. They feel that they have lost a good friend.

Record for April.

Baptisms	5
Burials	2
Communions of the sick	1
Communicants added—	
New	3
By removal	2
Removed	5

OFFERINGS.

Current expenses, including Easter offering	$896.66
Poor	51.00
Sunday School	15.44
Industrial School	24.00
Building Fund	3.03
Church debt	121.10
Flowers	2.67
Female Tract Society	5.00
Diocesan Missions	9.00
Indian "	49.00
Freedmen "	27.75
Foreign "	24 50
Total	$1,229.15
Estimated current expenses (including interest on Mortgage), for month	$400 00

PARISH NOTES.

CONFIRMATION.—Our annual confirmation took place on the evening of April 13th. The Church was filled with perhaps the largest week night congregation we have ever had. A very nice class of twenty-four was presented. Of course there were others who ought to have been confirmed, but still that was a good class considering the size of the congregation. One feature about it was particularly gratifying, and that was the proportion of males, there being eleven males and thirteen females. Last year there were but four males to fifteen females. May we not hope that this is a beginning of men, in this parish at least, taking the stand they ought to in regard to religion Its duties are just as binding upon them as they are upon women. Nay, they have it in their power to do more for the cause for religion than women can. And there is to us nothing sadder than the neglect of religion by men and their indifference as to whether their sons are brought up religiously or not. The lives of most men are determined by their education. So there is nothing more essential than that men should be taught from their youth to perform their religious duties. It is a fatal mistake to let a young man grow up unconfirmed in the hope that he may seek it later for himself, ten chances to one he never will. It is the duty of parents and sponsors "*to bring*" their sons or god-sons to the Bishop to be confirmed by him so soon as they are old enough to understand what are the obligations of religion.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—The Altar Chapter of the Women's Guild have made and presented another beautifully embroidered white silk stole to the parish.

A photograph of our late assistant minister the Rev. H. O. DuBois, and a handsome wooden frame for the same, have been presented to the Church and hung in the Vestry room. A wooden bar with brass tips for a banner was also given by the same person.

A number of flowers were sent to the Church for our Easter decoration. The sills of all the memorial windows in the Church were filled with flowers by the relatives or friends of those to whom they were erected. A member of the choir also supplied the palms which were carried by the choir on Palm Sunday.

SUNDAY SCHOOL MUSIC. — The Remont brothers have taken charge of the music in the Sunday School, one playing the cornet and the other leading the music. This will make a great difference in the attractiveness of the Sunday afternoon service.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LIBRARY. — We have been able to add this month by purchase fifty volumes of the Bishop Doane series to our Sunday School Library. This addition of perfectly new books will be most acceptable, as the books we have had were very old and dilapidated.

Any members of the congregation having, from time to time, children's books of any kind which they do not want, we shall be glad if they would add them to our library. We are also glad to receive books or magazines of general literature for our parish library.

WORK FOR CRIPPLE HOME.—During Lent, the members of S. Mary's Guild met at the Church one evening in each week, to work for the Home for colored cripple children in West Philadelphia. The Ladies' Aid Chapter of the Women's Guild also gave their work during Lent to the same object. The result was that seventy-one garments were made and sent to the Home, together with thirty-four Easter eggs, groceries, pound and a half of candy, and three bottles of extract of beef.

LECTURE. — On Tuesday evening, April 10th, Dr. C. B. Nancrede lectured before S. John's Guild on Respiration. His remarks were plain and practical and were listened to with pleasure and profit by all present. It is a matter of regret that more of the members of the congregation were not in the audience.

ENTERTAINMENT. — On Monday evening, April 23d, S. Mary's Guild held an entertainment in the Parish Building. All who took part wore appropriate costumes. Musical selections of "ye olden time" were well rendered by a chorus under the skillful leadership of Mr. Baker. The Remont Bros. entertained the audience with pleasing and varied instrumental music. Refreshments were served by the young ladies. The concert was pronounced a success and numerous requests have been made for its repetition. The proceeds which we hope will be large, are to go towards paying the balance due on the piano.

SUNDAY SCHOOL HONOR ROLL.—We are pleased to note that the Honor Roll does not grow smaller; still we regret that it is not larger and that the boys classes are not represented. The names for this month are:

Charlotte Milliken, Bessie Milliken,
Jeannette Haslett, Alice Ruleff,
Sadie Milliken, Emma Ruleff,
Lillie Ruleff, Blanche Remont,
Lizzie Monteith, Mamie Coleman,
Alice Murray, Emma Scharr,
Kate Story, Fannie Jackson,
Minnie Bell, Maud Peterson,
Mamie Harrison, Grace Peterson.
Mary Milliken,

By an oversight the name of Mary Milliken was omitted from the corrected list for February.

PHOTOGRAPHS of the interior of the Church can be had in the vestry; they are 25 cents each.

Circular.

The following circular has been sent by direction of the Vestry to each member of the congregation:

The undersigned have been appointed by the Vestry of the Church of the Ascension, a Committee to formulate and adopt a system of pledges whereby each member of the congregation may have envelopes sent to him or her —to be used weekly to deposit a regular stipulated sum for the current expenses of the Church.

In adopting this plan, it is proper that the members of the parish should thoroughly understand it, and the reasons which have moved the Vestry to adopt it.

It is, of course, of the very first importance that the Church should live within its means. But it will be seen that it is impossible at the beginning of the year (when most of the appropriations of funds must be made—such as salaries of the Rector, Choir, Sexton, etc.) under the present system, to know what funds the Vestry will have at its command for the coming twelve months, and this uncertainty the Vestry has felt to be a great disadvantage; so great, indeed, as to interfere with a proper, business-like conduct of the financial affairs of the parish.

By the introduction of the proposed envelope system a certain fixed sum may be depended upon, and this will form a basis upon which the income of the parish may fairly be estimated.

The Vestry hope also that the system will materially add to the income of the Church, because of the opportunity thus presented to members of the parish to make their contributions regularly.

If prevented by sickness or other cause from attending service, the contribution will not fail, but TWO envelopes will be deposited in the Alms-plate on the succeeding Sunday.

In the management of the finances of a Free Church which is not endowed, it is proper that the members of the parish should be kept well instructed as to its needs—that they may be able to exert themselves when the exigencies of the case demand increased effort.

While the Vestry congratulate the members of the parish upon the increase in the size of the congregation, and upon the fact that the close of the present fiscal year (May 1st, 1888) will find the church free from debt (excepting the mortgage on the church property), notwithstanding the increase expenditures for salary to the Rector and for the improvement of the Choir, ventured upon by the Vestry last September, they are bound to remind them that Five Hundred Dollars were received by the church for the use of the pavement on Broad Street during the Constitutional Centennial celebration last year, an extraordinary occasion which cannot be repeated, and that the increased expenditures were for the last HALF of the year only, so that we shall be obliged to make every exertion for the coming year, if we are to close it free from debt for our current expenses.

The Vestry, relying upon the conscientious liberality of the members of the parish, has continued the appropriations for the coming year upon about the same scale as those of the past six months—a little more.

The Committee enclose with this a card with blank spaces, which they request you to fill up with the amount which you are willing to contribute weekly, and under cover of the accompanying envelope, drop it in the Alms-plate or one of the Alms-chests in the vestibule, or send it to the Accounting Warden as addressed; a sufficient number of envelopes for use during the next three months will then be sent you, marked with a number, which will be the number opposite your name on the Warden's book; so that you may be credited with the amount of each contribution received. One envelope to be dropped in the Alms-plate each Sunday, containing the weekly contribution pledged by you.

The Committee invite your careful attention to this effort on the part of the Vestry to improve the financial condition of the parish, and they beg of you a response, no matter what may be the amount which you expect to contribute weekly.

Anyone finding himself or herself able and desiring to give more than the stipulated contribution, can, of course, place the additional sum upon the Alms-plate, not forgetting, however, to place the envelope with the regular weekly contribution also on the plate, so that he may be credited with it in the Warden's book.

J. EDWARD CARPENTER,
FRANCIS S. KEESE,
THOMAS ROBB,
} *Committee.*

Philadelphia, May 1, 1888.

Philadelphia, ... *18*

I promise to give . . . . . .

on each Sunday towards the support of the

Church of the Ascension

until I give notice to the contrary.

Please sign, fill out and enclose to the Warden { . . . . . .

Buried Talents.

(BY A MEMBER OF THE PARISH.)

I saw one bearing on his back,
A battered spade, a weighty pack;
Anon, he dug the ground:
What he upturned along his road,
He thrust within his bursting load,
Gloating o'er all he found.

To all abodes of men he went,
On his mysterious toil intent,
Though oft he sought in vain:
For not in every likeliest spot—
Yet oft where he expected not,
Would he his treasures gain.

"What doest thou, mysterious man?"
Perplexed and curious I began,
"Thy mission and thy name?
And what the buried wealth you win,
By homes of peace, and dens of sin,
And halls of fairest fame?"

"I was before thy race, or thee;
"My name is Legion," answered he,
"One of the hostile horde.
Men's buried talents are our spoil;
And glittering heaps reward our toil,
In lurid regions stored."

Then I considered in my mind,
Th' entrusted gifts to us assigned
To employ from hour to hour,
If we their proper use deny,
The Tempter's angels lay them by,
As trophies of their power.

The Churchman's Catechism.

Q. What are the different states of those who are in the world, and those who are in the Church?

A. The world "lieth in wickedness;" and they who are in the world only, will be "condemned with the world;" but they who are in the church, are called to a state of salvation. (Acts III: 47.)

Q. Has a man's situation any effect upon his character?

A. Certainly; if it be not his own fault; for as the world corrupts men, the church sanctifies them.

Q. How can you prove that?

A. Our Saviour said, the temple sanctified the gold which was brought into it. Therefore if the souls of men are as precious as gold and the Christian church as worthy as the Jewish temple, men must in a sense become holy by being made members of it.

Q. Is there not another reason why the church is called "holy?"

A. Because it is a body, of which the Holy Spirit of God is the animating principle, or life and soul. (I Cor. xii: 13.)

Q. Why is the church called "Catholic?"

A. Catholic means *universal;* and the church was so called, because though it was spread over all nations, it was everywhere the same; and so, in the whole, one church, one Body of Christ. It is also called Catholic, as distinguished from the Jewish church, which was particular or peculiar, being confined to our nation or people; whereas the Christian church takes in all the nations of the world.

Q. How do the two societies of the church and the world appear when they are compared together?

A. There is the like difference between them as the waters of the flood and the ark of Noah; the city of Sodom devoted to destruction, and Zoar the city of refuge; Egypt the house of slavery, and Canaan the land of liberty.

Q. What reason have we to think that our own church is a part of the Catholic church of Christ?

A. Because we find in it the ordinances, the doctrines, and the authority of the Catholic church

Q. How does it preserve the authority of the Catholic Church?

A. Because it derives its authority by succession from the Apostles.

Q. Why is succession necessary to a true church?

A. Because none can make a church but JESUS CHRIST Himself, from whom we derive it; and without the rule of *succession,* any company of people, even of women, might make a church. But the church being the "Church of God," and not a human society, men can no more make *God's Church* than they can make *God's world.*

Q. How does it appear that our church preserves the same ordinances?

A. We find in it the same means of grace to fit men for salvation as were in the church of the Apostles.

Q. Which are they?

A. Baptism with water; confirmation; absolution or forgiveness of sins; benediction which signifies consecration or authoritative Blessing; the Lord's Supper; ordination, &c.

(*Concluded.*)

Liberal Givers.

A gentleman in Rhode Island has just given $100,000 towards our Domestic Missionary Episcopate, and another person in Missouri has given $37,500 towards the endowment of a Cathedral Church for the diocese. A gentleman in Chicago has given three houses in that city valued at $20,000 towards the endowment of a Cathedral there. Thus it is that men of wealth are beginning to use their possessions for the glory of God. Who can estimate the amount of good that will be accomplished by these endowments. Of all ways of doing good none is permanent, for it does not depend on the continuance of a single life, or the permanency of a building, but continues on its work from generation to generation. The enormous power of our Mother Church of England to-day is due to the benefactions of her pious sons centuries ago. So may God inspire many such men to put our church in the position in which it can do the same work for this new nation.

What the Prayer Book Saves us from.

Here is an extempore prayer uttered by the Rev. Mr. Allison when praying before the Minnesota Legislature:—"And now, dear Lord, bless the reporters, whose nimble pens catch every word almost before it is uttered. Like thyself they are omnipotent. If we take the wings of the morning and fly to the utmost parts of the earth they are there. They meet us in Africa, they waylay us in the solitary canyons of Colorado, and when at length we find the latitude of the magnetic pole, behold they are there. May their light and goodness be equal to their power, and in the general assembly of Heaven let no reporter be excluded."

The Ascension News.

Vol. I. PHILADELPHIA, PA., JUNE, 1888 No. 6

Church of the Ascension.

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HOLY BAPTISM

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Teacher, Mrs. Grimball.
For Ladies, Sunday, 10 A. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Haverstick.

KALENDAR.

JUNE.

1 Friday—Fast.
3 First Sunday after Trinity.
8 Friday—Fast.
10 Second Sunday after Trinity.
11 S. Barnabas.
15 Friday—Fast.
17 Third Sunday after Trinity.
22 Friday—Fast.
24 S. John Baptist.
29 S. Peter—Fast.

GUILD MEETINGS.

5 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
12 7.45 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
19 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. John's Guild.
26 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

3 and 17. Sunday School teachers in the Guild room immediately after the Litany Service.

S. Andrew's Brotherhood on the first Sunday in June and September, and the last Sunday in December and March, and at the call of the Executive Committee.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. Berkley Grimball.
Librarian, Mr. Chas. L. S. Tingley.
Assistant Librarian, Mr. Geo. B. M. Grafton.

TEACHERS.

Miss Morrell,	Miss Davis,
Miss A. Jackson,	Mrs. Thorn,
Miss M. Harper,	Miss Blackwell,
Miss Anderson,	Miss Bond,
Miss T. G. Harper,	Miss Parmelee,
Miss Carman,	Miss Haslett,
Miss Hiller,	Miss Calder,
Miss Duncan,	Miss B. Spear,
Miss Young,	Miss Schoch,

Mr. Buell.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published by S. John's Guild, under the direction of the Rector.

As the Guild desires this paper to be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, (if sent by mail 60 cents) to be paid in advance, to Mr. Chas. L. S. Tingley, 305 Walnut Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

THE SUMMER RECESS.

With this issue we enter upon that season of the year in which church work is to a great an extent stopped, and in fact in which many people neglect even the performance of their religious duties. There are some persons who would seem to regard the Fourth Commandment as if it read "Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day, excepting in warm weather." But we have never been able to find this exception in any of the forms in which it is given in the Bible. And it is certainly a universal precept of the Christian religion, that every Sunday in the year is to be observed as a holy day. That of course does not mean that every portion of the day is to be given up to religious exercises, for the day has another purpose too, it is for rest. But in order that it may be kept as a holy day it must be hallowed by at least one distinctive act of public worship. So every Christian who does not perform one such act on each Sunday in the year, unless he is absolutely hindered by sickness or some other unavoidable cause, is committing a sin by the neglect of a positive duty. A duty whose purpose is very evident, because it is not only something which he owes to God, but is necessary as well for the maintenance and developement of his own religious character.

If a man neglects the stated public worship of God he cannot be as good as he ought to be, and there is every likelihood of his becoming bad. And a man cannot even perform that duty during one portion of the year and neglect it through another portion, without his religious character suffering, from the extent to which he neglects it. So persons going out of town in the summer, should always arrange if possible to be where they can have religious privileges. In English newspapers containing advertisements of summer resorts, it is very common to see such notices as the following: "Church with choral service within five minute's walk, &c." And our people ought to be just as particular, and not settle down, for three or four months perhaps, in a place where there is no church at all, or one whose services are very distasteful to them.

So the portion of our congregation that remains at home should be careful not to neglect their duties here. The services in the church are arranged so that persons can attend them in the coolest hours of the day. It is not hot at the early celebration of the Holy Communion every Sunday and Holy Day at 7½ A. M.; and those who attend that service can feel that they have done their duty, and they can, with a clear conscience, take all the rest of the day for rest or relaxation.

The clergy specially urge those who, feeling that Sunday is their only holiday, take it for going to the country or the park, to come to that service before they go.

So too our twilight service on Sunday evening, at 7 o'clock, which consists only of shortened Evening Prayer and a brief address, is cool, because the sun has gone down at that hour, and yet it is not dark enough to require the church to be fully lighted up, which adds so much to its heat. This service will begin the second Sunday in June, and continue till September.

As in previous years the daily service 5 P. M. and the Wednesday evening service will be discontinued, from June to October, but prayers will be said every morning at 10 A. M., and service every Holy day at 7½ and 10 A. M.

So many of the congregation going away during the summer, of course the same amount of church work as we do in the winter cannot be carried on, but there are always the poor and the sick remainingin town to be visited. And those going away, if they want some work to take with them, can obtain from the heads of the various Chapters of the Women's Guild some piece of sewing or embroidery they could do.

Let all who can, take the needed rest and relaxation that summer brings, employing it to gain the health and strength to serve God more zealously another year; but let no one forget the church or their duties in it, just because it is the summer.

Record for May.

Baptisms	17
Burials	3
Communicants added—	
New	7
By removal	3
Removed	4
Died	1

OFFERINGS.

Current expenses, ~~including Easter offering~~	$346.29
Poor	3.27
Sunday School	7.17
Building Fund	78.34
Church debt	18.05
Flowers	5.00
Freedmen Missions	2.00
Assistant Minister	300.00
Total	$760.12

Estimated current expenses (including interest on Mortgage), for month $400 00

PARISH NOTES.

Ascension Day, 1888. We kept our Dedication Festival this year with greater interest than ever before. The attendance at all the services was better and the new features of the Parish Tea and the Guild service both proved successful. The former was largely attended and every one present seemed to enjoy their evening, the price charged for the tickets was intended to cover the cost of the entertainment, but so many donations of eatables and even money were made, that some $40 was cleared for the benefit of the Church. The ladies who worked hard in preparing the entertainment, decorating the room, serving the supper, and we may add, in putting things to rights afterwards, deserve our warm appreciation and hearty thanks.

THE night of the Guild service proved stormy and disagreeable, still the Guilds turned out in good force. We wish we could have said as much for the congregation. It was small. Those who stayed away missed a beautiful service and a good sermon from the rector of S. James Church. The choir did their part well at all these services. We have seldom heard them sing better than on Ascension day.

CONVOCATION. — The South-west Convocation, to which this parish belongs, has adopted a rule to hold quarterly meetings in the different churches within its bounds in alphabetical order. And as the Church of the Ascension stands first in the list, the next meeting will be held here, on Sunday evening, June 3d. The Preacher will be the Rev. A. B. Conger, rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Rosemont.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—The first of our clere story windows has arrived from England and been put in position. It represents the apostle S. Peter. Eventually it is hoped to fill the whole of one side of the Church with the figures of the twelve apostles, and the other side with figures of saints beginning with S. John Baptist and ending with the Doctors of the Church. When these windows are thus filled it will not only greatly enrich the interior of the Church, but take away from the glare which at certain times is very disagreeable.

The members of the embroidery class of the Altar Chapter finished for use on Whitsun-day a set of five red silk mats for our silver Alms-plates. The rector has been the recipient of a handsome new cassock. A water cooler was presented for use in the vestry, which will be very acceptable now the warm weather is coming on. The four hundred tickets and two signs for the Dedication Festival were the gifts of a lady. The flowers on Ascension day were supplied by the members of the young ladies' Bible Class. Flowers for the Hewitt window and for the Altar were supplied by members of that family on Ascension day and Whitsun day.

PROGRESS.—The truest guage of the progress of a parish is the communicant list. The following is that of our parish for the past eight years of the present rectorship. The year previous 35 were reported, in 1881, 140; 1882, 190; 1883, 206; 1884, 220; 1885, 240; 1886, 257, 1887, 282; 1888, 306.

CONCERT.—The old folks' concert of S. Mary's Guild which was such a success when given in the Parish Building last month was repeated on May 29th in S. George's Hall for the benefit of the Church. In spite of a stormy evening a good audience was present.

CRIPPLE HOME. — The following acknowledgement of the box sent to the Cripple Home by the children of the Industrial School has been received:

The House of S. Michael and All Angels,
Cor. 43d & Wallace Sts., West Phila.
May 15th, 1888.

To the Rector of the Church of the Ascension:
Rev. Sir—

A few days ago I received from the Church of the Ascension a box, containing clothing, groceries and a little box of money, to which a ticket was attached, saying that the money and the groceries were sent by the children of the Industrial School of the Church of the Ascension. Will you kindly convey my thanks to those who sent us the box, and say how much we appreciated their gifts, and I would also like to thank the dear children who have not been unmindful of our poor little cripples. I will send you some copies of the May issue of our little home paper in the course of a few days for distribution among the children. The paper is printed by a boy who has lost both his feet. He is now able to walk, having been supplied with artificial limbs.

Yours truly,
SISTER SARAH.

CHANGES IN THE SERVICES.—Beginning with the second Sunday in June and continuing until the first Sunday in September the hour of evening service on Sundays will be at 7 P. M. and the services will consist of shortened evening prayer and a brief address. The other Sunday services will be unchanged. The daily evening prayer and the Wednesday evening service will be discontinued during the four summer months. But the daily morning prayer at 10 A. M. will this year be continued without intermission. Service on all Holy Days at 7.30 and 10 A. M.

HOW TO FILL THE CHURCH.—Let the members of the parish make it their business to single out strangers and find the places in the prayer book and hymnal for them, and thus by showing in every way possible a sincere courtesy, make them feel that we are in earnest in our religion and endeavor to endear the Church to them and cause them to attend the services regularly.

SUNDAY SCHOOL HONOR ROLL.—This month we have but few names for the Honor Roll. We hope, however, that this does not arise from any lack of interest in the Sunday School, on the part of the scholars, but is due merely to the season of the year. When the cool weather returns, we trust that many names which have not appeared, and especially from the boys' classes, will be found here. Meanwhile we cannot praise too highly those who, despite the warm weather and the many other things which at this time cause scholars to absent themselves from the school, have this last month been found faithful in all things. They are:

Charlotte Milliken, Alice Ruleff,
Jeannette Haslett, Emma Ruleff,
Sadie Milliken, Blanche Remont.
Lillie Ruleff, Kate Story,
Katie Hiller, Clinton Stark,

The following lines were suggested by the confirmation, held in the parish, April 13th, 1888.

Consecrated Talents.

"There is a lad here which hath five barley
loaves and two small fishes, but what are
they among so many?"

He who controls the orbs of light
And holds unnumbered worlds in sway,
Who marshals all the hosts of night,
And lights the golden beams of day;

To whom all nature homage yields
Throughout her realms of boundless space;
At whose command her treasures beam,
Her mines of wealth and gems of grace;

He holds her endless stores in hand,
Yet when the multitudes have need,
He summons from the chosen band,
A little lad this crowd to feed.

"There is a lad," O listen boys!
And ponder well the solemn truth,
Though Lord of Heaven He employs
In His grand work, your strength, your
growth.

Your talents all, He summons now,
He claims the service of your life;
By virtue of that solemn vow
You stand enlisted for the strife.

His strife with sin, that deadly strife!
To hold before a sneering world
The banner of a noble life,
In all its lines of light unfurled.

To Christ's allegiance, firm and sure,
Bearing the message of his love,
'Till life's grand warfare, loyal, pure,
Has won the victor's crown above.

The victor's crown! O, joy of joys!
The thrilling words! the glad "Well done."
When the approval of that voice
Proclaims the strife forever won.

C. A. J.

Make Your Wills.

Every person who has any property, much or little, ought to make a will, and a will should be made while one is strong and well in mind and body, and not left till sickness or old age comes on, or death approaches, One is not in a fit state then to make a will even if there is an opportunity, and no one knows how soon or suddenly sickness or death, may come. And in making a will, unless you have very near relatives entirely dependent upon you, you ought always to leave some portion at least of your property to religious purposes, in order to carry on the charities you have been doing in life, for you do not know that those to whom your property will go, will use it for those purposes. And, in every case, whether you have near relatives or not, you should appoint a residuary legatee, in case your relatives do not survive, or live to come of age, or leave direct heirs. Often persons have left property to those who have only lived a short time and left no heirs, and the property has then passed into remote and uncongenial hands. And what better residuary legatee could one have than the church, either your parish church, or the Diocese to which you belong. If you have not enough then to leave a legacy to the church, at least leave your property to it *after* those whom you feel have the first claim on you.

Trustees of the Diocese.

If any are disposed to leave money in their wills to our parish, of course what we want most now is to have our debt paid off and our buildings completed. But after that if any would like to give something towards a permanent endowment, which every church ought to have, we would advise them to leave such money, not to the church itself, but to the Diocesan Trustees in trust to pay the income over to the Vestry. This is safer than to allow those enjoying the income to have control of the principal. The Diocesan Trustees is a body which will be always permanent and composed of the best men the Diocese possesses. Its legal title is "The Trustees of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Pennsylvania." It will receive deeds of property or money for any Diocesan purpose, or to be used for the general good of the Diocese at its discretion.

The Mozart Choral Society.

A Choral Society, in connection with the parish, was organized on Monday evening, May 7th, with twenty-two members, and elected the Rector President and Mr. F. R. Remont, Musical Director. It has since grown to over forty members, and as this goes to press, the society will probably reach fifty.

A Constitution and By-Laws were adopted at the second meeting, which was held on the 14th inst., and the name of the "Mozart Choral Society" was chosen.

The rehearsals will be held every Monday evening, at eight o'clock, in the large room of the parish building. The Society hopes to be of use, not only to those who join it, but to the parish in some practical way in the near future.

As one of the objects of the Society is to interest young people in the practice of good music, it is hoped that the members of the congregation will try and interest those of their acquaintances who may be readers and singers, to join it.

The only expense to active members is a charge of 5 cents per week. Contributing members will be received, who are to pay $2 per annum, and in return they will receive as many tickets for reserved seats at the concerts to be given by the Society, as the Board of Managers may decide.

Those wishing to join the Society can obtain blanks of application from the Secretary any Monday evening.

REPORT.

The following is the report of the Parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop:

Baptisms — Adults 5, Infants 23, Total 28; Confirmed 24; Marriages 3; Burials 20; Families connected with the parish 225.

Communicants Added.—New 13; by removal 40; died 3; removed 26; present number 306.

Services.—Sundays 214, other days 522, total 736; average attendance Sundays, 319; children catechised 74 times.

Sunday School.—Officers and teachers 21; scholars 160.

Bible Classes.—Teachers, 4; members 55.

Other Parish Agencies.—Mother's Meeting, members 23; Industrial School, teachers 10, scholars 100; Men's Guild, Women's Guild, Young Men's Guild, Young Women's Guild, Chapter of S. Andrew's Brotherhood.

Money Receipts from all sources.—Pew rents $49.00; offertory $4759.69; subscriptions: for church debt $357.70: for building fund $1059.84; legacy $100.00; interest $17.97; other sources $733.17; total $7077.37.

Money Expenditures and Appropriations.—Current expenses, (including salaries of ministers, for music, fuel and lighting, care of church building and grounds, and ordinary repairs of same) $3249.31; interest on mortgage $1500.00; improvements $1363.03; Episcopal and convention funds $40.00; support of schools $96.64; for the poor $130.04; Episcopal Hospital $55.13; Missions, Foreign $36.88; Domestic $87.61; Colored people $28.75; Indians $49.00; Diocesan $36.32; Free Church Association $18.60; Tract Society $5.00; Theological Education $50.00; total $6746.31.

Financial Condition. — Estimated value of property $60,000.00; encumbrance, mortgage $25,000.00, other indebtedness none.

The Envelope System.

The circular issued by the Vestry the beginning of last month inaugurating what is known as the Envelope system for the support of the church, has been responded to very promptly by the congregation.

The number of pledges received up to this date is 84. They vary in amount, from 5 cents to $5 a Sunday, and amount in all to $33.10 a Sunday, or $1721.20 a year.

The amount received through the envelopes during May was $112.60, and outside the envelopes $223.69, making $346.29 in all, the largest amount which has ever been received in any one month for current expenses since the free will system was adopted, excepting those months in which the Christmas and Easter collections have come. How far the adoption of this system will affect the Christmas and Easter collections remains to be seen. But even if it does diminish them, it will secure what is most desirable, the distribution of our income through the year, and there can be but little doubt that it will largely increase the total amount.

It is hoped that every one attending the church will make one of these pledges for whatever amount he feels that he can give. The children of the family as well as the adults, should each make their pledges, in order that they may be trained up in the duty of systematic giving for the support of religion. And it is particularly requested that persons who have made pledges, going away for the summer, will place in the offertory before they go, the number of envelopes for the Sundays they expect to be away, as this will give us, what we have never had before, the means to meet our expenses during the summer months.

The Ascension News.

VOL. I. PHILADELPHIA, PA., SEPTEMBER, 1888. No. 7

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
GEO. H. HAVERSTICK.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
1114 Pine St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, 11 A. M.
Litany and Instruction, 3.30 P. M.
Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, 10.00 A. M.

DAILY:
10.00 A. M., Morning Prayer.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoons.

BIBLE CLASSES.

For Young Men, Sunday, 10 A. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Grimball.

For Ladies, Sunday, 2.30 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Haverstick.

KALENDAR.

SEPTEMBER.

2 Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity.
7 Friday—Fast.
9 Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity.
14 Friday—Fast.
16 Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity.
19 Wednesday—Fast, Ember Day.
21 Friday—Fast, S. Matthew, Ember Day.
22 Saturday—Fast, Ember Day.
23 Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity.
28 Friday—Fast.
29 Saturday, S. Michael and All Angels.
30 Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.

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11 7.45 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
18 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. John's Guild.
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Librarian, Mr. Chas. L. S. Tingley.
Assistant Librarian, Mr. Geo. B. M. Grafton.

TEACHERS.

Miss Morrell,	Miss Davis,
Miss A. Jackson,	Miss McCauley,
Miss M. Harper,	Miss Blackwell,
Miss Anderson,	Miss Bond,
Miss T. G. Harper,	Miss Parmelee,
Miss Carman,	Miss Haslett,
Miss Hiller,	Miss B. Spear,
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THE AUTUMN.

We have now entered on the Autumn months. The Summer, during which owing to our climate and the large exodus which takes place then from the city, there is necessarily so great a suspension of church work, is over. Yet those months will be largely taken up with reorganizing and getting things into working order for our short Winter. The stopping during the Summer makes it hard to get things working again in the Autumn. There are always removals, some change their residences, and can no longer occupy the positions they did. So there are teachers wanted in the Sunday School, and places on committees, &c., in our Guilds, are vacant.

The Rector therefore would be glad if any in the congregation who are willing to engage in church work this Winter would signify their willingness to do so to him at once, that he may assign them positions.

Our parish has now got a firm foot-hold in its new position, and we ought to make good progress during the coming Winter. The congregations have been during the Summer larger than last year, and the offerings far in advance. But we want during the coming season to see every seat filled at the principal services. And if we can secure that, then we can get the means to pay off our debt and complete our building.

Let each member of the congregation feel that the success of the parish depends upon his individual faithfulness and efforts. If each will do his or her share, that success will be assured.

We have a grand field for work, let us go in and possess it, and build up what will be in every respect a model parish Church.

OUR PAPER.

The publication of THE NEWS was omitted in July and August, both because there was a dearth of news during those months of recess, and also because we have not yet a large enough number of subscribers to pay for its issue throughout the year. Our subscriptions and advertisements have paid for its issue up to the present number, but to continue it through the rest of the year we need some $50.

Will not *each* member of the congregation become a subscriber, and will they not also try and secure us more advertisements? We want the whole of the last page entirely filled with them.

ASSISTANT MINISTER.

It is with great regret that we announce to the congregation, that owing to domestic circumstances, the Rev. Mr. Thorn has resigned his position as Assistant Minister in our parish, and accepted a place in the Diocese of Pittsburgh. Mr. Thorn has filled the position of Assistant since the middle of last November very acceptably, and we are sure there will be general regret at his leaving. It is pleasant to know that this regret is mutual, as he assured the Rector before leaving that he was sorry to do so, having enjoyed his position here more than any church work he had yet been engaged in. Our best wishes follow him in his new sphere of labor.

His place has not yet been filled. The Rector has been in correspondence with a number of clergymen and advertised in one of the church newspapers, but has not yet been able to secure anyone. He has heard of several whom he thinks would be suitable in every way, but they are not willing to come for the salary he can offer. He asks the prayers of the congregation that a faithful co-laborer may be sent to him.

Record for June, July and August.

Baptisms	3
Burials	5
Communicants added—	
By removal	4
Removed	5
Died	1

OFFERINGS.

Current expenses	$680.79
Poor	4.63
Sunday School	4.66
Building Fund	2.50
Church debt	62.00
Proceeds of Parish Tea	4..00
Sunday School Picnic	33.67
Diocesan Missions	16.66
Total	$849.91

Estimated current expenses (including interest on Mortgage), per month $400 00

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—The fingers of our ladies, members of our Guild, and friends of the parish, have not been idle during the summer months. Since the last number of the NEWS one lady has presented to the church a very beautiful fair linen cloth for the altar, in the centre is a very elaborately embroidered cross, and all along the front and ends most beautiful drawn work, very deep. It is altogether the most beautiful thing of the kind we have ever seen. We shall keep it for use on festivals. Another lady has made and embroidered two linen maniples, a fair linen chalice veil, and a linen baptismal napkin, the latter having an em broidered cross on one end, and a cherub's head in chain stitch on the other.

There has also been presented to the Rector a set, consisting of a fair linen cloth, corporal, burse, chalice veil, pall and white silk chalice veil, all made and embroidered as a memorial of a young man whom the Rector attended in his last illness, and who was buried from the church some months ago.

The Altar Chapter of the Women's Guild have made and embroidered a new set of green markers.

One of our Vestrymen has had made and placed in the pews of the church racks to hold the books, 68 in all. They are made of the same wood as the pews and are of a very pretty design. They will be a great convenience in saving the prayer books and hymnals from being pushed off unto the floor as they were so apt to be when left on the seat. Everyone using a book should be careful to put it back into the rack again from which it was taken.

At the beginning of the hot weather some one sent an anonimous gift of two dozen fans for the use of the choir. They have been much appreciated and the hearty thanks of the choir are due the unknown donor.

Our Missionary Committee report having made a surplice and black stole. fair linen cloth, corporal, pall, maniple, white silk burse, and two book markers all of which were sent to a Mission Church in South Carolina. We hope this committee will be enlarged and that many ladies in the congregation will occupy their leisure time in making sets of altar linen and clerical and choir vestments for poor churches which cannot supply themselves.

THE CHOIR.—Our choir has been much reduced in size during the summer, many of the men and boys being off on a holiday, and our choir-master, Mr. Brock, has had a three months leave of absence. Nevertheless the music has kept up remarkably well, Mr. Wilson has most acceptably supplied Mr. Brock's place, and those members of the choir who have remained in town have been very faithful in their attendance, and the effect of the past year's training has been very visible.

A lady of the congregation has presented each of the Choir boys who have been regular in his attendance during the Summer months, with a ticket to the Zoo, together with money for his car fare and lunch.

THE ENVELOPE SYSTEM.—We have been much pleased with the success of the envelope system introduced last May. It has given us a revenue which enabled us to meet promptly the interest on our mortgage due in June, and has very nearly met all our expenses up to the present date. This is the first time since the free-will offerings were adopted in 1880 that this has been done. Formerly the Rector never received any salary between Easter and Christmas, and the Warden often had to advance the money to meet the current expenses. But now every officer of the corporation has been paid and every obligation met, and the Warden is only about $150 behind. The effect of the use of the envelopes can be seen by the following comparison. Amount received for current expenses of the church from May 1st to September 1st, 1887, was $540.20. The amount received during the same period this year was $1027.08. This shows that the use of the envelopes secures regular, systematic giving and has largely increased our income. It is hoped that each attendant of the church will use them. Take one of the blanks from the rack in the vestibule, or ask the Sexton for one, and fill it up with the amount you are willing to give, and place it on the plate at the Offertory, or drop it in the Alms Chest, and the Warden will send you enough envelopes to last you for the next quarter.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.—Sunday afternoon September 2d, the Sunday School will recommence its sessions. We hope to see all the teachers who are in town, and every child in their places. The scholars who want to see their names in the Honor roll must remember that that depends on the regularity of their attendance, and the correctness of their behavior.

The Young Men's Bible Class which formerly met on Sunday afternoon will meet hereafter on Sunday mornings at at 10 A. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL EXCURSION. — On Wednesday, June 27th, our Sunday School had its first annual excursion. Early in the morning the scholars, teachers and their friends met in the parish building, and from there were conveyed in wagons to Ormiston. Here the time was happily spent in all manner of merry-making. The day was all that could be desired, and no accident marred its pleasure. In the afternoon all present were given a treat of ice cream and cake. Early in the evening the wagons rolled homeward bearing a happy, tired band of excursionists, all ready to confess that the first pic-nic was a great success, and to thank the many kind friends through whose liberality they were enabled to enjoy themselves.

BIBLE CLASS PICNIC.—On Saturday, July 21st, the Young Men's Bible Class had its annual picnic. This also was at Ormiston. The weather was delightful. Quite a number from the congregation were present, and all were more than pleased with their holiday. In the afternoon a game of base ball was played between S. John's Guild nine and a nine from the Reformed congregation at Seventh and Brown streets. This resulted in a victory for S. John's nine by a score of 6 to 1.

S. John's Guild also played against a nine from S. Clement's Church, Saturday, August 18th, and beat them by a score of 28 to 9.

ADDRESS CARDS.—Persons attending the church who are not known to the Rector are particularly requested to fill up one of the cards which they will find in the racks in the vestibule, with their names and residences and drop it in the Alms Chest. The Rector would like to make the personal acquaintance of every person attending the church, even though their attendance is only temporary. A number have given in their names in this way, but the Rector sees the faces of many in the congregation whom he does not know and he cannot make their acquaintance unless they make themselves known.

THE CHURCH DEBT.—The Rector recently found in one of the alms boxes a check for $50, towards the Church Debt. This was from a friend of, and an occasional attendant at, the Church. Will not others remember us in the same way, and thus to relieve us of this incubus, and place the Church in a position beyond the possibility of danger, and enable it to use all its income for its current expenses, providing proper salaries for its clergy, &c.

FLOWERS.—One of the members of the congregation who is living in the country during the summer, has been raising flowers expressly to supply our Altar, and every Sunday through June and July she has sent them in. But during August she has been away travelling and we have had no flowers on the Altar. Will not some one else another year undertake to supply them for that month? And will not those who have no means of raising flowers themselves contribute a small sum every week towards purchasing them, so that each Sunday and Holy Day we may have at least two bouquets on the Altar. The Treasurer of the flower fund is Miss Jane B. Hewson.

The Choral Society.

The "Mozart" held rehearsals all Summer, and the attendance was remarkably good, reaching as high as twenty-nine members.

The music practiced was necessarily of a light nature, the pieces taken up being—

O Hush Thee My Babie, *by Sullivan.*
The Belfry Tower, *by Hatton.*
Old Ocean's Life is in Our Veins, *by Leslie.*
Sweet and Low, *by Barnby.*
Twilight on the Sea, *by Sudds.*

In the Autumn, when the members have returned for the Winter, we hope to take up music of a somewhat heavier character.

Arrangements are being made for a public rehearsal which will be given as early as posible in the Fall, and the friends of the "Mozart" will then be able to judge of the work done by the Society during the hot weather.

In order that the singing of the Society shall be creditable it is necessary to limit the membership to those who have some knowledge of music. It is therefore proposed to start a class for instruction in music. Due notice of this will be given, and the class will be open to all friends of the members and of the congregation. The instruction will be absolutely free of all charge, and those wishing to join must hand their names and addresses to the musical director, through any member of the Society, on or before October 1st.

The Choir.

The choir master, Mr. Brock, has been on a vacation during the Summer season, but his place has been very ably filled by Mr. Wilson, who has well maintained the discipline and singing of the Choir. The latter has been very creditable indeed, notwithstanding the small number sometimes attending the services. During the Summer Mr. Pressick left for New York, but the tenor side has been reinforced by Mr. Jackson, who has recently joined us.

MUSCULAR Christianity has been well represented in the colonies. The story of Bishop Selwyn's encounter with the bushmen is well known. Bishop Goe of Melbourne seems to have had a somewhat similar experience in his younger days. When a curate, a parishioner styled Jim the Slogger called at the parsonage asking him to baptize the baby. Accordingly, the bishop repaired to Jim's house, but was surprised, on being admitted, to see Jim lock the door and pocket the key. "Be you the parson come to sprinkle my kid?" he asked. On the Bishop's assenting, he continued: "Yer can't sprinkle that kid till me and you has had a fight, parson." The unfortunate parson protested, but finding protest useless, took the bull by the horns and "stood up" to Jim. The battle went for the Bishop; and Jim, pulling himself up from the floor, muttered: "He's the parson for me; he shall sprinkle my kid." The Baptism was forthwith proceeded with, and we are given to understand that Jim took to church going from that day. It is a curious fact that the Bishop's full name is Field Flowers Goe; a name which certainly does not connote all the qualities which he seems to possess!

A Contrast.

The average contribution of all the Christian people in this land of wealth and plenty to all forms of Christian benevolence is just *thirty-two cents apiece*. Is it any wonder that the windows of heaven are not opened above us and our Church filled with blessing.

The average expenditures of the people of that land, for liquors of all kind, spirituous and malt, is *fifteen dollars apiece*. Is it a wonder that the dockets of the criminal courts are crowded; that the prisons are overflowing; that poor houses, insane asylums, and houses of correction are inadequate to receive the patients and criminals who seek entrance and are sent up: that poverty and distress are abounding in the midst of plenty? Suppose the proportion were reversed—that thirty cents per *capita* represented the expenditure for liquor, and fifteen doliars that for Christian benevolence—does any one doubt that there would be a reversal, moral and spiritual, everywhere?—*Church Life*.

THE BEST reward for having wrought well already is to have more to do.—*Charles Kingsley*.

Turning to the East During the Creed.

Church people are often asked why they turn to the east during Creed, and beyond saying that it is a primitive custom, are at loss to give a satisfactory reason for their practice. If they would commit the following lines to memory, or at least the thoughts embodied in them, they would be ready at all times to satisfy inquirers.

I turn to the East when I say the Creed,
And this for reasons three;
First Holy Church hath practiced it,
And she's a guide for me.

I turn to the East when I say the Creed,
For thence the rising sun
Through thousand circling months and years
His ceaseless course hath run.

I turn to the East when I say the Creed,
And my Redeemer bless,
Who rose on our benighted earth
'The Sun of Righteousness.'

I turn to the East when I say the Creed,
And look for my final doom;
For thence the scriptures seem to speak
The Righteous Judge shall come.

I turn to the East when I say the Creed,
My reasons I have given,
But not my *eye alone*, my *heart*
Must turn itself towards Heaven.

I turn to the East when I say the Creed,
And tell me now, I pray,
Why any humble Christian need
To turn the other way?"

As Daniel and the pious Isralites prayed with their faces toward Jerusalem, the holy city, so the early Christians were wont to turn towards the East in their prayers, and more particularly in their Creeds and Doxologies (which partake of the same nature), as looking for the rising for the Sun of Righteousness It is the same symbolical reason that Christian churches were ordinarily built with the Altar, towards which the worshippers turned, at the East: and that the general custom, in burying the dead, is to lay the body with the feet towards the East.

In Africa, S. Augustine (A. D. 395) says: When we stand for Prayer, we turn towards the East, where the day begins, that the soul may be admonished to turn to God, the more excellent nature.

In Asia Minor, S. Basil (A. D. 370) asserts that praying towards the East was an immemorial custom derived from the Apostles, by a constant and secret tradition, anterior to any written documents of history.

CHRISTIANITY is not *one of the religions of* the world, but it is *the one religion for* the world. Jesus Christ, our Prophet, Priest and King, our sufficing sacrifice and our living Lord, is not the ideal man, the product of the growth, circumstances and conditions of one nature or of the whole human race, but He is the "Son of God with power," miraculously conceived by the Holy Ghost, miraculously born of the Virgin Mary, dying for our sins and rising again for our justification. "A Christianity" (I use the words of Coleridge) "without a church exercising spiritual authority is a vanity and dissolution." The Church is not an aggregation of persons agreeing in certain doctrines or practices, but it is the "Body of Christ," perpetuated in accordance with the laws of its organism. "The fellowship of kindred minds" is not the communion of saints. A certain "continuity of Christian thought" is not the same thing as the Faith once and forever given to the saints.—BISHOP WILLIAMS, of Connecticut, *Convention Sermon*, 1885.

"Be ye well assured that if any persons are joined together otherwise than as God's Word doth allow, their marriage is not lawful."—*Solemnization of Matrimony*.

The Ascension News.

VOL. I. PHILADELPHIA, PA., OCTOBER, 1888. No. 8

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
GEO. H. HAVERSTICK.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
1114 Pine St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, 11 A. M.
Litany and Instruction, 3.30 P. M.
Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
7.45 P. M. Evening Prayer and Lecture.

DAILY:
10 A. M., Morning Prayer.
5 P. M. Evening Prayer.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoons.

BIBLE CLASSES.

For Young Men, Sunday, 10 A. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Grimball.

For Ladies, Sunday, 2.30 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Haverstick.

KALENDAR.

OCTOBER.

5 Friday—Fast.
7 Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.
12 Friday—Fast.
14 Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.
18 S. Luke's Day.
19 Friday—Fast.
21 Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity.
26 Friday—Fast.
28 Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity, SS. Simon and Jude's Day.

GUILD MEETINGS.

2 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
9 7.45 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
16 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. John's Guild.
23 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
29 10.30 A. M. Anniversary of Women's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

7 and 21. Sunday School teachers in the Guild room immediately after the Litany Service.

7. S. Andrew's Brotherhood will meet immediately after the Evening Service.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Rev. Henry Kittson.
Librarian, Mr. Chas. L. S. Tingley.
Assistant Librarian, Mr. Geo. B. M. Grafton.

TEACHERS.

Miss Morrell,
Miss A. Jackson,
Miss M. Harper,
Miss Anderson,
Miss T. G. Harper,
Miss Carman,
Miss Hiller,
Miss Duncan,
Miss Young,
Miss Croxton,
Miss Davis,
Miss McCauley,
Miss Blackwell,
Miss Bond,
Miss Parmelee,
Miss Stewart,
Miss B. Spear,
Miss Schoch,
Mrs. Pollock.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published by S. John's Guild, under the direction of the Rector.

As the Guild desires this paper to be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, (if sent by mail 60 cents) to be paid in advance, to Mr. Chas. L. S. Tingley, 305 Walnut Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

OUR GUILDS.

A Guild is a society or fraternity. It was formerly a name given to associations of mechanics or civic bodies. The great Guild Hall in London is so called because the civic corporation meets there. But nowadays with us, the term is almost entirely confined to religious societies, and is generally used to designate those bands of men or women who are associated together in our several parishes for purposes of work or devotion. There has been a great growth of such societies of late years, and there can he no question but that they have added very much to the strength and efficiency of the Church.

We have in our parish four of such Guilds and we want to describe exactly what they are, that all in the congregation may understand their purpose, and each one find his or her place in one or other of them.

S. JOHN'S GUILD.

This is for young men. By that is meant the older boys of the parish and any men who feel young enough to take part or interest in what interests young men. Its purpose is to bind the young men of the parish together, make them know each other, and help them to lead a Christian life, and interest them in and lead them to work for the parish. It has two meetings each month, one a devotional and business meeting, the other for recreation. At the first meeting, after assembling in the Guild room, the members enter the Church in procession, the banner of the Guild being carried. Here a special office, which they have had printed, is recited, and a short instruction, especially adapted for men, is given by one of the clergy. After which the business meeting is held in the Guild room. This meeting teaches the members how to preside and keep minutes and carry on business according to parliamentary rules, which are very important things for every man to know in this country where so many such meetings are held.

At the recreation meeting the members provide some entertainment for themselves in the school room, or have lectures, concerts, &c., for the benefit of the Guild or the parish. This ought to call out any talent the members may have in this way, and afford healthful and improving amusements. We trust that all the members of this Guild will take great interest in it this Winter, and that *all* the young men, and as many of the older men as would like to, would join it.

S. MARY'S GUILD.

This is for young women, and has the same purposes, and is conducted in the same way as S. John's Guild. It has been very successful the last two winters. The attendance at its meetings generally fills the Guild room, and it has provided several most interesting and agreeable entertainments. We shall be glad to see its ranks still further increase this winter. Any one in the parish who has been confirmed can enter either of these Guilds at any meeting, and any one not yet confirmed, and any one, confirmed or not confirmed, belonging to another parish, can be elected a member after having been nominated at a previous meeting.

MEN'S GUILD.

This is a general Guild, embracing all the male members of the parish. Every male communicant is considered as belonging to it. There are no dues, and no regular meetings. But it is divided up into chapters, and every man who does any work in the parish is considered as belonging to one or other of these chapters.

Thus, all who sing as volunteers in the choir, or act as servers, cross bearers, lay readers, etc., are members of the Lay Helper's Chapter. Those who teach, or act as officers in the Sunday School, are members of the School Chapter. Those who give their professional services as physicians or lawyers, or interest themselves in getting work for the unemployed, or in other benevolent ways, are members of the Beneficial Chapter.

There is only one general meeting of the Guild in the year, on the evening of All Saint's Day. The members are expected to attend one of the celebrations of the Holy Communion on the morning of that day, making a special object of their devotion the consideration of how far they have been discharging their duties as Christian men to their fellows, and seeking grace to do their duty in time to come. In the evening a meeting is held in the Guild room, at which time a report is read of what the men in the parish have done in the past year, and a general consultation held as to what benevolent or useful works the members can engage in during the following year.

It is a real advantage for the men of the parish to meet together thus at least once a year, if for no other purpose than to become acquainted with one another, and to hear of what others have been doing, or of what might be done for the good of the Church. We earnestly hope that all the male members of the parish that can possibly do so will attend this meeting on the evening of All Saint's Day, Nov. 1st, at 8 P. M.

WOMEN'S GUILD.

The constitution of this Guild is the same and its purposes the same as the Men's Guild. But as there are more women that have leisure to work, than men, and there are more ways in which they can work for the Church, there are more chapters in this Guild than in the Men's Guild, and more has been accomplished. Almost every woman of the parish ought to be able to find

something she can do on one or other of the chapters of this Guild, and all can aid the various works of the Guild by their contributions towards what is being carried on by its chapters. What those works are is fully described in the Year Book in which the report of the work of the Guilds is published each year, and any lady attending the congregation can select from it what work she would like to engage in. The anniversary of this Guild is S. S. Simon and Jude's Day, which this year occurs on Sunday, so the devotional meetings will be held that day and the sermon at the 11 A. M. service will be a special address to the women on Church work. The business meeting for hearing the reports of the past year's work, and arranging for the coming season, will be held on Monday after the 10 A. M. prayers, *all* the female Communicants of the parish are requested to attend,

Such then are our Parochial Guilds. We think that anyone who looks into them will see that they afford a very thorough and efficient way of carrying on the work of the parish and interesting and benefitting its members. All that is wanted is that each one should take his or her share in them and do their duty in regard to them.

ASSISTANT MINISTER.

We are happy to announce to the congregation that the position of Assistant Minister in the parish has been filled by the appointment of the Rev. Henry Kittson. He enters upon his duties with the beginning of this month. He comes to us very highly recommended and having had some twelve years' experience in Church work in the United States and Canada. We speak for him a hearty welcome in the parish.

Record for September.

Baptisms	2
Burials	1
Communicants	
Removed	3
Died	1

OFFERINGS.

Current expenses	$217.95
Poor	.87
Sunday School	5.78
Church debt	.50
Ascension News	1.10
Total	$226.19

Estimated current expenses (including interest on Mortgage), per month $400 00

PARISH NOTES.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.—The Sunday School recommenced its sessions on the first Sunday in September with a very good attendance of 52 scholars. All the teachers have not yet returned, but the Rector, fortunately, has been able to secure the services of Mr. Blackwell, Mrs. Pollock, Miss Price, Miss Neilson, Miss Stewart and the Misses Croxton, who have temporarily supplied the places of those who were absent. The Rector has acted as superintendent. There will be some changes in the Sunday School this year. Mr. Grimball and Mr. Buell have resigned their positions; also Miss Calder, Miss Haslet and Mrs. Thorn. But their places will be probably permanently filled by some of those who have been acting as supplies. Miss McCauley, who formerly taught in the school, and was one of the most efficient workers we ever had, who has been absent from the city for some years, has returned and has already collected for herself a class of some of the older girls who formerly belonged to the school. Mr. Henry Carson will act as cross bearer at the Litany Service, and Mr. William Remont will give his very valuable services as a cornetist.

Let the parents of the congregation *see* that their children attend the Sunday School and Litany Service.

TEACHERS. — What we want very much is some *male* teachers in the school. Why is it that men will not give their time and attention to this work? What greater or more important work is there which they could undertake than that of training up the young in the right way? What is more evident than that the very foundations of our social state are being undermined by the neglect of the religious and moral education of the rising generation, the ignorance in which it is growing up, the licence that is allowed it? We know of no greater charity or work more worthy of the ability and energies of the most cultured men. Engagements in other things should be no excuse for its neglect. The late Lord Chancellor of England was a Sunday School teacher till his death at some eighty years of age. The late Mayor of Brooklyn is the superintendent of the large Sunday School of S. Ann's Church. And the practical head of the largest banking house in our city, is the most laborious and faithful superintendent of one of our most successful schools. If our men had the spirit and appreciated the importance and the glory of the work, they would not be kept back from it by the effort or sacrifice it would require. We call them to the rescue.

GUILD MEETINGS.—S. John's and S. Mary's Guilds both met this year a month earlier than usual. A fair number were present at each meeting, though S. Mary's had a very rainy evening. We want to see all the young men and all the young women of the parish banded together in these Guilds. We trust a pleasant and useful series of entertainments will be arranged for each during the Winter. Bring in and interest the young people and we will build up the Church. Let them remember that the Church is their's, and if they will be true to it, nothing else can so bless and benefit their lives.

CASSOCKS FOR THE CHOIR. — The ladies of the Women's Guild are now engaged in making a set of new Cassocks for the boys of the Choir, of which they stood very much in need. The old set has seen good service, having been in use nearly eight years, and they have been mended and patched till they will no longer hold together. A member of the Guild has presented an entire piece of stuff out of which the new Cassocks are being made. And those who are doing the sewing can feel that they are saving the Church a very considerable outlay, which would be required if the Cassocks had to be purchased from an ecclesiastical tailor.

COURSE OF SERMONS.—The Rector proposes to begin the first Sunday evening in October a Course of Sermons on the Creeds. He trusts they will prove useful and instructive. It is the duty of the Christian pulpit to instruct. And the only religious instruction that many persons receive is from the Sunday Sermon they hear. It is well, therefore, that one at least of the sermons preached each Lord's Day should be of this character. They may not attract people perhaps as much as sermons on more sensational topics, but those who really desire to increase their knowledge of the funda-

mental principles of the Christian religion will appreciate them. Leaflets containing the order of Evening Service for each Sunday, will be distributed to each member of the congregation who is not provided with a prayer book, or who cannot find the places. We hope to see the evening service as largely attended as it was last Lent during the sermons on Church Unity.

MEETING OF WOMEN'S GUILD.—The Rector hopes to see *all* the women of the parish at the anniversary of the Women's Guild, on October 29th, after the 10 A. M. prayers.

KNEELING HASSOCKS.—We still need more kneeling hassocks in the Church. If at this time of the year when the parishioners are cleaning and putting down their carpets, they would send to the Church any small pieces they may have, we will see that they are made up into kneeling hassocks. The Sexton will call for such pieces if notified.

PRAYER BOOKS AND HYMNALS.—The supply of prayer books and hymnals in the Church is not sufficient, and many we have are fearfully dilapidated. It has been suggested that if each member of the congregation would bring one new prayer book or hymnal and leave it in the Church, an ample provision for this want might be made at but little cost to any one. But if any persons do this, it is requested that they bring such books first into the vestry that they may be all stamped with the name of the Church, otherwise they will be likely to be carried off and no one know to whom they belong.

WEDNESDAY EVENING LECTURES.—The Wednesday evening service, recommences with the first Wednesday in October, and the Rector will continue this year the course of lectures on the Bible, he was delivering last winter. He was much gratified by the general attendance at these lectures last year and he trusts that as many members of the congregation as can do so will avail themselves of this opportunity offered them during the week for worship and for increasing their knowledge of the Sacred Scriptures.

The double daily service also begins with the first of October. We hope to see this better attended than it has been. How could a half hour in the week, morning or evening be better employed?

KEEP YOUR PAPERS.—If those who get the numbers of the NEWS, will keep them, and file them away, they will afford a regular history of the parish, and be useful to refer to, and pleasant often to look over and recall old days, and the labors, gifts and service by which we have tried to serve the Master. And a very good way to aid the parish is by taking an extra copy or two and hand it to some friend whom you think might become thereby interested in it. Let each one be ever thinking how he may serve or benefit the Church and we shall be like a busy hive of bees, working in the Master's cause.

We hope also this winter to publish a good deal of matter which will be useful to keep for reference. Such will be "the Ritual Catechism" whose publication begins with the next number. It will contain a description of all the parts of a Church edifice, the furniture, utensils, vestments, postures, customs, etc., used in Divine Worship, with a definition of the various terms employed in designating them. These are things with which every Churchman ought to be familiar. Thus we shall try to make the numbers of the NEWS of permanent value.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.—The Rector particularly requests members of the congregation in changing their residences always to notify him, as it will save him much inconvenience.

GIFT TO MR. THORN.—One of the members of the Embroidery Committee of the Altar Chapter of the Women's Guild has made and presented to the Rev. Mr. Thorn a very beautifully embroidered set of white silk markers for Lectern, Altar and Litany books. We are very glad he should have this souvenir of his connection with our parish.

SUNDAY SCHOOL HONOR ROLL.—The following names have been returned by the teachers as deserving to go on the Honor Roll this month. It may be that others deserve it who belong to classes whose teachers have been away All our teachers we hope will be back this month so the next returns will give the names of all who are entitled to appear.

David McCracken, Maud Waterman,
Harry Ellis, Mary McCracken,
Stanley Norris, Bessie Milliken,
Arthur Waterman, Annie McCracken.
Ethel Waterman.

POOR FUND.—The record of offerings this month shows a very small amount given to the poor. Will not the congregation remember that the only offerings we have in this Church for the poor are what is received through the Alms Boxes in the vestibule, and now the winter is coming on, and the mother's meeting about to begin, we shall need funds.

Camden Marriages.

The evil of Camden marriages is becoming so great that the Rector recently felt himself called upon to speak to the congregation in regard to them. One has only to look over a morning paper to see that the vast majority of marriages of persons residing in this city are performed in Camden. It is actually an exception to see a record of a marriage performed by a clergyman in Philadelphia. Now, as the Rector said, there can be only two possible reasons for this. It must be either to escape paying the small fee of fifty cents to obtain the license which the Pennsylvania law requires, —and if a man is too poor to pay that he is too poor to marry,—or there is some impediment or objection to the marriage which would prevent its solemnization here. Persons therefore run great risks in being married in this way. And the publication of a marriage as performed in Camden between persons residing in this Commonwealth is the announcement that there is something wrong or underhand about it.

Marriage is the most important transaction in a man or woman's life, and therefore is not by any to be entered into unadvisedly or lightly or contrary to the laws of either the Church or State. Nor should it be contracted secretly. If it is to redound to the happiness of the individuals concerned, and the welfare of the community, it should be contracted openly, solemnly, in the church or home, with the full sanction of the laws of God and man. The church has her special office of blessing for this, as she has for every other important event in the life of man. And every dutiful member of the church, in being married, will seek that blessing in his own parish, and not slink away to some unauthorized agent to perform a ceremony he knows the church would not sanction, or in a way it does not approve. And yet that is what many, even professedly church people, are doing in going to Camden to get married, as the records of our own parish show which we publish every month, not a single marriage being recorded. People are seeking the offices of the church in baptism and confirmation and communion, in sickness and at burials, but not in marriage. Every one should try to create a healthy public sentiment on this subject, and do everything to discourage this flagrant violation of the laws both of the church and state.

The Ascension News.

VOL. I. PHILADELPHIA, PA., NOVEMBER, 1888. No. 9

Church of the Ascension.

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For Adults, Saturday, 7.45 P. M.
Teacher, Rev. Henry Kittson.

For Young Men, Sunday, 10 A. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Grimball.

For Ladies, Sunday, 2.30 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Haverstick.

KALENDAR.

NOVEMBER.

1 All Saints Day.
2 Friday—Fast.
4 Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity.
9 Friday—Fast.
11 Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity.
16 Friday—Fast.
18 Twenty-fifth Sunday after Trinity.
23 Friday—Fast.
25 Sunday next before Advent.
30 S. Andrew's Day.

GUILD MEETINGS.

6 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
13 7.45 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
20 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. John's Guild.
27 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

4 and 18. Sunday School teachers in the Guild room immediately after the Litany Service.
8. 8 P. M., S. Andrew's Brotherhood.
The Industrial School, every Saturday at 10 A. M.
Mothers' Meeting, every Saturday at 7.45 P. M.
Ladies' Aid Society, every Thursday at 3 P. M.
Embroidery Class, every Wednesday morning after Morning Prayer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Rev. Henry Kittson.
Librarian, Mr. Chas. L. S. Tingley.
Assistant Librarian, Mr. Geo. B. M. Grafton.

TEACHERS.

Miss Morrell,
Miss A. Jackson,
Miss M. Harper,
Miss Anderson,
Miss T. G. Harper,
Miss Carman,
Miss Hiller,
Miss Duncan,
Miss Alice Spear,
Miss Croxton,
Miss Davis,
Miss McCauley,
Miss Blackwell,
Miss Bond,
Miss Parmelee,
Miss Stewart,
Miss B. Spear,
Miss Schoch,
Mrs. Pollock.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published by S. John's Guild, under the direction of the Rector.

As the Guild desires this paper to be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, (if sent by mail 60 cents) to be paid in advance, to Mr. Chas. L. S. Tingley, 305 Walnut Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

THE LITANY SERVICE.

We have the Litany in this parish as a special service by itself on Sunday afternoons, for two reasons, first to shorten the morning service and secondly to provide a special service for the children of the parish. In churches where there is a celebration of the Holy Communion only once a month, the Morning Prayer, Litany and Ante-Communion office constituted a service of reasonable length. But when, as here, we have each Sunday the service of our Lord's own appointment and that which the Prayer intends should be celebrated every Sunday and Holy Day, the Morning Prayer, Litany and Holy Communion make too long an office, and involve unnecessary repetitions. We have adopted therefore the plan generally followed in England, where there is a weekly Communion, of having the Litany as a separate service in the afternoon. This we think better than the plan of some churches of having the Morning Prayer said plain without any music at an early hour, and the midday service consist of Litany and Holy Communion, as in that case those who never get to church but on Sunday never hear the Special Lessons, Psalter or TeDeum. Moreover the Litany being our most deeply penetential service is out of keeping with the joyful Festal Eucharist.

Then again we consider it essential that there should be a special service for the children. The great trouble with the modern Sunday school is that it *takes the place* of church. Formerly, when Sunday school was generally held in the morning, the children went to church after the Sunday school was over. But now that it is held in the afternoon and there is no service then, the children never go to church at all, and thus grow up unaccustomed to it, and ignorant of its ways and teachings. Moreover it is made by the Prayer Book the duty of the Minister of every parish "diligently upon Sundays and Holy Days, openly in the church to instruct and examine the children of his parish." Now some clergymen think they discharge this duty by having a "Children's Church" once a month during the winter, that is some eight or nine times in the year. But how much instruction can a clergyman convey in eight or nine lessons? Surely if that instruction is to be effective, and it is a duty the clergy are to perform themselves, not delegate to others, it should be given every Sunday. A Children's Service every Sunday therefore should be held for these two purposes, first that the children may acquire the habit of going to church and become familiar with the church.

And secondly, that they may be brought continually under the personal instruction of the clergy of the parish.

Now the Litany seems to be the best service in the Prayer Book that can be used for this purpose. We do not say that it is the most appropriate that could be devised for a Children's Service. But we do think that it is better than either Morning or Evenings Prayer with their long Lesson and Psalter, and places the children can hardly find. It is short, and broken up into constant responses the children can be taught to sing, and whose short, terse sentences of supplication will be apt to fasten themselves in the memory. And the actual words of the service are not after all of so much importance, it is the impression that is produced by being in the church and becoming familiar with its ministrants and offices that affects the childish mind. Certainly, as we look back on our own childhood, it is not so much the words that we heard that we remember, and that made us love the church, but the *objects* that were presented to our eye, what we learned by heart, and the habit that we formed. The Rector, therefore, at great additional labor to himself or his assistant, has always held this children's service every Sunday afternoon. He considers the attendance of the children at it of more importance than attendance at the Sunday school, and he trusts that the teachers of the various classes in the school will see that their children attend this service, and that the parents of those children of the parish who do not come to the Sunday school will at least send their children to attend this special children's service every Sunday afternoon. Nothing is more important to a child's future life than that he should form the habit of regular church going at least once a Sunday, and that he should be thoroughly instructed in the principles of our holy religion, and none will be as naturally competent to give that instruction as the clergy of the parish.

While this service is intended thus primarily for the children, it is one which many adults as well will find it profitable to attend.

Record for September.

Baptisms	2
Marriages	3
Burials	1
Communicants added by removal	5
Died	1

OFFERINGS.

Current expenses	$242.63
Poor	4.77
Sunday School	5.60
Church debt	7.85
Building Fund	1.50
Total	$262.15

Estimated current expenses (including interest on Mortgage), per month $400 00

PARISH NOTES.

S. Andrew's Brotherhood.—Our Parish Chapter of the Brotherhood held its first meeting on the evening of the first Sunday in October to organize for work for the winter. Its meetings will be held hereafter on the evening of the second Thursday of each month. The purpose of this Brotherhood is to

band the young men of the Church together for the purpose of spreading and building up the Church. Each one who enters it promises to make an effort each week to bring some man to the Church or to the Bible class. They also undertake to welcome men to Church, show them to seats, provide them with Prayer Books, etc. While it started with the members of a Bible class, its membership need not be confined to those belonging to Bible classes. And we trust that all the young men in the parish whether they belong to the Bible class or not, will become members of the Brotherhood. If the men value the church for themselves they must certainly want to see their friends in it, and they are the persons who can best bring them. Many a young man who has not been in the habit of going to church could easily be induced to come if a friend asked him, and his whole life and character might be determined by his doing so.

Young men will you not associate yourselves together to do that much for your Master and for your fellow men?

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH. — During the month there has been presented to the Church, a fair linen cloth with open work ends for the Credence table, a set of red silk markers with metal crosses for choir prayer books, cassock for choirman, number of pieces of carpet for kneeling hassocks, twenty-one prayer books and sixteen hymnals for the church, whisk and paper pad for the vestry, box of envelopes for the Sunday school.

EMBROIDERY CLASS.—Our class for church embroidery recommenced its work on the last Wednesday in October. It will meet regularly every Wednesday after Morning Prayer in the Parish building. Any ladies whether they belong to the congregation or not are invited to join it. A competent teacher will instruct them without remuneration, it being understood that after they have learned to embroider they will do some work for the church. The class will take orders for any kind of church needle work, and it will be glad if members of the congregation hearing of churches or clergymen needing vestments, etc., will try to secure orders for it.

THE LADIES AID begins its meetings for sewing, at the church this month on Thursdays, at 3 P. M. It will take orders for any kind of sewing. All willing to work for the church in this way are invited to join it.

THE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL recommences with this month. It is held every Saturday after the Morning Prayers in the church. It is most useful in keeping the children out of the streets for a couple of hours on Saturdays, making them familiar with the church, giving them some religious instruction, and teaching them some handy work, the girls sewing, the boys drawing, painting, etc. There are not many parishes that have as flourishing a school of the kind as we have now maintained for years. We hope this year to have both more teachers and more scholars than ever.

LECTURE.—Our Senior Warden Mr. J. Edward Carpenter, gave a lecture before S. John's Guild last month on his reminiscenes of the war. We regret that the arrangements for the lecture were not made before the publication of the October number of the NEWS that we might have announced it in it. This might have secured the lecturer a larger audience than he had on the notice given.

THE LEAFLETS WITH THE EVENING SERVICE which we distribute every Sunday evening add very materially to the comfort of the worshippers who are not familiar with the Prayer Book, and of our own people who have not copies of the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis.

THE REV. MR. THORN.—The Rector has had several letters from Mr. Thorn since he left the parish. The last announced his removal from Blairsville, where he was first stationed to Miles Grove, which he speaks of as his future home and describes as "a lonely place on Lake Erie," where he "hopes to spend many happy months." He desires to be most kindly remembered to all the members of the parish.

THE REV. MR. KITTSON.—Our new assistant Mr. Kittson had scarcely got to work in the parish before he was called away by the sickness of his wife and was absent over two Sundays. We are glad to say however he has now returned and is hard at work.

FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR. — The congregation has noticed that there have been no flowers on the Altar during the past month. The reason has been because there have been no funds contributed for the purpose. If each member of the congregation will send a small contribution each week or each month to the Treasurer of the Flower Committe, Miss Jane B. Hewson, she will see that at least two bouquets are supplied for each Sunday and Holy Day.

SUBSCRIBERS.—We still need more subscriptions for the NEWS. We are much indebted to our friends who have secured us some new advertisements. But we want more of these too.

THE CHORAL SOCIETY.—The Society is in a most flourishing condition; indeed its development has been something exceptional. It has reached almost seventy members in a little over five months, and at the present rate of increase it will iuclude a round hundred by Christmas.

The spirit and enthusiasm of the members is very strong, and the hard work they are doing at the rehearsals is showing it results in the execution of the pieces they are singing.

A very acceptable gift of fifty copies of the anthem "I will give thanks" by Barnby, and the "Magnificat" by Berthold Tours has been received through the President, the money value of which is about eight dollars.

The Board of Managers have published a circular giving full information in regard to the Society. Copies may be had from any of the members.

THE CHOIR.—The choir during the past two months has materially increased in numbers, and Mr. Brock who has returned after a vacation of three months has resumed his old place as choirmaster, while Mr. Wilson, who so efficiently acted is his place while absent, has taken a permanent position as tenor. Mr. Wilson deserves very great credit for having kept the efficiency of the choir up to so high a standard of excellence with such a small number of choristers as were present during the summer months. The good singing done by the choir (numbering sometimes only eight or ten members) was the cause of very general commendation by the congregation.

S. JOHN'S GUILD.—Two of the members started on a tramp September 15th from the Delaware Water Gap to Wilkes Barre, and from there to Philadelphia, reaching here September 25th, after walking 225 miles, a pretty good feat for two boys. Perhaps our young men may be able to form a Rambling Club or Society in connection with the Guild. This would no doubt be of great benefit to them, if we may judge by the great improvemeut in the two travellers just mentioned.

The country around Philadelphia affords many chances for pedestrian trips and our young men would be the better for more exercise of that nature

FOUND. — A small key has been picked up on the church premises, which can be had by the owner on application to the Sexton.

WANTS.—Volunteer alto and tenor singers and readers wanted for the Choral Society. Apply at the parish building any Monday evening.

Volunteer instrumentalists, chiefly violinists wanted for the Choral Society, apply at the same place, at the same time.

Wanted fifty persons to donate two Prayer Books and two Hymnals each for the use of strangers attending the church services, second-hand copies will answer.

IMPROVEMENT IN SINGING.—We are glad to note a marked improvement in the singing in the congregation. We want to have the congregation take part in the singing. The same chants are used constantly, and the majority of the hymn tunes are familiar, and it adds immensely to the effect and heartiness of the public worship of the church if the congregation will not leave the singing all to the choir, but themselves join in it.

The Sign of the Cross.

We notice that a good many members of the congregation use the Sign of the Cross, and other acts of devotion, such as bowing to the Altar when they pass before it. And some are very much offended when they see these things and say that the persons who use them are nothing but Roman Catholics. It is well therefore for us to remember that the Church says concerning the Sign of the Cross, in the office for baptism that she "knows no worthy cause of scruple concerning the same," and the office as it stands directs that it shall be marked on the person of every one baptised. If therefore, this is the judgment and use of the Church in regard to it, if there is a purpose in its use on the body of an unconscious infant, it certainly can be used to edification by an adult. If when we enter the Church we are signed with it in token that we are not to be ashamed of Christ's Cross and manfully to fight under it, it certainly can be used devotionally from time to time to remind us that we are enlisted under that banner, and of the grace and strength that flows to us from the Cross of Christ. To devoutly cross oneself is to preach a sermon and to make a prayer by a sign.

So the bowing to the Altar is a devout recognition of the sacredness and solemnity of the purpose for which the Altar is used. In the British House of Lords stands the throne or chair on which the sovereign sits when he opens or closes the Parliament. And when anyone passes that chair, even when it is vacant, he pauses and makes a reverence before it. If that is done to the chair of an earthly sovereign, surely it is not unfitting that Christians should treat with similar reverence that which not only represents the sovereignty, but the infinite goodness and condescension of God to men. Moreover we have the authority of the English Comons of 1640, and the coronation service of the English Sovereigns, which command this to be done. Certain it is that the danger of this age is not in too much reverence, but in too little. And it is very strange to hear people finding fault with others because they are *too* devout. Though of course there are differences of temperament. There are some persons who find edification and help in such things, and to others who have not been accustomed to them they seem strange. The true rule in regard to them is charity. Let those use them who like, and let none be offended with them, and let not those who use them be offended with those who do not. Only, if any one makes himself conspicuous by his acts of devotion, let him be very careful to carry out devout and holy conduct into all his life, or people will set him down for a formalist and a hypocrite.

RITUAL CATECHISM.

CHAPTER I.

Church Buildings.

Ques. How should churches be built?

Ans. So as to indicate their sacred character. A church should never be so built as to be mistaken for a bank, school or other public building.

Ques. What are the principal parts of a church?

Ans. The nave, which is the main body of the church where the congregation is accommodated; the aisles, for additional accommodation if required: the chancel, which contains the choir and sanctuary; the tower, the base of which is generally used as a vestibule and the upper part as a belfry; the organ chamber, which is usually on one side of the chancel and the vestry, which usually also adjoins the chancel.

Ques. At which end of the church is the chancel?

Ans. The east end, if the shape of the site will permit it.

Ques. How is it separated from the rest of the church?

Ans. It is raised a few steps above the level of the nave, so that the worshippers can better see the altar, etc., and it is often divided from the nave by an open screen, called the Rood screen because it is generally surmounted by a cross.

Ques. How is the nave of a church divided from the aisles?

Ans. By an arcade of columns upon which the walls of the nave rest.

Ques. What is the clere story?

Ans. The part of the nave walls above the aisle roofs. The windows in that portion of the nave are called the clere story windows.

Ques. What is the triforium?

Ans. It is a gallery running round the church beneath the clere story windows.

Ques. What is an ambulatory?

Ans. A passage way built in some churches behind the altar.

Ques. How are very large churches usually built?

Ans. In the form of a cross. And the transverse sections, are called the transepts.

Ques. What is a Cathedral?

Ans. The Bishop's church, so called because he has his cathedra or Bishop's seat there. It should be the largest and finest church in the diocese

Ques. What are the principal styles of church architecture?

Ans. The Gothic, chiefly distinguished by the use of the pointed arch. The Norman, by the round arch: and, the Italian, which is an adaptation of the Roman and Grecian orders of architecture.

Ques. In which order is the dome used?

Ans. Only in the Italian. Though there is a similar arrangement in some Gothic churches, which is called a lantern.

Ques. What is a campanile?

Ans. It is a bell tower detached from the church, used in Italian architecture.

Ques. What is a baptistry?

Ans. A separate building for the administration of baptism, sometimes detached from the church, and some time adjoining it.

Ques. What is a crypt?

Ans. A chamber beneath the church often used for interments, sometimes as a chapel.

Ques. What is an apse?

Ans. A chancel with a circular or polygonal termination.

(To be continued.)

NOTICE!

THE Ladies' Aid Society will take orders for any kind of plain sewing: aprons, underwear, etc. Orders can be given to Miss Hewson or Mrs. Bond, at the Church, after prayers on Friday mornings, at 10 o'clock.

The Ascension News.

Vol. I. PHILADELPHIA, PA., DECEMBER, 1888. No. 10

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.
318 So. Broad St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
GEO. H. HAVERSTICK.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
1114 Pine St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, 11 A. M.
Litany and Instruction, 3.30 P. M.
Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
7.45 P. M. Evening Prayer and Lecture.

DAILY:
10 A. M., Morning Prayer.
5 P. M. Evening Prayer.

DURING ADVENT:
Thursdays 7.30 A. M., Holy Communion.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoons.

BIBLE CLASSES.

For Adults, Saturday, 7.45 P. M.
Teacher, Rev. Henry Kittson.

For Young Men, Sunday, 10 A. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Grimball.

For Ladies, Sunday, 2.30 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Haverstick.

KALENDAR.

DECEMBER.

2 First Sunday in Advent.
7 Friday—Fast.
9 Second Sunday in Advent.
14 Friday—Fast.
16 Third Sunday in Advent.
19 Ember Day.
21 S. Thomas' Day—Fast.
22 Ember Day.
23 Fourth Sunday in Advent.
25 Christmas Day.
26 S. Stephen's Day.
27 S. John Evangelist's Day.
28 Holy Innocent's Day—Fast.
30 Sunday after Christmas.

GUILD MEETINGS.

4 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
11 7.45 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
27 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. John's Guild.
6 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

2 and 16. Sunday School teachers in the Guild room immediately after the Litany Service.

13. 8 P. M., S. Andrew's Brotherhood.

The Industrial School, every Saturday at 10 A. M.

Mothers' Meeting, every Saturday at 7.45 P. M.

Ladies' Aid Society, every Thursday at 3 P. M.

Embroidery Class, every Wednesday morning after Morning Prayer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Rev. Henry Kittson.
Librarian, Mr. Chas. L. S. Tingley.
Assistant Librarian, Mr. Harry Carson.

TEACHERS.

Miss Morrell,
Miss A. Jackson,
Miss M. Harper,
Miss Anderson,
Miss T. G. Harper,
Miss Carman,
Miss Hiller,
Miss Duncan,
Miss Alice Spear,
Miss Gilpin,
Miss Davis,
Miss McCauley,
Miss Blackwell,
Miss Bond,
Miss Parmelee,
Miss Stewart,
Miss B. Spear,
Miss Schoch,
Mrs. Pollock.

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ADVENT.

"Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come."

The church of God in her wisdom and care for her children has properly appointed a season of preparation before each of the great festivals of the Christian year. The joyful season of Christmas is preceded by the four Sundays or the three weeks of Advent. Easter, called the Queen of Festivals, follows after the solemn forty days of Lent. While Holy Thursday, or Ascension Day, has its three Rogation days of preparation.

Lent has taken its proper place in the religious life of our church people within the last thirty years. Special services are held in every Church and Chapel during that season. Its influence has gone beyond the confines of our Church. Its presence and its spiritual power is acknowledged by our sectarian brethren, while society, often so arbitrary and scornful of pious customs, has felt obliged to submit to the call of Holy Church.

The Rogation days are still practically in abeyance excepting where the churches have daily services. Nevertheless, it must be observed, that the Collect, Epistle and Gospel of the Sunday preceding Holy Thursday plainly holds forth the truth that our blessed Lord, as our Great High Priest, stands ever "interceding for us, the Just for the unjust, to bring us to God, through whom alone we have access unto the Father."

The season of Advent is the preparation for the coming of the Lord, and in its teaching there are three leading ideas.

1. The first has reference to the historical facts in connection with our Lord's first coming.

2. The second idea is that due preparation of body, mind and soul in prayer and meditation, is necessary, if Christians desire to enjoy fully the joys of the Christmas festival. "Watch and pray" is the text of an Advent sermon.

3. The third idea is that in preparing for the spiritual pleasures of Christmas, preparation is made for the great fact still in the future,—far or near, no man knoweth, — namely, the second coming of our Lord in glory "to judge both the quick and the dead."

The Collects, Epistles and Gospels for the Sundays of Advent present us with the means to make such preparation effectual. On the first Sunday we hear the warning message of Christ's coming and the exhortation to be ready as faithful servants. On the second Sunday the Word of of God is set forth as the means by which Christ is revealed to us and that if we desire to share in the hope of everlasting life we must "read, mark, learn and inwardly digest the Holy Scriptures, which have been written for our learning." On the third Sunday, the living voice of the church, in her ministry, is raised to preach the same grand sermon of repentance, such as was preached years ago by "the Voice in the wilderness." On the fourth Sunday the same great truths and facts are repeated and emphasized. Christian brethren, the night cometh when no man can work, let us gather the fragments that remain,—the fragments of our life, of our privileges and opportunities,—"that nothing be lost." Let us watch and pray lest we enter into temptation.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING.

This church has always largely depended on special offerings at Christmas and Easter to make up the amount needed for its current expenses during the year. And though the introduction of the envelope system has largely increased our regular weekly income still, our expenses having been increased the last year some $2,000, we need a large Christmas and Easter offering to make our ends meet. The readers of the NEWS will notice in the monthly record of offerings that our expenses are estimated at $400 a month, while our receipts for current expenses each month are often much less than that. We count upon the Christmas and Easter offerings to make up the difference. It is hoped therefore that all attending the church, those who are using the envelopes as well as those who do not, will make a special and large offering for the church on Christmas day. The interest on the mortgage on our property, $750, falls due this month and we have not the money on hand to pay it.

Record for November.

Baptisms	5
Burials	2
Communicants added—	
New	3
By removal	7
Removed	1

OFFERINGS.

Current expenses	$354.35
Poor	41.33
Sunday School	6.69
Year Book	7.60
Church debt	355.34
Assistant Minister	300.00
Free Church Association	4.00
Episcopal Hospital	29 22
Flowers	20.00
Total	$1,118.53

Estimated current expenses (including interest on Mortgage), per month $400 00

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—During the month of November there was presented to the Church a copy of the largest, handsomest Oxford folio Bible that is printed. We had long wanted one, but as they cost $50, did not know how to get it. This was given by a parishioner in memory of a deceased child. It is bound in red Turkey Morocco, with the lettering on the outside "Church of the Ascension, Philadelphia, All Saints, 1888." The type in which it is printed is very large and clear, the Apocrypher being in the same type as the rest of the book, which will be a great relief to the eyes of the reader. It is also a much better size for the Lectern than the Bible we had

on it before. The ladies have completed the new cassocks they were making for the boys, so that the Choir now presents a much more respectable appearance. Twenty new kneeling hassocks have been made from the pieces of carpet given us last month. If we had more carpet we could make more. A mat has been presented for the choir room. A very acceptable gift of some 56 volumes has been made to the Sunday School, and 18 for the Parish Library. A gas standard and bureau for the ladies' work room, six Prayer Books and one Hymnal for the Church, and two cans of condensed milk for the poor have also been presented. We have also to acknowledge a very handsome gift of three dozen Prayer Books and Hymnals from the Bishop White Prayer Book Society, which will be most acceptable as we were much in need of them.

SEWING MACHINE. — A very useful addition to the workroom of the church has been made by the purchase of a sewing machine, purchased jointly by S. Mary's Guild and the Ladies' Aid.

CHANGES IN THE SERVICE.—During Advent we sing as required by the new rubric in the Prayer Book the whole of the Benedictus in the Morning Service. And as ancient Catholic custom forbids the singing of the Te Deum and Gloria in Excelsis during Advent, we sing Benedicite in place of the one and the last two verses of the Hymn Dies iræ 483 in place of the other.

IMPROVEMENTS.— One or two improvements have been made recently in the Church, which will add materially to the comfort of the congregation, and also be an economy. A branch pipe has been carried from one of the heaters under the Church to the Guild room, which is now used as a Vestry. This heats this room better than it has ever been heated before, and enables us to dispense with the extra fire that is under it, except in very cold weather when it may be needed to heat the large school room above. A stop-cock has also been put on the main gas pipe from the meter, so that the light throughout the Church can be regulated from one place. This will enable us to make a great saving in gas by not turning it up to the full height until the service begins. Storm doors have also been put in the vestibule, which will prevent the inside doors swinging open and causing a draught upon those sitting in the back part of the church.

MOVE UP IN YOUR SEATS.— In a church where the seats are free, those who go first into a pew should sit down at the upper end of it, and not force those who come later to push by them in order to get a seat. It makes it much easier too for those coming late to find seats, for if all the ends of the pews next to the aisles are filled, one does not readily see where the vacant places are. If this rule is observed it will add to the comfort of all. We have heard complaints of the discourtesy of some in forcing others to push by them.

MISSIONARY BOX.—The ladies of the Women's Guild are now engaged in making up their annual missionary box. It is to be sent to a clergyman in the Diocese of Michigan, who is very anxious to get it before the cold weather sets in. Donations of money and material are still needed for it. Those who are willing to sew for it, can get pieces of clothing, &c., to make up, on Wednesdays after Prayers in the morning or evening.

THE YEAR BOOK for 1887-'8, containing the report of all the work of the Church for the past ecclesiastical year, with statistics, &c., was distributed in the Church on the Sunday next before Advent. Any who did not get copies can obtain them from the Sexton.

ENVELOPE SYSTEM.—We are glad to find the envelope system has been so generally and heartily taken up by the congregation. 105 Pledges have now been made. As these represent in many cases not simply individuals but families, this shows that the system has been adopted by the great bulk of the congregation, some few only preferring to contribute still by the old method. We hope however to see additional pledges made, as we are convinced that it is the most business like and surest way to support the church. And every member of the family, as well as the head, ought to make a pledge, and thus discharge the duty of individually offering a fixed proportion of ones substance to the Lord.

NOTICE. — On Sunday afternoon, October 28th, the Rev. Mr. Kittson baptised two children. The persons who brought them were not their parents, and were not able to give exact information in regard to date of birth, etc., required for the register, but promised to furnish it. They have not done so, and there is no record on the parish register whatever in regard to these baptisms. As there is no means of knowing who the parties were, it is hoped that this notice may reach their eyes, and that they will supply the required information. The parish record of a baptism is very important, and is frequently appealed to as legal evidence of age, etc.

ENTERTAINMENTS.—S. John's Guild had a very pleasant entertainment provided for it on its last recreation night, to which the congregation generally was invited. It was given by a gentleman who has lately connected himself with our congregation and who has great powers as a humorist. We shall hope to hear him again. S. Mary's Guild is also to have a Chocolate Party which will take place before this number of the NEWS is issued. The proceeds are to go towards paying the interest on our mortgage due this month. The vestry will be much indebted to their young friends for their help. On the evening of S. John's day, December 27th, S. John's Guild will have their annual supper, and on Holy Innocents day, December 28th, we shall have as usual a festival for the Sunday school children. Donations for both of these entertainments will be needed. Contributions placed in the Alms boxes in the vestibule which are marked for "flowers," during the week before Christmas' will be used in providing the Christmas decorations for the church and the children's festival. Before the entertainment the children will sing their Christmas carols in the church, and we hope the parents of the children and members of the congregation generally will be present to hear them sing.

HONOR ROLL.—As through an inadvertence the Sunday school honor roll was not published last month, we have a very long list this month as it covers both October and November. But we are glad to see so many names of boys as well as girls deserving commendation.

Jeannette Haslett,	Ethel Waterman,
Ida Harrison,	Annie Tomlinson,
Sadie Milliken,	Mary McCracken,
Ellen Broomhead,	Gertie McKinley,
Kate Story,	Flora Kittson,
Mamie Harrison,	Blanche Remont,
Rebecca Stewart,	Walter Norris,
Mary Stewart,	Lawrence Haslett,
Katie Hiller,	Chester Martz,
Lilie Fisher,	John Martz,
Anna Lescure,	Archie Hampton,
Lillie Butcher,	David Singerly,
Fannie Jackson,	Arthur Waterman,
Lizzie Bucher,	Stanley Norris,
Eva Burns,	James Honnen,
Lizzie Martz,	Lee Anderson,
Carrie Blume,	Ernest Waterman,
Bertha Blume,	Rufus Anderson,
Eliza Murray,	Samuel McCracken
Lily Glass,	David McCracken,
Annie McCracken,	Alex. Kingstone,
Hettie Jones,	Charles Cupitt.

RITUAL CATECHISM.

CHAPTER II.

Church Furniture.

Ques. What is the chief article of furniture in the church?

Ans. The Altar, whereon is celebrated the Sacrament of the Holy Communion.

Ques. Where should it stand?

Ans. At the extreme end of the chancel and elevated as much as possible above the nave.

Ques. Why is this?

Ans. Because it occupied a similar position in the Jewish temple, and in S. John's vision of the worship of Heaven. And because it sets forth Christ Crucified for man, and as the great source of spiritual life. which is the chief teaching of our religion.

Ques. What is its size?

Ans. It should be 3 feet, 6 inches high, at least 2 feet deep and from 6 to 12 feet long, according to the size of the church.

Ques. What should there be behind it?

Ans. A shelf, called a Retable, or shelves called Gradines, to hold the Altar ornaments.

Ques. What is a Reredos?

Ans. It is an architectural structure of wood or stone, often highly ornamented with sculpture, painting, or mosaic, erected behind the Altar to give it greater dignity and prominence.

Ques. What is a Dossel?

Ans. A rich curtain sometimes hung behind the Altar where there is no Reredos, or at its sides.

Ques. What other furniture is there in the chancel?

Ans. A small side table or shelf in the wall, called the Credence, to hold the vessels, etc., used in the Altar service.

Ques. On which side should this be?

Ans. Always on the south or epistle side, because the Deacon or Server stands at that side of the Celebrant, and so it is more convenient for him to reach the vessels when they are needed.

Ques. What are the Sedilia?

Ans. Three seats, sometimes built in the wall, on the epistle side of the chancel, for the celebrant, gospeller and epistoler. If they are on the same level the celebrant sits in the centre one, the gospeller on his right and the espistoler on his left. If they are on different steps as they are sometimes arranged the celebrant sits on the highest, the gospeller on the next, and the epistoler on the lowest.

Ques. Should there be any other furniture in the chancel?

Ans. Nothing but a movable chair provided for the bishop when he visits the church or performs Pontifical acts, and some small wooden forms for Severs or Acolytes.

Ques. What may be placed at the entrance of the sanctuary?

Ans. A rail for the convenience of communicants in kneeling, and to separate it from the rest of the chancel.

Ques. How is the choir furnished?

Ans. With benches or stalls arranged on each side, running the length of the choir and facing each other.

Ques. Why is this?

Ans. For facility in antiphonal singing, the choir being thus divided into two parts, the one side responding to the other. The choir boys sit on the front benches on each side, the choir men behind them, and the clergy behind them.

Ques. Which is the Dean or Rector's stall?

Ans. The Dean's stall in a Cathedral, or the Rector's in a Parish Church is always the stall nearest the nave on the epistle side. Hence that side of the choir is called the Decani, and the opposite side, on which the Cantor or leader of the choir usually sits, the Cantoris.

Ques. What other furniture is in the choir?

Ans. A Lectern to hold the sacred Scriptures from which the lessons are read. It is sometimes placed in the space between the two sets of stalls, and sometimes on a platform just outside the Chancel arch.

Ques. Of what form is it sometimes?

Ans. Of the form of an eagle, to signify that the Scriptures were brought down as it were on wings from Heaven.

Ques. Where is the Pulpit generally placed?

Ans. Outside the Chancel arch on the gospel side.

Ques. What is the Litany desk?

Ans. A low desk on the floor of the nave, just outside the Chancel, facing the Altar, at which the Litany is said.

Ques. Why is it placed there?

Ans. Because the Litany being a most deeply penitential supplication, the Priest who says it, kneels on the same level as the people, and as their spokesman and representative, pours it out before the Lord, as Solomon knelt with his hands stretched out towards the altar, and "the Priests wept between the Porch and the Altar" on occasions of prayer and penitence.

Ques. Where is the Font usually placed?

Ans. Near one of the doors of the Church, to signify that it is by Baptism that we enter the church.

Ques. What other pieces of furniture are needed in a Church?

Ans A Bier, on which the body is carried into the church when it is brought for the burial office, and chairs or benches for the accommodation of the congregation.

(To be continued.)

A Christmas Carol.

Composed for this issue of the NEWS by a member of the congregation.

Round a cradle rough and lowly
In a far off Eastern land,
Swelled those sounds so sweet and holy
From a glorious Angel band.

"Peace on earth, good will to men!"
The glad message rings again
From far, far across the ocean,
And o'er the wide-spread main!

Long ago those echoes floated
Round the manger bare and plain,
And year after year have gathered,
Giving back the song again.

Eighteen hundred years and over
Has the glorious anthem rolled
Till the listening world has caught it,
And the mighty truth been told—

That the little human Baby,
Was the King of Heaven above,
Who had come on earth to sojourn
In the greatness of His Love!

With pardon for the erring ones,
With peace for human pain,
With news of Everlasting Life
The loving Saviour came.

From that quiet, lowly manger,
Has gone forth the Angel's song,
And its echoes faintly ringing
Have been caught from throng to throng.

And now the wide-world over,
At the early Christmas dawn,
Comes the gladsome Angel's message,
That the Son of God was born!

Soars up the Christmas Carol
That commenced in Bethlehem,
From the lips of countless multitudes
Swells the joyous, glad "Amen!"

From that cradle rough and lowly
In that far off Eastern land,
Come those echoes never dying
Of the glorious Angel band.
Christmas echoes mingling, mingling,
Over every Christian land.

NOTICE!

THE Ladies' Aid Society will take orders for any kind of plain sewing: aprons, underwear, etc. Orders can be given to Miss Hewson or Mrs. Bond, at the Church, after prayers on Friday mornings, at 10 o'clock.

The Ascension News.

VOL. II. PHILADELPHIA, PA., JANUARY, 1880 No. 1

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.
318 So. Broad St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
GEO. H. HAVERSTICK.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
1114 Pine St.

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Morning Prayer, 11 A. M.
Litany and Instruction, 3.30 P. M.
Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

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WEDNESDAYS:
7.45 P. M. Evening Prayer and Lecture.

DAILY:
10 A. M., Morning Prayer.
5 P. M. Evening Prayer.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoons.

BIBLE CLASSES.

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Teacher, Rev. Henry Kittson.
For Young Men, Sunday, 10 A. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Grimball.
For Ladies, Sunday, 2.30 P. M.
Teacher, Rev. Henry Kittson

KALENDAR.

JANUARY.

1 Circumcision.
4 Friday—Fast.
6 Epiphany.
11 Friday—Fast.
13 First Sunday after Epiphany.
18 Friday—Fast.
20 Second Sunday after Epiphany.
25 Conversion of S. Paul.—Fast.
27 Third Sunday after Epiphany.

GUILD MEETINGS.

1 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
8 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
15 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. John's Guild.
22 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

6 and 20. Sunday School teachers in the Guild room immediately after the Litany Service.
10. 8 P. M., S. Andrew's Brotherhood.
The Industrial School, every Saturday at 10 A. M.
Mothers' Meeting, every Saturday at 7.45 P. M.
Ladies' Aid Society, every Thursday at 3 P. M.
Embroidery Class, every Wednesday morning after Morning Prayer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Rev. Henry Kittson.
Librarian, Mr. Chas. L. S. Tingley.
Assistant Librarian, Mr. William Thomas.

TEACHERS.

Miss Morrell,	Miss Davis,
Miss A. Jackson,	Miss McCauley,
Miss M. Harper,	Miss Blackwell,
Miss Anderson,	Miss Bond,
Miss T. G. Harper,	Miss Parmelee,
Miss Carman,	Miss Stewart,
Miss Hiller,	Miss B. Spear,
Miss Duncan,	Miss Schoch,
Miss Alice Spear,	Mrs. Pollock.
Miss Gilpin,	Mrs. Woodward.
Mr. William Gilpin.	Mr. S. S. Penniston.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published by S. John's Guild, under the direction of the Rector.

As the Guild desires this paper to be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, (if sent by mail 60 cents) to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, 112 South Fourth Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

NEW YEAR'S GREETING.

This issue of the NEWS is its literal "New Year's Greeting," as it enters thus upon the second year of its existence. We think the volume that has been completed has proved to be all that was promised or hoped for from its issue. We have striven to make the paper literally what its name implies, a mode of communicating to all our parishioners the news of the parish. Other parish papers we see are nearly all advertisements, or taken up with a few long disquisitions on moral or religious topics, or composed only of elegant extracts, or worse still, filled with vituperations against persons or parties they disagree with. But we have aimed at something higher, viz: the keeping all informed of every thing that is going on in the parish, trying to interest them in it, and at the same time inciting them to the faithful performance of their religious duties, and explaining, to those who may not be familiar with them, our various customs and teachings. And from the many expressions we have heard on all sides of approval and eagerness to see the paper, we conclude that our aim has been pretty well fulfilled. Financially we have done as well, we suppose, as we could expect. We were told when we began that no parish paper ever paid for itself, but, in our first year, we have come not so very far from doing so, as the subjoined statement of our business manager will show. Perhaps some kind friends will come forward and square up our account for the past year, and if *all* the members of the parish will subscribe for the coming year, and also exert themselves to get us some more advertisements, we would not only meet our own expenses in the future, but have a surplus to turn over to our church account. However, we mean to persevere and we are sure we shall be no unimportant factor in accomplishing the great work which we see lies before this parish in the years to come.

In reviewing the history of the parish during the past year we feel that substantial progress has been made. The congregation has increased, the attendance especially at the Sunday evening service has been much better than before; the work has extended, as the spiritual statistics will show, more than fifty baptisms for instance having been administered during the last year; some very great improvements have been made to the church building; the offerings for current expenses have been much larger; the rector and assistant minister have received regular salaries throughout the year, and the amount expended for the music has been double that of previous years, in addition to which quite a sum has been accumulated towards extinguishing the church debt. Still this is only the beginning of what we hope to accomplish in the future. We want to see the church crowded at every service. We want to have its ministrations carried into multitudes of homes in its neighborhood which are yet strangers to any religious influence. We want our income increased so as to give our clergy sufficient salaries and perhaps employ more. We want our whole church debt wiped out, our building completed, a clergy house and perhaps other accessories added. This is some of the work before us. Let us all be a united and determined band, and let each contribute *his share*, and it can be done. May the new year see us take a great stride forward. May that year above all see us a happy, peaceful family. Let no petty, contemptible jealousness and rancors disturb our harmony and interfere with our progress. Let each one rise above considerations of self, and feel that they are working for God and for His Church, and whatsoever they undertake, do it with their might. With conscientious, self-denying clergy for leaders, who seek not their own, but the things of the Lord, is it too much to expect that those who engage in the work of the church should do it, not for their own pleasure or exaltation, but that they may serve the Lord Christ. If all are animated by that spirit, God's blessing will rest upon the church, and attend the labors of each one working in it. Such a Happy New Year we wish our readers and the parish to which they belong.

Change of Management.

Mr. Chas. L. S. Tingley who has been our very efficient business manager for the past year retires, and Mr. Willian H. Cope another member of S. John's Guild, and one of our vestrymen, takes his place. His address will be 112 S. 4th Street, where he can be seen any day during business hours upon matters connected with the NEWS.

The report of the outgoing manager for the past year is as follows:

RECEIPTS

From Subscriptions	$55 62
" Donations	9 62
" Advertisements	41 00
Total	106 24

EXPENDITURES

Cost of publication	137 70
Deficit	31 46

Record for December.

Baptisms	9
Burials	4
Communicants added—	
New	6
By removal	4
Removed	3

OFFERINGS.

Current expenses, (including Christmas offering)	$708.23
Year Book	6.90
Church debt	325.00
Building Fund	2.00
Flowers	15.62
Children's Festival	40.23
Education	12.00
Poor	13.57
	1,123 55
Proceeds of entertainment given by S. Mary's Guild	77.00
Total	$1,200.55

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS. — On Christmas day the Rector was presented with a new set of Eucharistic vestments of linen, the Orphreys of the Chasuble being beautifully embroidered. A pot of artificial flowers was presented for the Vestry table, 500 labels for the prayer books and hymnals of the Church, some decorations for the Christmas tree, and a large number of fancy articles for the sale held in connection with the entertainment given by S. Mary's Guild. There have also been added to our Church cupboard, 4 doz. cups and saucers, 2 sugar bowls, 3 small pitchers, 2 waiters, a coffee pot and other tin ware, all of which will prove very useful in future entertainments. We have also secured 2 tons of coal for the poor, and 4 turkeys, a ham, a quantity of bread, butter, coffee, sugar, cake, and preserves were donated for the annual supper of S. John's Guild, and the Chocolate party of S. Mary's Guild, and 14 cakes and 184 oranges for the Sunday school festival.

ENTERTAINMENTS. — Our December entertainments all proved very successful and enjoyable occasions. They began with a "Chocolate party" given by S. Mary's Guild for the benefit of the Church. The large school room in the parish building was filled, and beside the refreshments provided there was quite a programme of musical selections, and humorous recitations, also a sale of fancy articles. The amount realized over the expenses was $77, which was placed on the Altar on Christmas day as an offering from the Guild.

On the evening of S. John's day our Young Men's Guild held their anniversary, sitting down to a very sumptuous supper of cold turkey, ham, dressed celery, pickles, coffee, ice cream and cake. Just fifty young men including the members of the Guild and their invited guests were thus entertained. There was also some piano music and after dinner speeches.

The next night, Holy Innocent's day, was the children's Christmas festival. The children entered the Church headed by the choir and two banners. The singing was accompanied by organ and cornet. The children filled both sides of the middle aisle and the rest of the church was well filled by the families and friends of the scholars. After singing five carols and an address from the Rector all adjourned to the school building where there was a Christmas tree, and sugar plums, cake and toys were distributed to the children, the latter by a veritable Kriss Kringle who caused much joy and merriment among the little ones. There were also some recitations by some members of the school and a final tableau representing "good night."

The hearty thanks of all who enjoyed these entertainments are due to those whose liberality and whose labor provided them. Christmas comes only once a year, and it is the only joy of the kind that comes into some lives in a whole year.

COMPARISON OF OFFERINGS.—In the September number of the NEWS we published a comparison of offerings for the current expenses of the church from May 1st to September 1st, 1887 and 1888. The receipts during that period in 1887 were $540.20 and for the corresponding period in 1888 they were $1,027.08, being an increase of $486.88. We can now give a comparison between another four months of this year and last year from September 1st to January 1st, which includes the Christmas offering each year. The receipts for current expenses during that period last year were $1,345.17, and this year $1,590.20, being an increase of $245.03. Putting these two comparisons together we see that the increase for the eight months from May 1st, 1888, to January 1st, 1889, over the corresponding eight months last year is $731.91. This certainly is largely due to the adoption of the envelope system. Let every attendant of the church make a pledge according to his ability and we shall see our receipts still further increase.

LOST AND FOUND.— Three muffs have been left in the church this month. They can be had from the Sexton on proving ownership

S. ANDREW'S BROTHERHOOD.—Nine new members were formally received last month into S. Andrew's Brotherhood. We trust this association is going to become a power in building up our church, and bringing men into it. The Brotherhood meets the second Thursday evening of each month.

NEW TEACHERS.—We are glad to welcome four new workers in the Sunday school this month, three of whom are men. We trust this is a beginning of men devoting themselves to this most useful and important work.

WANTED.—A thoroughly competent teacher for a Bible class of men on Sunday afternoons.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 1889 are now due. We will acknowledge them each month as they are paid. Fifty cents a year is the subscription, sixty cents if sent by mail.

BACK NUMBERS. — Persons wanting back numbers of the NEWS so as to complete sets, making up the first volume can obtain them in the vestry.

A LECTURE on "Indians and Cowboys," under the auspices of S. John's Guild, will be given in the Parish Building, on Tuesday evening, January 15th, at the nominal admission price of 25 cents. We should like to see the congregation present.

SUNDAY SCHOOL Honor Roll for December:

Jeannette Haslett,	Albert Kingstone,
Sadie Milligan,	Charles Cupit,
Kate Story,	Lizzie Martz,
Alice Murray,	Maud Waterman,
Sarah Bucher,	Hettie Jones,
Katie Hiller,	John Snyder,
Beckie Stewart,	Walter Lynch,
Mary Stewart,	Ethel Waterman,
Mary Murray,	Mary McCracken,
Lily Fisher,	Annie McCracken,
Anna Lescure,	Annie Tomlinson,
Mildred Kittson,	Walter Norris,
Edith Spear,	John McCracken,
Stanley Norris,	Arthur Waterman,
Lee Anderson,	Archie Hampton,
Ernest Waterman,	James Jones,
Percy Norris,	Horace Anderson,
Samuel McCracken	Harry Keiser,
David McCracken,	John Hinchey.

The position of the Priest at the Altar.

Many persons do not understand why when the priest stands at the altar he should turn his back on the people, and they think it very improper that he should do so. But if they would consider what the office is which the priest performs they would see why he does it. The priest acts in divine worship in two capacities. He is first the representative of God to man. As the apostle says "we are ambassadors of God, as though God did beseech you by us." So when he acts in this capacity and speaks in God's name to the people, as he does when he is preaching, reading the Scriptures, exhorting or pronouncing the absolution, he naturally and properly turns towards and faces the people. But then secondly he acts as the representative of the people, to present their prayers and praises, confessions and offerings to God. So as naturally and properly when he does this he should stand as a leader stands at the head of his troops to lead or represent them, all facing the same way. This certainly is the common sense rule. And the position of the priest teaches the people what is the nature of the action he is performing. In sectarian churches where there is only a single desk facing the people, behind which the preacher always stands, you actually hear of prayers spoken of as "addressed to the audience." It is

unnatural and embarrassing for a clergyman to say his prayers with his face to the people, and it makes the congregation look upon themselves as an "audience." The clergyman should be as inconspicuous as possible. All that is wanted is to hear his voice pouring forth the supplications, which the people make their own by saying "Amen." This is the plain meaning and direction of the Prayer Book, as is seen for instance in the transition in the Communion office where the rubrics says "the priest turning to the people shall say" the comfortable words, and "then shall the priest turn to the Lord's table and say" the preface to the ter sanctus, which is an ascription of praise to God.

Some old fashioned clergymen try to comply with these rubrics and yet not turn their backs on the people, by going round and standing at the end of the Altar, and so when they turn to it they have their side only to the people and their face to the side wall of the chancel, a position without significance or convenience. Some even remove all the vessels to one end of the altar and consecrate the elements in this position, a very strange and awkward way in which to use a long narrow table. When the rubric directs the priest to begin the Communion service at "the right side" of the Altar, it means the right side of the front, not the end, as that was never used in any portion of the church until this invention of Anglicans to avoid wounding Puritan sensibilities in regard to the priest turning his back on the people. But it is not the direction of the Prayer Book. Everything there has a meaning, and will be found, if studied, to be grounded on common sense and convenience, and calculated to teach truths which otherwise might be lost sight of. There is etiquette and propriety to be observed in the intercourse of social life. So also is there in so important and solemn a thing as the rendering of worship to Almighty God, and even such a thing as the position in which the celebrant of that worship is to stand, is not too insignificant to be regulated by rule. But the rule to be observed will naturally be different from that observed in the intercourse of man with man.

RITUAL CATECHISM.

Chapter III.

Ornaments and Vessels.

Question. What are Altar Ornaments?

Answer. First, a Cross or Crucifix, which is placed on the Retable, immediately above the Altar. It is made of wood or metal, often highly wrought and ornamented. It is put in this position in order that, as the great sign and symbol of our religion, it may always be the most conspicuous object before the eyes of the worshippers.

Second, two or more Candlesticks, with candles. A beautiful and expressive symbol used in Divine worship by all religions, signifying the Divine life.

Ques. What is the authority for the use of lights in our church?

Ans. They were prescribed by the old canons of the Church of England, and by the injunctions of Edward VI, "to signify that Christ is the true light of the world," and they have always stood upon the Altars of the Cathedrals, Royal chapels and other principal Churches of England.

Ques. Where else are they used excepting upon the Altar?

Ans. They are placed on or around the Bier at funerals, to signify that the soul is still living and enjoying the light of God's presence, and they are sometimes carried in processions.

Ques. What else should be upon the Altar?

Ans. A small desk of brass or wood to hold the service book. Also vases of suitable shape and workmanship to hold flowers on festival occasions.

Ques. What is a Chalice?

Ans. A cup set on a stem in which the wine for the Eucharist is consecrated, and from which the people are communicated. It should be made of gold, silver gilt, or silver, and is often decorated with gems, enamel or engraving. It should be the richest vessel belonging to the church.

Ques. What is a Paten?

Ans. It is a disk of the same material as the Chalice, and made to fit on top of it, to hold the bread for the Eucharist.

Ques. What are the Cruets?

Ans. Small bottles of glass or silver, to hold the wine and water before they are poured into the Chalice.

Ques. What is a Flagon?

Ans. It is a large Tankard, made of silver, to hold the wine, when there are many communicants.

Ques. What is a Pyx?

Ans. A covered box or vessel which holds the Breads before they are placed upon the Paten.

Ques. What are Alms Basins?

Ans. Plates or vessels in which the Alms of the congregation are collected.

Ques. What is an Alms Receiver?

Ans. A large basin, in which the alms plates are placed, or the money poured before it is placed on the Altar.

Ques. What is an Altar Spoon?

Ans. A Spoon of rich material and workmanship, used for removing any foreign matter which may fall into the Chalice, or for administering the Eucharist to those who cannot conveniently receive it in any other way.

Ques. What other utensils are used in the Altar Service?

Ans. An ewer and bason for the Lavabo, or washing of the Priest's hands before he consecrates the elements.

Ques. What is used in the administration of Baptism?

Ans. A cup, shell, or other vessel, from which the water may be "poured" upon the candidate as the rubric directs.

Ques. What is a Processional Cross?

Ans. A Cross made of wood or metal, placed upon a staff, which is carried, as the Standard of the Church, at the head of processions or before the choir or clergy.

Ques. What is a Crozier?

Ans. A Staff in the shape of a shepherd's crook, highly ornamented, the symbol of the Bishop's authority. It was directed by the first English Prayer Book to be given to each Bishop at his consecration.

Ques. What is an Arch-Episcopal Staff?

Ans. A similar rich staff, terminating in a small cross, the symbol of an Archbishop or metropolitan.

Ques. What is a Corona?

Ans. It is a crown shape chandelier, sometimes used to light the chancel.

Ques. What are Sanctuary Lamps?

Ans. Lamps suspended by chains from the roof of the Sanctuary, and kept perpetually burning, generally seven in number, to represent "the seven spirits of God which are before His throne."

Ques. What else is used to decorate the walls of the Church or carried in Procession?

Ans. Banners, painted or embroidered with various ecclesiastical devices or pictures.

Ques. What is a Thurible?

Ans. A vessel suspended by chains, carried in the hand, in which incense is burned.

Ques. What authority is there for the use of incense in Divine worship?

Ans. It was used in the Jewish worship, and universally in the Christian church until the Reformation, and in many English churches down to the reign of King George III.

(To be continued.)

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KALENDAR.

FEBRUARY.

1 Friday—Fast.
2 Purification B. V. M.
3 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany.
7 Friday—Fast.
10 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany.
15 Friday—Fast.
17 Septuagesima.
22 Friday—Fast.
24 Sexagesima, S. Matthias.

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5 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
12 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
19 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. John's Guild.
26 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

3 and 17. Sunday School teachers in the Guild room immediately after the Litany Service.
14. 8 P. M., S. Andrew's Brotherhood.
The Industrial School, every Saturday at 10 A. M.
Mothers' Meeting, every Saturday at 7.45 P. M.
Ladies' Aid Society, every Thursday at 3 P. M.
Embroidery Class, every Wednesday morning after Morning Prayer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Rev. Henry Kittson.
Librarian, Mr. Chas. L. S. Tingley.
Assistant Librarian, Mr. William Thomas.

TEACHERS.

Miss Morrell,	Miss Davis,
Miss A. Jackson,	Miss McCauley,
Miss M. Harper,	Miss Blackwell,
Miss Anderson,	Miss Bond,
Miss T. G. Harper,	Miss Parmelee,
Miss Carman,	Miss Stewart,
Miss Hiller,	Miss B. Spear,
Miss Duncan,	Miss Schoch,
Miss Alice Spear,	Mrs. Pollock.
Miss Gilpin,	Mrs. Woodward.
Mr. William Gilpin.	Mr. S. S. Penniston.
Mr. W. H. Montgomery.	

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published by S. John's Guild, under the direction of the Rector.

As the Guild desires this paper to be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, (if sent by mail 60 cents) to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, 112 South Fourth Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

CONFIRMATION.

There are some subjects of which we have to speak every year. One of these is Confirmation, because every year there are young persons growing up who should be Confirmed, and those older persons who have never been Confirmed need to be reminded of their duty. Though in regard to this last class of persons, every year they put off being Confirmed makes it less and less likely that they ever will be, and any reminder of its necessity seems more and more useless. Yet there are many persons who are not Confirmed, not so much from a deliberate refusal to do their duty, as from a mistaken idea as to what Confirmation is and what it involves. Many think that it is simply a profession, a profession that they are good, and they shrink from making that profession both because they cannot honestly feel that they are good, and from fear of not being able to live up to the standard required of them. But every one should remember that the requirement to be good does not in the least depend upon whether we make a profession or not. Every one who has so much as heard of the Christian religion is *required* to live a Christian life, and he must answer for it if he does not. The vows of Confirmation are the natural necessary vows which every Christian should make because he is a Christian, and the obligation to keep the vows is binding upon every one whether he is Confirmed or not. The object of Confirmation is that every one may receive a special invocation of the Spirit of God upon him that he may have grace and strength to live as every Christian should live. Of course it would be a mockery for any one to seek that invocation unless he was honestly determined to try to do his duty. But any one who has that determination, not only may, but should be Confirmed, that he may gain the help to do what he cannot do in his own strength.

Nothing is more important for young men or women just growing up, and beginning to act for themselves and direct their own lives, than that they should receive this rite which the Church has provided for that most critical period of their lives, to protect them from the dangers to which they will be exposed, and help them to walk aright. What more beautiful or happy than a life that has never seriously gone wrong, but has been moral and virtuous from its youth. Parents and guardians try to secure that blessing for your wards.

But if any have gone wrong or have been living lives of neglect and forgetfulness of God, how much better will it be for them to turn over a new leaf the first opportunity that offers. Or if there are some who have been trying to be good without having been Confirmed, let them remember that they have not been doing all their duty or enjoying all the privileges they should, and so it is their bounden duty to be Confirmed. We have never heard of the case of any one regretting they had been Confirmed, but many live to regret they have not been. Let every one be Confirmed then when he has the opportunity. It is only a privilege and blessing, why should it not be received? If you have any serious doubt or difficulty in your mind in regard to the propriety of your being Confirmed, go to one of the clergy and consult him about it. Don't trust your own judgment in the matter. Or if it is only diffidence keeps you back, think of the tremendous importance and necessity of the act, and do not let a little feeling of diffidence keep you from doing what is your duty, and so essential to your good.

We trust all the adults in the parish not yet Confirmed will seriously consider this matter. The Bishop has appointed the evening of April 25th, to administer Confirmation in our Church, and we mention the fact thus early that all may have the time to think it over, and not have the excuse that they had not time to consider it. The Rector will give a course of instructions every Monday, at 4 P. M., in the Guild room, beginning with the first Monday in March, and the Assistant Minister a similar course every Thursday, at 8 P. M., during March and April. All looking forward to Confirmation are expected to attend one or other of these classes, and any interested in the subject are invited to be present.

Record for January.

Baptisms	5
Burials	3
Communion of the Sick	1
Communicants added—	
By removal	3
Removed	2

OFFERINGS.

Current expenses	$ 265.82
Building Fund	1000.00
Sunday School	7.01
Sunday School Library	5.00
Freedmen Missions	2.00
Poor	3.35
Total	$1283.18

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—We have received last month a donation of 43 volumes for the Sunday school library, also $5 to purchase books for the same, ½ ton of coal for a poor woman, a long wooden handle for taper to light the Altar lights, a quantity of long candles and wafer breads for Altar, and an embroidered linen cover for Chalice pall.

THE S. JOHN'S GUILD LECTURE.—A very entertaining lecture was given by Mr. Gray on the 15th ult., for the benefit of the Guild. The subject was the lecturer's own experience among the Indians and Cowboys of the West.

The small attendance can be accounted for only on the supposition

that the people of the parish have an idea that such entertainments are intended only for the members of the Guild. This is a mistaken idea, however. It is hoped that the next effort made by the members of S. John's will be patronized by all as it no doubt will be.

THE BOYS OF THE PARISH. — The clergy recognize the responsibility that lies at the door of the Church with regard to the many boys who throng the street corners of our neighborhood. What are we doing for them? What can we do for them? We are doing comparatively nothing, but we could do something with the proper and sufficient means. Who will give us the means? A beginning has been made in the proper direction with the boys of our Sunday school, and our choir. Once a month the doors of the parish building will be thrown open for their entertainment. On the eve of the conversion of S. Paul, all the boys were invited to a "donkey party" and were regaled with a goodly supply of oranges. In this way the clergy are trying to become better acquainted with their young charges. Who will help!

We ought to have a reading room, a parlor for quiet games, a gymnasium, etc. Give the boys a chance.

COAL FOR THE POOR. —The young men of the Bible Class have formed an Association to supply coal for the benefit of the poor of the parish.

At a meeting held for the purpose of organization, the following officers were elected:

President, The Rector; Vice-Presidents, Lawrence Gaff, Stewart W. Jackson; Treasurer, Carroll Hodge; Secretary, Edw. Carpenter, Jr.; Advisory Board, Rev. Henry Kittson, Miss Jane Hewson, Mrs. Grimball.

All the money collected in the Bible Class will go for this purpose, but the members of the Association will be glad of contributions from others not members of the class.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—Forty-six subscriptions expired with the December number of the NEWS. Only 17 have been renewed. Will not the others please renew at once and endeavor to get as many new subscribers as possible. There are certainly 50 members of the parish, not on the list, who should become subscribers and if all will help, the paper can easily be put on a self-supporting basis. Please consider this as a personal appeal.

THE MISSIONARY BOX.—The box of the Domestic Missionary Society was shipped on January 15th, to the Rev. A. Bailey Hill, Albert Lea, Minnesota.

It was solidly packed with underwear, clothing, shoes, blankets, quilts, and groceries, and was in every respect a most satisfactory one. All of the underwear was new, and most of the clothing. At a time when a new dress for the Missionary's wife was almost out of the question, owing to lack of funds, the members of S. Mary's Guild most generously provided one of durable and suitable material together with the necessary trimmings, &c. The only regret was that the box got off so late. This was not the fault of the committee as they were only given the work by the Women's Auxiliary late in November. The ladies of the Domestic Committee desire to return their thanks to those who contributed in money, goods and labor, and would especially thank S. Mary's Guild for their much appreciated assistauce. The box was valued at $125.00.

THE REV. MR. THORN wrote a long letter to the Rector last month, giving an account of a donation party he had had, when his house was taken possession of by a large number of his parishioners and stocked with all manner of provisions for the Winter. He seems to feel that his lot has fallen in pleasant places, but adds that he looks eagerly each month for the ASCENSION NEWS to tell him of our parish, where he says "I passed some of the happiest days of my life." He will see from our references to him that we don't forget him.

BUILDING FUND.—Our readers will notice the receipt of $1,000 towards this fund last month. It came from a source outside the parish. Our warmest thanks are due for it. May it lead to others. It would be a grand thing for the Church if we could soon build our Chancel. Five or six thousand dollars in all would be required. We have also now over a thousand dollars paid in towards reducing our Church debt. Let both funds go on together.

SUNDAY SCHOOL HONOR ROLL. — These scholars have attended Sunday school and service every Sunday during the past month. They have also had good lessons and been perfect in conduct. As some of the teachers were absent on account of the storm the last Sunday of the month, the list may not be perfect, if so, it will be rectified next month.

Alice Murray,	Sadie Milliken,
Jeannette Haslett,	Stanley Norris,
Eddie Vigner,	Edith Spear,
Maud Waterman,	Nellie Fisher,
Katie Higley,	Annie Lescure,
Annie McCracken,	Mary McCracken,
Albert McCracken,	Ethel Waterman,
Annie Tomlinson,	Ida Dickers,
Walter Norris,	Sam. Parkinson.

Subscriptions Received.

Subscriptions were received during January from:

Mrs. K. H. Edwards, Mr. Geo. H. Haverstick, Mrs. Geo. H. Haverstick, Mrs. Jno. Alexander, Mrs. H. G. Batterson, Mr. F. S. Keese, Mrs. Pollock, Miss H. S. DeBeust, Miss Lynch, Miss Voigt, Miss Mary Price, Miss Hewson, Mrs. Milliken, Mr. Robert Armstrong, Mr. Wm. H. Cope, Mr. C. L. S. Tingley, Mr. Jno. Leach, Miss L. Jackson, Mrs A. Jackson, Miss M. G. Harper, Miss Zantzinger, Miss M. H. White, Miss Wurts, Mr. Chas. A. Nicholson, Mrs. Chas. A. Nicholson, Mrs. H. M. Bond, The Rev. Henry Kittson, Mr. W. M. Newnam, Miss McClenaghen.

Welcome From S. John's Guild.

The following poem from the facile pen of one of our parishioners was read at the Guild's Annual Supper on the evening of S. John's Day, December 27th, 1888.

We bid you a kindly welcome
In the glow of the Christmas light,
Our brothers in spirit, and heart, and work,
While the Christmas cheer is bright!

There is never a life so lonely
But is cheered by a pleasant word,
There is never a heart so full of care
But the voice of a friend can be heard.

The Guild of Christ's best loved Apostle,
Would follow His motto today,
In the world—*our* wide, rocky Patmos,
We would ever His motto obey.

"Little children love one another,"
Are the words of the "Martyr in will,"
Let us ever press forward with vigor,
And his loving injunction fulfil.

Then brothers accept of the welcome
We give you so gaily to-night,
Let us laugh and be merry in season,
While we always stand up for the right

Let us set up this evening a milestone
To guide us in life's busy day,
To cheer us when moments are dreary,
Or storms turn us out of the way.

With a sigh for the year that's departing,
With a smile for the new one just here,
Let us welcome the newcomer's advent,
With laughter, and song, and good cheer.

Let's have a good time and be jolly,
Hurrah for our sweethearts and wives!
Hurrah for the dainty-sweet darlings,
The pleasure and plague of our lives!

Hurrah for these pleasant, bright meetings!
Hurrah for our plentiful cheer!
Come give us a handshake in earnest,
With Hurrah for the coming New Year!

RITUAL CATECHISM.

CHAPTER IV.

Vestments.

Question. Why are Vestments used in Divine worship?

Answer. In order that the various ministrants may be decently and appropriately clad according to their various offices or the functions which they perform.

Ques. What is the authority for their use?

Ans. They were appointed in the Old Testament to be used in the Jewish worship, they appear in S. John's description of the worship of Heaven, and they have been used universally throughout the Christian Church.

Ques. What is the general Vestment used in some shape by all ministrants in all services?

Ans. A white linen garment, which signifies "the righteousness of the saints," the purity and holiness necessary for all who engage in the worship of God, or minister about holy things.

Ques. What is a Cassock?

Ans. A close fitting clerical coat reaching to the ankles, worn by all persons occupied in the services of the Church. It is generally made of black serge or cloth. Sometimes it is purple or scarlet.

Ques. What is a Surplice?

Ans. It is a loose vestment with flowing sleeves of white linen, reaching below the waist or knees, used by priests and deacons in their ordinary ministrations.

Ques. What is a Cotta?

Ans. It is a short Surplice, with tight sleeves, worn by choir men and boys, servers or other lay ministrants.

Ques. What is a Stole?

Ans. It is a scarf of rich material, generally widened at the ends, terminated with a fringe and ornamented with embroidery, worn by a Bishop or Priest over both shoulders and by a Deacon over one shoulder. It distinguishes the clergy from others taking part in Divine service, and signifies the "yoke" of their office. It can vary in color according to the Church season or office in which it is used.

Ques. What are the Eucharistic Vestments?

Ans. Special Vestments used only in the celebration of the Holy Communion, to give It greater dignity and distinguish it from all other services.

Ques. What are they?

Ans. The Alb, which is a long vestment of white linen or cambric reaching to the feet, with close sleeves. The Amice, which is a separate collar made of the same material, often decorated with embroidery, under which the Stole is passed. The Chasuble, which is a circular vestment reaching nearly to the knees, without sleeves, with a hole in the centre through which the head is passed, worn over the Alb and Stole. It is made of linen or rich stuff, and decorated with embroidery. It generally has stripes on both the back and front of it, in the shape of a cross, called "Orphreys." If made of stuff, it may vary in color with the season of the Church year or office in which it is used. The Girdle, which is a cord confining the Alb at the waist, and through which the ends of the Stole are passed to hold it in its place, it being crossed over the breast when used by a Priest in the Eucharistic office. The Maniple, which is a linen napkin worn over the Priest's or Deacon's left arm on which he wipes the Chalice as he administers it. When the celebrant does not minister the Chalice, he sometimes wears a Maniple made of the same material as his Chasuble or Stole.

Ques. What are Dalmatics and Tunicles?

Ans. They are vestments similar to the Chasuble, but cut square and with short, open sleeves, worn by the Gospeller and Epistoler who assist the Priest in the Celebration.

Ques. What is a Cope?

Ans. It is a semi-circular cloak of rich material reaching to the feet, without sleeves, fastened over the chest by a clasp called a Morse, with a piece of embroidery on the back called the Hood, and with stripes of embroidery running down the front. It is worn by Bishops in performing Episcopal acts, and by Priests in Processions, Marriages, Burials and other solemn services.

Ques. What is the authority for the use of these vestments?

Ans. They have been used from time immemorial throughout the Catholic Church. The first English Prayer Book of King Edward VI, prescribed them, and the present English Prayer Book orders that "such ornaments of the Church and of the ministers thereof, at all times of their ministrations shall be retained and be in use as were in the Church of England in the second year of the reign of Edward VI." And as there are no directions in our American Prayer Book in regard to vestments, but the Preface to the Prayer Book declares that the American Church has no intention of departing from the worship of the Church of England, whatever was the law of that Church when ours became independent of it must be the law with us, until some other law is passed.

Ques. How is it then that the Surplice and Stole have been generally the only vestments used with us in Divine Service?

Ans. Because after the Reformation the opposition of the Puritans to all vestments was so great, that it was usually found expedient to retain only the simplest and most necessary one. Copes, however, were worn in some English Churches and Cathedrals down to the end of the last century, and always in Westminster Abbey on State occasions, and the revived use of all the vestments has been very extended of late years.

Ques. What is a Biretta?

Ans. It is a square cap of silk or other stuff, worn by the clergy in processions, and services out of doors.

Ques. What is a Mitre?

Ans. It is a cap worn by a Bishop, made of rich material, cloven in the midst, to represent the tongues of fire which sat on the heads of the Apostles at Pentecost, to show that Bishops are the successors of the Apostles, and share in their gifts.

Ques. What else does a Bishop wear?

Ans. A Rochet, which is a surplice made of lawn or very fine linen, with tight sleeves, or loose sleeves confined by a band at the wrist.

Ques. What do our Bishops generally wear in place of a Cope?

Ans. A Chimere, which is a cloak made of black satin, through which the sleeves of the Rochet are passed. It is not properly an ecclesiastical vestment, but was simply the street dress of dignified persons in the reigns of Henry VIII and Queen Elizabeth.

Ques. What other ornaments does a Bishop sometimes wear?

Ans. A rich ring, set generally with a sapphire, worn upon the fourth finger of the right hand, to signify that he is wedded to his Diocese. Also a pectoral cross, a rich metal cross worn on the breast, suspended by a chain around the neck.

Ques. What is a Verger's Gown?

Ans. It is a gown of black stuff sometimes ornamented with velvet, with straight or loose sleeves, worn by Sextons or Vergers in Churches and Cathedrals.

Ques. What do Servers, Acolytes and Cross-bearers sometimes wear?

Ans. Girded Albs with Amices.

(To be continued.)

The Ascension News.

VOL. II. PHILADELPHIA, PA., MARCH, 1889. No. 3

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.
318 So. Broad St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
GEO. H. HAVERSTICK.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
1114 Pine St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, 11 A. M.
Litany and Instruction, 3.30 P. M.
Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:

7.45 P. M. Evening Prayer and Lecture.

DAILY:

10 A. M., Morning Prayer.
5 P. M. Evening Prayer.

DURING LENT:

7.30 A. M. Thursdays, Holy Communion.
5 P. M. Fridays, Lecture after Evening Prayer.
Confirmation Instructions, Mondays 4 P. M. and Thursdays 8 P. M. in Guild Room.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoons.

BIBLE CLASSES.

For Adults, Friday, 7.45 P. M.
Teacher, Rev. Henry Kittson.
For Young Men, Sunday, 10 A. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Grimball.
For Ladies' Sunday, 2.30 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Hodge.

KALENDAR.

MARCH.

1 Friday—Fast.
3 Quinquagesima.
6 Ash Wednesday.
10 First Sunday in Lent.
13 Ember Day.
15 Ember Day.
16 Ember Day.
17 Second Sunday in Lent.
24 Third Sunday in Lent.
25 Annunciation B. V. M.
31 Fourth Sunday in Lent.

All the days in Lent, except Sundays, are Fasts.

GUILD MEETINGS.

5 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
12 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
19 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. John's Guild.
26 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

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Miss Carman,	Miss Stewart,
Miss Hiller,	Miss B. Spear,
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Mr. W. H. Montgomery.	

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BUILDING OF THE CHANCEL.

It is with the greatest pleasure, and devout thankfulness, that we announce to the congregation that arrangements have been made by which the building of the Chancel, Organ Chamber and Vestry of the Church will be proceeded with at once. This will be an immense improvement to the appearance of the Church, both on the exterior and in the interior. It will take away from the small and unfinished effect it has now, and make it a striking architectural feature on the street. It will afford ample accommodation for the Choir and add greatly to the dignity with which the service can be celebrated. It will enable us to obtain a large pipe organ, which is what we need to make our music as attractive as it should be. It will give us a permanent and separate Vestry for the clergy, and afford additional seating capacity in the Church. It will enable us also to remove the unsightly wooden fence, and grade the ground at the south end of the property. And this great improvement coming so soon after our getting into the Church itself, will, we are sure, give a great impulse to the growth of the parish and increase of the congregation.

The addition to the building will be of grey stone on the exterior and different colored brick on the interior, to correspond with the part already erected. The Chancel will be 30 feet deep, by 25 feet wide, with an apsidal termination It will be divided from the Nave by a dwarf screen of brick and stone, on which it is hoped, some day may be erected a high screen of ornamental metalic work. There will be three steps within the sanctuary running across the chancel, and the Sedelia, Credence and Bishop's seat will be built in the wall. The Chancel will be lighted by eight windows, which, it is hoped, will be gradually filled with stained glass representing the later events in the life of our Lord. The organ chamber, lying on the right of the Chancel, will present a prominent gable on Broad Street. Over the junction of the Nave, and Chancel there will be a Fleche rising to the height of 120 feet from the pavement and large enough to contain a bell. It will be covered with copper. The clergy Vestry will lie between the Chancel and the present Choir Room. The work will be proceeded with as soon as the weather permits, but without interrupting at all the conducting of the services in the Church.

This improvement has been made possible by a handsome donation of $3000 from a member of the parish, together with the donation of $1000, for thi purpose which was acknowledged last month, and by some of those who had subscribed to the debt of the Church transferring their subscriptions to the Building Fund, which they have done in order to secure the above mentioned donations. The amount of the contract which the Vestry has authorized the Building Committee to make will be something over $7000. This, however, does not include the tiling of the Chancel, which should be done when the building is erected, or the additional seats which will be needed in the Church, when the present Chancel is removed.

We also append a list of things which the building of the Chancel will necessitate and which we hope may be furnished by individual contributors as gifts or memorials.

A new Altar and Reredos.
A large Pipe Organ.
Clergy and Choir Stalls.
New Pulpit.
New Altar Rail.
Rood Screen.
Brass or ornamental iron gates for entrance to the Choir.
Eight stained glass windows, with scenes from the life of our Lord.
Oak Litany Desk.
Oak Forms for Servers.
Tiling of the Chancel.
Tiling round the Font, with rail and book desk for same.
Tiling aisles of the Church.
Bell.
Grading south end of the property, and setting curb and iron railing.
Flag pavement to school building.
Sanctuary rugs.
Service books for Gospeller and Epistoler.
Vesting Altar for Sacristy.

Persons thinking of contributing any of these things are requested to confer with the Rector or any member of the Building Committee. All articles of furniture must be from designs furnished by the architect or approved by the Building Committee. Designs for the windows will be obtained from the same firm which made those in the rest of the Church.

Our warmest thanks are due to those whose generosity has made it possible for us to have thus a practically completed building, which will so immensely enhance its beauty and effectiveness. And we are sure that there are others who will want to have a hand in the good work, and will come forward and give some at least of the above mentioned things which are needed for its thorough furnishing and ornamentation.

LENT.

The Holy Season of Lent is again upon us. May we all have grace to use it profitably. The clergy will provide three Celebrations of the Holy Communion every week, two services every day, a lecture on Wednesday evening and Friday afternoon, and a Confirmation instruction each Monday afternoon and Thursday evening; also, the Monthly Guild Services. And they urge the parishioners to use these opportunities to endeavor after real spiritual progress. They

can truly say with the Apostle that they greatly long after each member of the parish, and their heart's desire and prayer to God is, that each one may truly and faithfully perform their religious duties, and may in their daily life and conduct worthily exemplify their Christian character. Lent is a time for special earnest effort to gain the victory over besetting sin, and to seek for real growth and advancement in the spiritual life. May a real spirit of devotion be kindled in the parish, a devotion which will not expend itself in Lent, but manifest itself in permanent increased interest in religious matters, regularity at all times in the performance of religious duties, willingness to spend and be spent in the service of our Divine Master. They who learn to keep Lent aright will learn to live true Christian lives at all times, and be faithful and profitable servants of their Lord.

Record for February.

Communion of the Sick	1
Communicants added—	
New	1
By removal	5
Removed	1
Died	1

OFFERINGS.

Current expenses	$ 321.42
Poor	1.22
Sunday School	7.20
For the Rector	100.00
At the discretion of the Rector.	100.00
Building Fund	3,000.00
Total	$3,529.84

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—There have been presented this month a prayer desk, and picture of the Crucifixion in wooden frame, for the Vestry, 50 printed slips for coal orders, 200 oranges for the School children, and sign, "Post no Bills," for fence.

LENTEN SERVICES.—The additional services during Lent will be an early Celebration of the Holy Communion every Thursday, at 7.30 A. M., and a Lecture after Prayers on Fridays, at 5 P. M. The Miserere (Psalm LI) will be recited every morning after Morning Prayer, and the De Profundis (Psalm CXXX) after Evening Prayer. A portion of the Choir will be present every afternoon, and there will be a special offertory on Friday afternoons to pay the expenses of the Lenten Services.

COURSES OF SERMONS.—The Rector will preach a course of four sermons on Sunday evenings, beginning with the first Sunday in Lent, on the history, doctrine, discipline, and worship of the Episcopal Church. All wishing to make themselves familiar with the history, character and teaching of the Episcopal Church should attend them. The Assistant Minister will lecture every Friday afternoon during Lent at 5 o'clock, on "Obstacles to Religion." The Rector will continue his lectures on the Bible every Wednesday evening, except on the evening of Ash Wednesday, when he will speak on "Lenten Duties."

JANUARY NUMBERS.—Persons having copies of the January number of the NEWS, who do not want to keep them, are requested to return them to the Church, as the edition is now exhausted, and numerous requests are made for them from persons desiring to have copies of the various Chapters of the Ritual Catechism we are publishing.

MISSIONARY BOX.—The following letters have been received in acknowledgment of the box sent by our Women's Guild to a Missionary in Minnesota:

Albert Lea, Minn.
Dear Mrs. Cope: Jan. 28, 1889

We received the box Saturday, and were so busily engaged unpacking, that we did not have time to write you until to-day. I want to thank you and the others who helped in sending it. It contains a great many more articles than we expected, and every thing is just what we wished for.

The baby was delighted with her things, the little cloak fitted her nicely.

My things were all very nice, and the groceries were quite a surprise.

Thanking you again for your trouble and kindness in preparing the box,

I am very sincerely
CORA HILL.

Albert Lea, Minn., Feb. 4, 1889

Mrs. Wm. H. Cope—My dear Madam—

I beg to tender to you and the ladies of your parish my grateful thanks for the missionary box which you have so kindly prepared and sent for me and family. Words fail to express the gratitude of our hearts for the kindly gift. The things were not only numerous, but of a quality to demand our highest appreciation. Thanking you all very kindly indeed,

I am, dear madam, Yours truly,
A. BAILEY HILL.

MISSIONARY OFFERINGS. — It does not seem possible at present when we have so large a debt on the Church, and so much yet to do for ourselves, to have—as we shall hope to have eventually—regular offerings for missionary and benevolent objects through the Envelope system. All we can do now is through the collections made by the representatives of the different Committees of the Women's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions, and of the Tract, and Prayer Book Societies. But there is one department of Missions, namely Diocesan Missions, for which there is no collector, and to which we are expected to contribute, this Church being assessed by the Convocation to which it belongs $50, for this year. Of this amount we have paid $16.66 The rest should be paid before the end of April. Any offerings which may be placed in the alms box in the vestibule of the Church, which is marked "Missions," will be devoted to this purpose.

DONATION TO THE RECTOR.—A very pleasant remembrance from a former parishioner was received by the Rector last month of $100, "as a token of regard," and another $100 for the Church "to be used for any purpose he might think best." Such a gift from one who is no longer able to be a regular attendant of the Church is a very gratifying and substantial proof of continued interest in it.

MOTHERS MEETING.—Mrs. Grimball who has had charge of this work both this and last winter, has been obliged to give it up on account of domestic duties. Mrs. Kittson and Miss Amanda Jackson will take her place.

The meeting, with the adult Bible Class for men and women, which is taught by the Assistant Minister, will be held hereafter on Friday evenings, instead of Saturday as before.

ADVERTISEMENTS.—We need more advertisements to help pay for issuing this paper. Will not our members exert themselves to get some for us, and will not all pay up their subscriptions now due, 50 cents a year, or 60 cents if sent by mail.

SUNDAY SCHOOL HONOR ROLL FOR JANUARY.—

Lily Fisher,
Kate Higley,
Kate Story,
Maggie South,
Katie Hiller,
Ellen Broomhead,
Lottie Bryson,
Sam'l McCracken,
David McCracken,
Theodore Atkins,
Rebecca Stewart,
Lottie Eagan,
Lizzie Martz,
Carrie Blume,
Bertha Blume,
Ethel Waterman,
Annie McCracken,
Martin McCracken,
Annie Tomlinson,
Fanny Wilson,
Blanche Remont,
Flora Kittson,
Mildred Kittson.
Mamie Coleman,
Ida Dicker,
Lawrence Haslett,
Sadie Milliken,
Lewis Schotts,
Waltet Anderson,
E. Waterman,
R. Miller,
James Honnon,
Rufus Anderson,
Lee Anderson.
Maud Waterman,
Sadie Vansant,
Jno. McCracker,
Chester Martz,
Archie Hampton,
Horace Anderson,
Gertie McKinley,
Edith Spear,
Lizzie Bucher,
Jeannette Haslett.

Quiet Day for Women.

There will be a "Quiet Day" for women held in the Church of the Incarnation, Broad and Jefferson streets, the services of which will be conducted by the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of New York on Thursday, March 14th, and on Friday March 15th, there will be a "Church Women's Conference" in the Parish Building of the Church of the Holy Trinity, 19th and Walnut streets. The women of this parish are invited to attend both of these meetings.

Insurance Policies for Churches.

One of the Church papers recently suggested that parishioners should take out Life Insurance policies for the benefit of the churches to which they belong, thus persons who are not rich, or who have many personal claims upon them, and so are not able to give, or leave, large sums to churches, could secure a considerable amount for them by a small annual payment; the idea is a capial one. Will not some of our parishioners act upon it?

Contagious Diseases and Public Funerals.

Persons who have the misfortune to lose relatives by contagious diseases should remember that in such cases it is not right to have a public funeral. By that is meant, that the body should not be taken into the church, nor should friends be invited to the house, nor should the body be exposed to view. There is no objection to a service in the open air, if the casket is closed, and the clergy will always be ready to go to the cemetery and say the service at the grave, which is the important part of the Burial Office. And if the grave-yard adjoins the Church, the mourners can go into the Church *after* the interment and the rest of the office can be said. The rubrics of our Prayer Book expressly provide for the service at the grave being said first in such cases. But no service should be said over the body in the Church or house. Such a funeral is forbidden by the regulations of the Board of Health in this city, and the clergy and others should see that those regulations are carried out. It is not right to endanger lives unnecessarily and spread disease. People should be considerate and thoughtful of others even in the midst of their own affliction.

RITUAL CATECHISM.

CHAPTER V.

Altar Cloths and Linen.

Ques. What do the Canons of the English Church direct the Altar shall be covered with?

Ans. "A carpet of silk or other decent stuff."

Ques. What is it generally called?

Ans. An Altar cloth. It is usually made in two pieces, called the Frontal and Super Frontal. The latter is sometimes used alone. It may be made of any rich material and decorated with appropriate embroidery.

Ques. What is it's color?

Ans. It and other church hangings may vary in color according to the church season or service in which they are used.

Ques. What are the colors generally used and why?

Ans. White for all High Festivals,—except Whitsunday and Martyrsdays—and for Marriages, Confirmations, Consecration of Churches, &c. Violet, for all penitential seasons, and for Burials, or Mortuary Celebrations. Red, for Whitsuntide,—representing the tongues of fire—and for Martyrsdays,—representing blood. Green, the ordinary color of nature, for days not having any special signification. Black, for Good Friday. According to the ancient English use, Blue and Gold were also sometimes used. Sometimes different colored Frontals only are used, the Super Frontal remaining the same, in which case it should be red, to represent the blood of the Sacrifice.

Ques. What is a Pulpit or Lectern Fall?

Ans. A handsomely embroidered piece of cloth or stuff hung in front of a pulpit desk or lectern. It should always be of the same material and color as the Altar cloth.

Ques. What is the Altar Frontal and the Pulpit Fall sometimes called?

Ans. An Antependium.

Ques. What is placed over the Altar Cloth whenever there is a Celebration?

Ans. "A fair linen cloth," that is, a linen cloth made "fair," with embroidery or lace. It should cover only the top of the Altar and hang down over the ends. It is always marked with five crosses, in token of the five wounds of Christ. It is often edged with lace, and has fringe at the ends.

Ques. What is a Chalice Veil and Burse?

Ans. The Chalice Veil is a veil to cover the Chalice and Paten, made generally of the same material and of the same color as the Altar Cloth. The Burse is a pocket made of cardboard and covered with the same stuff as the Chalice Veil, placed on top of the Chalice to hold the Corporal.

Ques. What is the Corporal?

Ans. A linen napkin which is spread under the Chalice and Paten when they are on the Altar, and a corner of which is turned over to cover the Paten when it is not on top of the Chalice.

Ques. What is a Chalice Pall?

Ans. A card of stiff pasteboard, covered with linen, with which the Chalice is covered when the Paten is not on top of it.

Ques. What is a Purificator?

Ans. It is a small napkin used to wipe the Chalice after the Ablutions

Ques. What other linens are used?

Ans. A linen, Cambric, or lace veil to cover the elements after the Communion; a linen cover for the Credence table, a linen napkin for wiping the Priest's hands in the Lavabo, and a linen Baptismal napkin. All pieces of linen used in the Church service should be marked with the Cross.

Ques. What is a Funeral Pall?

Ans. A covering of black or violet cloth or silk used to cover the bier on which the body is carried into the Church for the Burial Office. It may be appropriately decorated or embroidered.

Ques. What is an Altar Protector?

Ans. A cloth of green baize used to cover the fair linen cloth on top of the Altar at all times, excepting during a Celebration.

(To be continued.)

Subscriptions Received.

Subscriptions have been received during February from Mr. David Rea, Mr. L. Gaff, Mrs. Clement Tingley, Mr. Benjamin Johnson, Mrs. C. H. Darlington, A. H. C., Miss Pollock, Mrs. Thwaites, Mrs. Wm. Walterall, Miss E. L. Stokes, Mrs. Larzelere, Miss H. Dickerson, Mr. Thos. Robb, Mrs. Wm. H. Cope, Miss H. J. Armstrong, Miss Wagner, Mr. W. F. Smith, Mr. J. Edward Carpenter, Mrs. J. Edward Carpenter.

After several years of work, the decoration of the Sanctuary of the Church of the Ascension, New York—a memorial gift—has been completed at a cost of $15,000. The architectural work, the mosaics, the reliefs, and the great fresco which cover the East wall have been in the hands of real artists, and Mr. La Farge's fresco is certainly one of the most important works of the kind in the country.

The Ascension News.

Vol. II. PHILADELPHIA, PA., APRIL, 1889. No. 4

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.
318 So. Broad St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
GEO. H. HAVERSTICK.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
1114 Pine St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, 11 A. M.
Litany and Instruction, 3.30 P. M.
Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:

7.45 P. M. Evening Prayer and Lecture.

DAILY:

10 A. M., Morning Prayer.
5 P. M. Evening Prayer.

DURING LENT:

7.30 A. M. Thursdays, Holy Communion.
5 P. M. Fridays, Lecture after Evening Prayer.

Confirmation Instructions, Mondays 4 P. M. and Thursdays 8 P. M. in Guild Room.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoons.

BIBLE CLASSES.

For Adults, Friday, 7.45 P. M.
Teacher, Rev. Henry Kittson.
For Young Men, Sunday, 10 A. M
Teacher, Mrs. Grimball.
For Ladies' Sunday, 2.30 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Hodge.

KALENDAR.—APRIL.

7 Passion Sunday.
14 Palm Sunday.
15 Monday before Easter.
16 Tuesday before Easter.
17 Wednesday before Easter.
18 Maunday Thursday.
19 Good Friday.
20 Easter Even.
21 Easter Day.
22 Monday in Easter Week.
23 Tuesday in Easter Week.
25 S. Mark's Day.
27 Friday—Fast.
28 Low Sunday.

All the days in Lent, except Sundays, are Fasts.

GUILD MEETINGS.

1 8 P. M., S. Barnabas' Guild.
2 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
9 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
23 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

28. Sunday School teachers in the Guild room immediately after the Litany Service.
11. 8 P. M., S. Andrew's Brotherhood.
The Industrial School, every Saturday at 10 A. M.
Mothers' Meeting, every Friday at 7.45 P. M.
Ladies' Aid Society, every Thursday at 3 P. M.
Embroidery Class, every Wednesday morning after Morning Prayer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Rev. Henry Kittson.
Librarian, Mr. Chas. L. S. Tingley.
Assistant Librarian, Mr. S. S. Penniston.

SERVICES IN HOLY WEEK.

7½ A. M., daily, Holy Communion.
10 A. M., daily, (except Good Friday) Morning Prayer and Holy Communion.
5 P. M., daily, Evening Prayer.
8 P. M., daily, Sermon on the Passion, except Wednesday, when Stainer's "Crucifixion" will be sung.

GOOD FRIDAY.

11 A. M., Morning Prayer, Litany and Singing of the Reproaches.
12 to 3 P. M. Preaching of the Cross.

NOTE—Copies of the words of the Reproaches will be distributed to the congregation at the service. Persons who may not be able to remain during all of the service and preaching on Good Friday, can come or leave the Church at any time during the singing of the hymns with which the preaching will be varied.

Confirmation, April 25th, 8 P. M.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published by S. John's Guild, under the direction of the Rector.

As the Guild desires this paper to be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, (if sent by mail 60 cents) to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, 112 South Fourth Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

ORGAN FOR THE NEW CHANCEL.

The greatest need in connection with our new Chancel will be a large Organ. The Altar we have, and even the rest of the furniture, will do for a time. But an Organ, now that we shall have a place to put it, we ought to have to make our service as attractive as it should be.

A gentleman, who is not connected with our parish, but who has been much interested in the building of our new Church and assisted very materially in securing subscriptions towards it, has suggested the following plan for obtaining the means to purchase an Organ. It is this: "to take the amount required to build an Organ, and divide it up into sums of varying amounts, so as to suit every sort of purse, so that nearly every one in the parish, or among the friends of the parish, can contribute towards it, and feel that they have helped to erect it" Thus supposing, $4,000 was required for the Organ,—and it would take about that sum to get such an instrument as we ought to have for the Church,—we have something over five hundred persons who are now connected with the parish. Supposing *one-half* of these are too poor to contribute anything for this purpose, the amount might then be divided among the remaining half in this way:

5	subscriptions of	$200–	$1,000
10	" "	100–	1,000
15	" "	50–	750
20	" "	25–	500
30	" "	10–	300
35	" "	5–	175
40	" "	3–	120
50	" "	2–	100
55	" "	1–	55
260			$4,000

Such a plan ought to be feasible, especially when we remember that the Chancel will be built by the gifts of a few individuals, no general appeal having been made to the congregation for that purpose. Will not the congregation at large therefore be glad to show their appreciation of the liberality of those who have made it possible for us to have the Chancel, and have themselves a share in the good work, by contributing towards an Organ to be put into the Chamber which is to be built for it? An advantage of this suggestion is that every one who can contribute from a dollar upward, can feel that he is doing something towards this great improvement of the Church, whereas there are but few who could give alone any of the articles needed for the Chancel, which we published last month. The gentleman who proposes the plan will himself give one of the $50 subscriptions and has secured another $50 subscription. We have also a $100 and a $5 subscription which can be used for the same purpose. Who will give others?

Let every one in the congregation who can give anything, fix on the amount of the subscription he can make, and inform the Rector, or the Accounting Warden, or put the amount in an envelope marked "for the Organ," and drop it in one of the alms boxes in the vestibule of the Church. And let each see what he can raise among his friends. *Only*, no one must let what he gives for this purpose be taken from his ordinary contributions to the support of the Church, or diminish the amount of his Easter offering. For the current expenses of the Church *must* be met, whereas we *can* wait for the Organ.

PASSIONTIDE.

With the first Sunday of this month we enter this year upon the Passiontide. The solemnity of Lent deepens as in these two last weeks we have especially set before us the sufferings of our adorable Lord. During this time all the Lessons in the Communion and Daily Offices relate to this subject. Everything that is bright and festive in our Churches is put away or covered over. The Sermons and the Hymns we sing are all about the Passion. And in the last week of Lent, called preeminently Holy week, we have the most prolonged and solemn services in the whole year. In every way the Church tries to make us realize the importance of the events this time commemorates, and to help us use their commemoration profitably to our soul's growth. Every one should try and be at one of the services at least each day in Holy week. If we believe our Lord suffered so much for us, we should dwell with reverent gratitude on all the acts of His passion, and try to imbibe ourselves the spirit He manifested. If we keep this season so, it will be a great benefit to us.

The Rector will preach each night in Holy week at 8 P. M., except Wednesday, when the choir will sing Stainer's "Crucifixion." The Assistant will speak each morning, including the three hours' service on Good Friday. There will be a Holy Communion every day at 7.30 A. M., and every day except Good Friday at 10 A. M. Evening Prayer daily, 5 P. M.

Record for March.

Baptisms	2
Burials	3
Communicants added—	
By removal	3
Removed	2
Died	1

OFFERINGS.

Current expenses	$ 363.49
Poor	12.63
Sunday School	8.12
Diocesan Missions	3.31
Chancel Furniture	5.00
Building Fund	105.00
Total	$497.55

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—There was presented during March a linen Maniple with drawn work, a hand made linen

priest's girdle, piece of lace for stole, seven wooden frames for colored pictures for the Sunday School room and a bottle of ink for the Vestry. The Rector sent an old set of linen Eucharistic Vestments to a missionary clergyman in the West. The Sunday School purchased a new bookcase for its library.

NEW GUILD.—Some of the older members of S. John's Guild have resigned and have formed a new Guild to be called S. Barnabas'. They have adopted a Constitution similar to that of S. John's Guild, only limiting the membership to men over 18 years old. They have elected Mr. C. L. S. Tingley and Mr. William Gilpin, Wardens, Mr. W. H. Montgomery, Secretary and Mr. Richard Miller, Treasurer. They will meet for the present on the first Monday evening of each month.

S. ANDREW'S BROTHERHOOD is doing good work for the Church by distributing cards of invitation to the services, on the street, welcoming strangers, and hunting up absentees. A number of persons have been brought into the parish by these means. Hereafter at the meetings of the Brotherhood a paper on some subject connected with Church work or the Christian life will be read by one of the members.

PEW RENTS.— Those wishing to qualify themselves to vote for vestrymen under our Charter, must pay the Warden the sum of one dollar as "pew rent," though no pews are assigned to any persons, all having an equal right to them. These payments are due this month.

VESTRY ELECTION.— The annual election of vestrymen will be held on Easter Monday. The polls will be open from the conclusion of Divine Service, till 1 P. M. All members of the congregation who have paid "pew rent" for two consecutive years are entitled to vote.

EASTER OFFERING.—The Accounting Warden wishes us to inform the congregation, that we shall need $700, to meet all our current expenses up to May 1st. Allowing $70 a Sunday for the three Sundays in April, excluding Easter day,—which is now our general average,—it will leave $490, required as the Easter offering. But as the payment of the semi-annual interest on our mortgage occurs early in June, we ought also to have several hundred dollars if possible, to carry forward for that purpose. Can we not have an Easter offering of at least $700? Let each one attending the Church show his appreciation of its services, and his determination that it shall not lack support, by a liberal offering on this great annual festival.

EASTER FLOWERS.— Contributions for the Easter decorations may be placed in the alms box in the vestibule marked "Flowers." As all want to see the Church appropriately dressed on our greatest of festivals, each member of the congregation should put some offering in the box for this purpose. This applies to all offerings for special purposes. Let each one give something, though it be but a little, and we shall have enough. Never think that it is not worth while to make any contribution unless you can give a large one. It is the duty of each to give according to his ability. The Treasurer of the Flower Committee of the Women's Guild will be glad to receive regular monthly or weekly offerings, so as to keep the Altar always supplied with flowers, and provide for the washing of the surplices.

DIOCESAN MISSIONS.—We have not yet paid all our assessment for Diocesan Missions, and this is the last month we have to pay it in. Let us try to do something for others besides ourselves, and this is for missions in our own midst. If each person in one of our Sunday congregations were to put a dime in the Mission box in the Vestibule, we would have all that we are asked to give.

COAL ORDERS.—The Coal Association of the Boys' Bible Class sent out to three families, during the month of February, one ton and a half of coal, in half ton orders.

STAINER'S CRUCIFIXION.—A special Passion Service will be held in the Church on Wednesday night in Holy Week, (April 17th.) At this service *The Crucifixion*, by Dr. John Stainer, will be sung, and possibly also some appropriate anthem.

The Crucifixion is a comparatively short work, of the nature of an oratorio. It is a "Meditation on the Sacred Passion of the Holy Redeemer." It is written for two solo voices (tenor and bass) and Chorus. A number of hymns are interspersed, in which the congregation should join. For the information of those who may desire to familiarize themselves with the tunes, we will say that copies of the words alone, with tunes of the Hymns may be obtained from W. H. Boner & Co., 1102 Chestnut Street, at 8 cents per single copy, or the Choirmaster can furnish them.

Members of the Congregation and others who may desire to assist in the singing of the Hymns are asked to attend a rehearsal in the Church on Friday evening, April 12th, from 8 to 8.30 o'clock.

The Crucifixion, as its title indicates, is thoroughly in keeping with the Church Season in which it will be sung, and from a musical standpoint is admirable. When given in our Church it is the intention to omit one of the choruses and substitute a quartette and chorale from Gounod's Redemption. Otherwise the work will be given entire, and will be rendered as effectively as the limited capabilities of our organ will permit.

EASTER MUSIC.— The music on Easter Sunday will be as follows:—

In the morning—

Te Deum, Kyrie, Nicene Creed, Sanctus, Agnus Dei, and Gloria in Excelsis, Tours in F.

Anthem during Ablutions —

"Saviour of Men" - - - Gounod

In the evening—

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, Tours in F. Anthem "Awake thou that sleepest" Allen.

The hymns for Easter day will be —

Processional 103, *Tune, Victory.*

Recessional 98, *Tune, Easter Hymn.*

Other hymns 99. *Tune, Worgan.*

" " 100. *Tune, Salsburgh.*

" " 104, *Tune St. Albinus.*

" " 106, *Tune, Wirtenburg.*

EASTER ENTERTAINMENT.—On Tuesday, April 23d, there will be given an amusing, interesting and laughable entertainment in the Parish Building, under the auspices of S. Mary's Guild; the proceeds to be given to the fund for the building of a pipe organ for the new Chancel. It will consist of two very amusing Comedies by ladies and gentlemen who have kindly volunteered, and some fine quartette singing, as well as solos. Tickets, 25 cents, which can be procured from the ladies of S. Mary's Guild. It is to be hoped in view of the trouble, time and kindness of those assisting, and the object of the performance that every member of the congregation will be present.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.— There are now thirty of last years' subscribers who have not renewed their subscriptions for the present year. It is proposed to shortly notify these persons of the expiration of their subscriptions, and it is hoped that all will respond promptly to such notification. Some trouble will be saved if those who know they are in debt to the NEWS will make payment at once. About 500 copies are circulated every month. We have only about 100 regular subscribers. There are certainly some who regularly receive the paper free who could afford

to pay the sum of 50 cents per year towards its support.

SUNDAY SCHOOL HONOR ROLL FOR MARCH.—

Lizzie Bucher,	Mamie Colernan,
Theo. Atkins,	R Anderson,
David McCracken,	R. Burns,
Sam'l McCracken,	E. Miller,
Ellen Broomhead,	L. Haslett,
Lily Fisher,	James Honnen,
Bessie Thomas,	Stanley Norris,
Annie Lescure,	Heber Jackson,
Katie Higley,	Mary McCracken,
Alice Murray,	Annie McCracken,
Emily Ager,	Annie Tomlinson,
Maggie South,	Sadie Milliken,
Blanche Remont,	Jeannette Haslett.

The Mozart.

The Mozart Choral Society meets for rehearsal every Monday evening at 8 o'clock in the parish building of the Church of the Ascension, and is open to all singers having a knowledge of music.

There are no fines, no assessments, no initiation fees: the only expense attached to active membership being the weekly dues of five cents.

To all who wish to see a strong and flourishing society established in this section of the city, a cordial invitation is extended to become members.

Those who are unable to sing, but who are yet desirous of helping the society, can become associate members by paying two dollars per annum in advance, and in return they will be entitled to reserved seats at all concerts or public rehearsels given by the society.

Application for active or associate membership, and full particulars in regard to the "Mozart" may be had from the president, the Rector of the parish or from any of the other officers.

List of Subscribers.

The following subscriptions were received during March:—
Miss Rousseau, Miss Hoy, Cash, Miss M. L, Goodman, Miss Parmelee, Mrs. H. G. Whelen, Mrs Sam'l Wetherill, Miss Florence E. Smith, Miss A. J. Stewart, Mrs. Thos. B. Allen, Mrs. W. H. Webb, Mrs. H. W. Wharton, Capt. H. B. Seely, Mr. Saml. Wetherill.

RITUAL CATECHISM.

CHAPTER VI.

Postures and Gestures.

Ques. What are the postures generally observed in divine worship?

Ans. Kneeling in prayer and adoration, standing in praise and during solemn acts, or exhortations. Thus the people kneel during all prayers, confessions and supplications, and in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, and when receiving Absolution or Benediction. They will stand during all Psalms, Canticles, Anthems. Hymns and the recitation of Creeds; during all Exhortations; while Baptism, Confirmation, Marriage, Ordination, or the Blessing of things or persons is being performed, and as a mark of respect when the clergy or any procession enters or leaves the Church. They may be seated during the reading of Lessons, and the Epistle in the Communion Office, and during Sermons and the giving out of Notices.

Ques. Why do they rise at the reading of the Gospel in the Communion?

Ans. Both because it is preceded by the singing of an ascription of praise, and as a special mark of reverence, because it is a direct message from God.

Ques. Why do the people rise at the presentation of the Alms, etc., in the offertory?

Ans. Because the priest is directed to "humbly present and place" them upon the Altar on behalf of the people as their offering to the service of God, and they should show that it is their act, and their realization of its solemnity, by their attitude.

Ques. How long should the people remain kneeling in the Communion after the Benediction?

Ans. Until the remaining Elements are consumed and the Priest is ready to retire to the Vestry.

Ques. Should the position of the Priest always be the same as that of the people?

Ans. No, he will stand when performing official acts, as in pronouncing Absolution, Benediction, Celebrating the Sacraments, and in Addresses and Sermons. He kneels when making his own personal confession or supplication, and in performing acts of adoration. He also receives the Sacrament standing, because he is administrator as well as recipient.

Ques. Why does he sometimes face the people and sometimes the Altar?

Ans. He faces the people whenever he is reading to them or addressing them. He faces the Altar whenever he acts as their representative in presenting their supplications or offerings to God. When in the Choir, he stands or kneels sideways to the people, because the seats in the Choir are arranged laterally for convenience in Antiphonal Chanting.

Ques. What gestures does the Priest make?

Ans. He elevates the right hand in Benedictions and in solemn declarations, as when he pronounces the parties man and wife in the marriage service. He elevates both hands in the "Pax" of the Benediction, and in celebrating the Holy Communion, except during the Amen at the conclusion of each prayer, and when he kneels. This is shown both by records and monuments to have been the attitude observed from the earliest times, and was the ancient attitude in prayer both among the Jews and heathen. In pronouncing Benedictions and Absolutions the Priest also generally makes the sign of the cross, and extends only the three first fingers of his hand to show that he does it in the name of the Blessed Trinity. He also makes the sign of the cross in consecrating the elements in Baptism and the Holy Communion and in other blessings.

Ques. With what finger should he make the sign of the cross on the forehead in Baptism?

Ans. The thumb, because that is the finger over which he has the most command.

Ques. When he places the Alms and the Elements on the Altar why does he first elevate them?

Ans. To show that they are solemnly offered and dedicated to God's service; this is called the first oblation, the second is when the Elements are consecrated to their sacred purpose.

Ques. What special acts of reverence are performed?

Ans. Canon XVIII of the Church of England prescribes that "when in time of divine service the Lord JESUS shall be mentioned, due and lowly reverence shall de done by all persons present." Thls is generally complied with by bowing the head, or bending the knee, at least when that name occurs in the creed, as a solemn acknowledgement of His divinity, some also bow at the words "and was made man" in the Nicene Creed, some bow or kneel from the words "came down from heaven," to "The third day He rose again," some bow at the Gloria Patri or at any ascription of praise to the Trinity, as in the "Holy, Holy, Holy," in Te Deum, some always bow to the altar when passing before it, some sign themselves with the Sign of the cross at certain solemn portions of the service, as at the end of the Creed or when receiving absolution, that what they thus profess or receive may be sealed, or stamped upon them.

The church leaves her children at liberty to use these and such like acts of devotion as they may see best for their edification. If used with reverence and devotion they may help one to realize the importance and solemnity of divine worship. But those who use them should not blame those who do not, nor those who do not use them be offended with those who do.

(To be continued.)

The Ascension News.

VOL. II. PHILADELPHIA, PA., MAY, 1889. No. 5

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.
318 So. Broad St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
GEO. H. HAVERSTICK.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
1114 Pine St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, 11 A. M.
Litany and Instruction, 3.30 P. M.
Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
7.45 P. M. Evening Prayer and Lecture.

DAILY:
10 A. M., Morning Prayer.
5 P. M. Evening Prayer.

BIBLE CLASSES.

For Adults, Friday, 7.45 P. M.
Teacher, Rev. Henry Kittson.
For Young Men, Sunday, 10 A. M
Teacher, Mrs. Grimball.
For Ladies' Sunday, 2.30 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Hodge.

DEDICATION FESTIVAL.

ASCENSION DAY. MAY 30TH

7½ A. M., Holy Communion.
11 A. M., Choral Morning Prayer and Holy Communion.
5 P. M., Evening Prayer.
8 P. M., Choral Shortened Evening Prayer and Anniversary Sermon by the Rector.
May 31st. 8 P. M., Parish Tea for Parishioners and others, in the School Room.
June 1st. 8 P. M. Anniversary of Guilds, Procession of Guilds with Service and Sermon.

KALENDAR.—MAY.

1 SS. Philip and James.
3 Friday—Fast.
5 Second Sunday after Easter.
10 Friday—Fast.
12 Third Sunday after Easter.
17 Friday—Fast.
19 Fourth Sunday after Easter.
24 Friday—Fast.
26 Rogation Sunday.
27 Rogation Day—Fast.
28 Rogation Day—Fast.
29 Rogation Day—Fast.
30 Ascension Day.
31 Friday—Fast.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoons.

GUILD MEETINGS.

2 8 P. M., S. Barnabas' Guild.
7 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
14 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
21 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. John's Guild.
28 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

26. Sunday School teachers in the Guild room immediately after the Litany Service.
9. 8 P. M., S. Andrew's Brotherhood.
Embroidery Class, every Wednesday morning after Morning Prayer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Rev. Henry Kittson.
Librarian, Mr. Chas. L. S. Tingley.
Assistant Librarian, Mr. S. S. Penniston.

TEACHERS.

Miss Morrell,	Miss Davis,
Miss A. Jackson,	Miss McCauley,
Miss M. Harper,	Miss Blackwell,
Miss Anderson,	Miss Bond,
Miss T. G. Harper,	Miss Parmelee,
Miss Carman,	Miss Stewart,
Miss Hiller,	Miss B. Spear,
Miss Duncan,	Miss Schoch,
Miss Alice Spear,	Mrs. Pollock,
Miss Gilpin,	Mrs. Woodward.

Mr. William G lpin. Mr. W. H. Montgomery.

The Ascension News.

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, (if sent by mail 60 cents) to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, 112 South Fourth Street.

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THE ENVELOPE SYSTEM.

It is just a year now since we began to use the Envelope System in this parish. We say, since we began to use it, because it was only gradually that the envelopes were taken, and even yet there are many attending the Church who do not use them. So that the system is not yet established as we hope to see it, nor all that it can accomplish yet seen. But even so, we can now compare the year since we began to use it with the year previous, and see what the increase has been. The total receipts from offerings for the current expenses of the Church from May 1, 1887, to May 1, 1888—our financial year—were $3,914.06. The total receipts for the same purpose from May 1, 1888, to May 1, 1889, were $5,058.57, being an increase of $1,144.51. Part of this may be due to the natural increase in the congregation. But it is chiefly due we are convinced to the use of the envelopes. The great advantages of the Envelope System are these: first, that it secures the fixing of a definite sum by each person who uses them as that which he ought to contribute to the support of the Church, and secondly, the giving of that sum. If this system is not used, but simply the open offertory depended upon, a great many persons, we think the majority, never determine just how much they will give weekly or yearly to the Church, but put on the plate from time to time what they may feel inclined to, or what they may happen to have in their pocket. And even those who fix upon a specific sum, are by no means careful—with the exception of a conscientious few—to carry out their intention, and if they do not happen to have the sum with them every Sunday or if they are absent, make it up and put double or triple the amount in the plate on the next occasion. But by the Envelope System each one determines what is right, and within his ability, to give Sunday by Sunday, as one should do in such an important and obvious duty as contributing towards the support of the Church, the maintenance of religion, and the carrying on of works of charity and mercy. And then having the envelopes for each Sunday in the quarter, they are a reminder of the obligation assumed, and until they are filled and returned one feels that his debt is not discharged. We have seen this very markedly in the last year. We are sure many have put their names down to a sum they would never have given regularly otherwise. And whenever there has been a rainy Sunday, or persons have been detained from Church, the number of envelopes that have come in together later have made up the difference. Whereas formerly when there was a rainy Sunday, the offertory on the succeeding Sunday was ordinarily no larger than the general average. These are the advantages of the system, and yet at the same time there is nothing in it which interferes with the entire freedom of the seats, or the right of any man to attend the services of the Church and enjoy its religious privileges irrespective of the amount which he is able to contribute to its support. The object of the Envelope System is simply to secure conscientiousness and regularity in giving towards the needed support of the Church according to each ones ability. And our object in writing is to urge upon *every* attendant of the Church to use the envelopes. The system has been adopted by the Vestry as the mode by which the Church shall be supported, and all attending the Church should comply with it, as under the Pew rent system they would comply with it. No matter what the sum is that one can give, use the envelope in giving it. We have pledges running from 5 cents a Sunday to $5.00 a Sunday, and it is just as important that those who give 5 cents a Sunday should be regular in their contributions as it is for those who give larger amounts. Some one hundred and twenty persons now contribute through the envelopes and we see what has been the result of their doing so, let *all* attending the Church do the same and we shall see a still larger increase in the coming year.

DEDICATION FESTIVAL.

Our Dedication Festival comes very late this year, as Easter being so late renders the succeeding Feasts late also. But we shall keep it as we did last year with two Celebrations of the Holy Communion on the morning of Ascension Day, Evening Prayer at five o'clock, and shortened Evening Prayer and an Anniversary Service at 8 P. M. On Friday, May 31st, we will have our annual Parish Tea in the School Building, at which we trust all the members of the parish will be present. And on Saturday, June 1st, we will have a special service and sermon for the members of the various Guilds of the Parish. A meeting of the ladies of the parish will be held towards the end of the month to arrange for the Parish Tea.

Record for April.

Baptisms—	
Adults	4
Infants	1
Marriages	3
Confirmed	19
Burials	1
Communicants added—	
New	7
By removal	5
Removed and Lapsed	10
Died	1

OFFERINGS.

Current expenses, (including Easter offering)	$ 775.93
For the Rector	100.00
Building Fund	204.26
Chancel Furniture	125.00
New Organ	104.25
Flowers	30.75

Diocesan Missions	7.19
Indian "	33.50
Domestic "	65.35
Foreign "	27.50
Freedmen "	23.00
Sunday School	21.49
Industrial School	38.08
Female Prayer Book Society	14.25
Female Tract Society	9.00
Poor	14.46
Total	$1594.01
Proceeds of Children's Sale for Organ Fund	$7.00

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—We received for Easter, when it was carried in procession for the first time, a very handsome white silk and plush banner, having an Agnus Dei embroidered upon it. This is the first embroidered banner that we have had, and it is a very handsome piece of work, it was done by the lady who was formerly at the head of our embroidery class, and with the very heavy poll and brass mountings is a gift to the Church. The Rector also received the gift of a new white silk stole embroidered. Fourteen books were given to the Sunday School Library, 110 Easter eggs for the Sunday School children, Chocolate eggs for the Infant School, a number of flowers for the Easter decorations, and clothes for the poor.

Donations have also been received for a brass Altar rail for the New Chancel and for another piece of Chancel furniture to be selected.

EASTER COMMUNION.—We had this year the largest Easter Communion we have ever had in the Church, and what was peculiarly gratifying to the clergy the largest early Communion. Formerly we used to have about the same number of communicants at the early service and in the middle of the day, this year we had nearly twice as many at the early service. This looks as if the members of the congregation were learning that the best, most solemn and appropriate time for them to make their Communion is at the quiet early service. We hope that more and more will adopt this same practice.

THE CRUCIFIXION.—The singing of "The Crucifixion" on the evening of Wednesday in Holy Week was a new and most acceptable feature of our Passion tide celebration. The Church was filled, extra chairs being placed down each aisle. Had it been a clear night the Church would not have held those who would have come. The Choir did their part admirably, and the choir master is both to be congratulated and thanked for the proficiency the choir manifested and for the gratification which the service afforded.

The only drawback was the want of a large organ, and we trust that this service made that want so obvious that the members of the congregation will all combine to supply this need.

EASTER COLLECTION.—We expected the Easter collection to be much smaller than usual this year, as many persons in making their pledges through the envelope system distributed throughout the year what formerly they gave in one sum at Christmas or Easter, and consequently the offering this year was less than formerly, but not as much as we supposed it would be. Last year it was $636.34, this year $470.62, to this should be added a special donation of $100, which was made to the Rector and was really part of the Easter offering. So that the total offering was only some sixty dollars less than last year, which is very good considering the large increase in the average Sunday offerings through the adoption of the envelope system.

THE ENTERTAINMENT given by S. Mary's Guild on Easter Tuesday evening for the benefit of the organ fund

was, as S. Mary's Guild entertainments always are, a great success. There was a great variety of talent, all of which was volunteered and all was excellent. Nearly every seat was occupied, though a few more might have been put in. Those who did not come missed a very enjoyable evening. We only noticed in the audience the faces of two of our vestrymen. The members of S. Mary's Guild complain that the vestrymen and other prominent members of the congregation do not often patronize them, and so encourage them in their efforts to be of assistance to the Church. The proceeds of this entertainment were over $50.

THE NEW CHANCEL.—The walls of the addition to the Church are beginning to rise, we shall all watch their progress with much interest until they are completed. When completed which we expect will be about Oct. 1st, the Church will look very differently both on the exterior and in the interior, and will be much more likely to attract a large congregation. And we are already needing the additional room it will give us, as such congregations as we had on Wednesday evening in Holy Week, and on Easter Day, show. When the Chancel is finished we shall hope to have the Bishop come and open it with his blessing. The Church cannot be formally consecrated until all our indebtedness is paid off.

THE ORGAN.—Subscriptions for the new organ are coming in rather slowly thus far. Those that we know of in addition to those already acknowledged are one of $30, three $10, one $7, five $5, one $2, one $2.25, with over $50 realized by the entertainment given by S. Mary's Guild. We suppose that the Easter offering has interfered with contributions being made just now, but we should be glad if those who intend to subscribe to this fund would do so at once, so that if a sufficient sum was promised the organ, or a part of the organ sufficient for use, could be ordered and be ready to be put in its place by the time the Chancel is finished. The subscriptions need not be paid at present. There certainly must be fifty-five persons in the congregation who can give, and will be glad to give, a dollar a piece for this purpose, and many who can give much more. And as was pointed out in our editorial last month, no general appeal having been made to the congregation for the building of the Chancel, its erection being due to the generosity of a few individuals, it would seem only right that the congregation should combine and put in the organ, a thing which is so much needed. Let every one give something towards it.

VESTRY ELECTION.—We have happily no changes in the Vestry this year, the same gentlemen who served last year being re-elected. The same Wardens were re-appointed and Messrs. Carpenter, Wetherill and Keys, elected to represent the parish in the Diocesan Convention.

THE CONFIRMATION CLASS.—This year consisted of nineteen persons all over fifteen years of age. This was a good class considering the size of the congegation. But there are many more attending the Church who should be Confirmed, but put it off from year to year. Why should they thus deprive themselves of the grace and help it would be to them to enable them to do what every man living in a Christian land is obligated to do, whether he is Confirmed or not?

S. BARNABAS GUILD.—This new Guild for young men will meet hereafter on the first Thursday evening of each month at eight P. M. The members of the Guild will be glad if all the young men in the parish over 18 years old will join them in their efforts to improve themselves and assist the Church.

ENVELOPES FOR THE SUMMER.—With the beginning of this month the Accounting Warden sends out to each person contributing through the envelope system enough envelopes to last for six months, because it would be impossible to distribute them at the end of the next quarter when so many are away from home. Those going away are especially requested to return their envelopes filled for the number of weeks they expect to be away, *before they go*, that the Church may not be deprived of its income during the summer months.

MISSIONARY BOX—Another Missionary box, valued at $100, was sent after Easter to a clergyman in the Diocese of Minnesota, it was the result of the combined labors of the Ladies Aid Society and of the members of S. Mary's Guild who met once every week during Lent to sew for this purpose.

THE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL brought its sessions for the winter to a close on the Saturday after Easter with its usual festival which the children all enjoyed very much.

SUNDAY SCHOOL HONOR ROLL.—

Fanny Jackson	Katie Hiller
Edith Spear	Maggie South
Eddie Viguers	Lily Fisher
James Glass	Annie Lescure
Frank Spear	Lily Butcher
Theo. Atkin	Bessie Thorn
Sam. McCracken	Kate Higley
David McCracken	Gertie McKinley
Albert Kingston	Blanche Remont
James Honnen	Mamie Coleman
Robert Broomhead	Mildred Kittson
Harry Ellis	Mildred Hodge
Mary McCracken	Bessie Turner
Annie McCracken	John Snyder
Annie Tomlinson	Edward Miller
Walter Norris	Rufus Anderson
Harry Hodge	Julia Appenzeller
Heber Jackson	John McCracken
Mary Porter	Archie Hampton
Jeannette Haslett	Chester Martz
Sadie Milliken	Willie Wood
Mary Broomhead	Horace Anderson
Alice Murray	Marion Lescure
Kate Story	James Atkinson
Ellen Broomhead	Eliza Murray
Mary Murray	Lily Glass
Ida Harrison	Lily Hampton
Edward Gilchrist	

Women's Auxiliary.

An All-Day Meeting of the Pennsylvania Branch of the Women's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions, will be held on Wednesday, May 15th, 1889, in the Church of the Epiphany, Chestnut and Fifteenth streets.

Holy Communion at 9.30, morning session at 10 30. The Rev. W. S. Langford, D. D. General Secretary to the Board of Missions will preside, and make an address on behalf of Domestic Missions. The claims of Missions in Foreign lands and of those among Indians will also be presented by Eminent Speakers.

The Rev. Dr. Crummell will speak on behalf of the Freedmen.

All ladies attending the meeting are cordially invited to luncheon in the Guild Room.

Afternoon Session at 2.30, an informal meeting at which reports will be read by the officers and short papers by other ladies.

Easter in the Russian Church.

On the night preceding Easter Day, the Russian Churches are densely thronged with the people standing in darkness holding unlighted candles, silent, expectant, when the midnight hour has struck then from far away outside the Church a plaintive strain of music is heard, a thrill goes through the assembly, the music approaches, waxes louder, sounding more joyous, the great western doors roll back, and light appears flowing into the church, attended by jubilant song. The procession of choir and clergy are entering with lights and incense in gorgeous robes, a train of light and colour, of music and fragrance. Instantly the light is caught from the entering tapers and runs in sparks through the Church flying from candle to candle and every worshipper stands with his light burning, so that the vast gloomy interior is suddenly a palace of glory. But this is not all, at the same moment each turns to his neighbor, exclaiming, "Christ is risen" and kisses him, Christ is risen, love is shed abroad, all men are brothers. BARING GOULD.

Subscriptions.

The following subscriptions were received during April.

Miss Agnes Haynes, Mr. Chas. E. Allen, Mrs. Carman, Mrs. S. A. Buell, Miss Anderson, Miss E. H. Cooke, Miss C. Carmichael, Mr. Thomas Sinnickson, Miss M. Gilpin, Dr. Roger Keys, Miss A. D. Butler, Mrs. Minshall, Mrs. C. Grimball, Miss Davis.

RITUAL CATECHISM.

CHAPTER VII.

The Church Year.

Question. What is known as the Church Year?

Answer. The system which has prevailed in the Christian Church from the earliest times of dividing up the year into a series of feasts and fasts commemorating and teaching the truths and doctrines of the Christian Religion.

Ques. What are its principal divisions?

Ans. The Advent, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Ascension, Whitsuntide and Trinity Seasons.

Ques. What do these commemorate?

Ans. The coming of Christ on earth, His Manifestation to all nations, His Sufferings, and Death, His Resurrection and Ascension, the Descent of the Holy Ghost upon the Apostles, the Nature of God and the truths which flow from it.

Ques. When does the Church Year begin?

Ans. With the first Sunday in Advent which is always the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day, which commemorates the Birth of Christ, and Advent is a penitential season designed to prepare for the Celebration of that Festival.

Ques. How many Sundays are there after Christmas?

Ans. One or two according to the day of the week on which Christmas occurs. The Circumcision is always the eighth day, and the Epiphany the twelfth day after Christmas.

Ques. How many Sundays are there after the Epiphany?

Ans. From one to six according to the time Easter comes.

Ques. What are the three Sundays next before Lent called?

Ans. Septuagesima, Sexagesima and Quinquagesima, Latin words meaning seventy, sixty and fifty, those days being about the seventieth, sixtieth and fiftieth days before Easter.

Ques. What are the two Sundays next before Easter called?

Ans. Passion and Palm Sundays, because on the one we begin to commemorate the sufferings of Christ, and on the other His triumphal entrance into Jerusalem.

Ques. What is the last week in Lent called?

Ans. The Holy Week, because it commemorates the most sacred events in our Lord's life.

Ques. What is the Thursday in that week called.

Ans. Maunday Thursday, from an old English word meaning a gift, probably from Christ having given His great gift of the Encharist to the Church on that day.

Ques. When does Easter occur?

Ans. It "is always the first Sunday after the full moon which happens upon or next after the 21st day of March, and if the full moon happen upon a Sunday, Easter day is the Sunday after."

Ques. What is the Sunday after Easter called?

Ans. Low Sunday, because it is celebrated as part of the Easter Festival, though lower in degree than Easter day itself.

Ques. How many Sundays are there after Easter?

Ans. Five.

Ques. When is the Feast of the Ascension or Holy Thursday?

Ans. Forty days after Easter day, because our Lord was seen of His disciples forty days after he rose from the dead.

Ques. What is the Sunday after the Ascension called?

Ans. Expectation Sunday, because it commemorates the time that the disciples were expecting the descent of the Holy Ghost.

Ques. On what day is that commemorated?

Ans. On Whit-Sunday, which occurs ten days after the Ascension. It is so called from the wit or wisdom given to the Apostles at that time.

Ques. When is Trinity Sunday?

Ans. The eighth day after Whit-Sunday.

Ques. How many Sundays are there after Trinity?

Ans. From twenty-two to twenty-seven, according as Easter is late or early.

Ques. What is the difference between a moveable and immoveable Feast?

Ans. A moveable Feast is one which may occur upon different days. An immoveable one is one which always occurs upon the same day.

Ques. What are the minor Festivals?

Ans. Certain days on which we commemorate some of the lesser events in our Lord's life, or persons who were associated with Him as S. John the Baptist and the twelve Apostles, or orders of beings as the angels and other saints.

(To be continued.)

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VOL. II. PHILADELPHIA, PA., JUNE 1889 No. 6

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Teacher, Mrs. Grimball.

KALENDAR.—JUNE.

2 Expectation Sunday.
7 Friday—Fast.
9 Whitsun Day.
10 Whitsun Monday.
11 Whitsun Tuesday—S. Barnabas.
12 Ember Day—Fast.
14 Ember Day—Fast.
15 Ember Day—Fast.
16 Trinity Sunday.
21 Friday—Fast.
23 First Sunday after Trinity
24 Nativity of S. John Baptist.
28 Friday—Fast.
29 S. Peter.
30 Second Sunday after Trinity.

GUILD MEETINGS.

6 8 P. M., S. Barnabas' Guild.
4 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
11 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
18 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. John's Guild.
25 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

13. 8 P. M., S. Andrew's Brotherhood.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 10 A. M.

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Librarian, Mr. Chas. L. S. Tingley.
Assistant Librarian, Mr. S. S. Penniston.

TEACHERS.

Miss Morrell,	Miss Davis,
Miss A. Jackson,	Miss McCauley,
Miss M. Harper,	Miss Blackwell,
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Miss Carman,	Miss Stewart,
Miss Hiller,	Miss B. Spear,
Miss Alice Spear,	Miss Schoch,
Miss Gilpin,	Mrs. Pollock,
Mr. William Gilpin.	Mrs. Woodward.

Mr. W. H. Montgomery.

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THE PARISH.

We have just been keeping our Parish Festival, and our thoughts are naturally turned to the question as to just what the parish is, and what are the relationship and duties of its members towards it. A parish means literally a definite territory round a Church, and the Rector or clergyman in charge of that Church has the spiritual cure or care of the persons living in that district, and they are the parishioners of that Church. But in this country we do not always have definite limits to our parishes, and in a large city where there are many Churches, people do not always attend the Church they live nearest to, but some other one which they may prefer. But whatever Church you attend that is the one of which you are or ought to be a parishioner. And even though there be no special district assigned to him, every clergyman ought to feel that the poor at least, and those who do not go regularly to Church, who live in the neighberhood of his Church, are his care, and that it is his duty to look after them and try to benefit them, and bring them under the influence of the Church. And every Christian ought to belong definitely to some parish, otherwise he is like a man who is all by himself in the world, who does not belong to any family, who is without a home. Each parish constitutes, as it were, a family in the Church, and the parish Church is the spiritual home of of each member of that family. If a man does not belong to a parish he loses all the advantages which those family relationships can be to him. He does not know a clergyman to be a father and a friend to him if he has need, and who has not need? Who would not be helped and benefitted by having a good and wise man for his counsellor and confidant, and to sympathize with, and comfort him in his difficulties and trials. And every true clergyman is ready and glad to discharge those offices for his parishioners if they will let him. Surely the true friendship of any one is not to be lightly valued. And if a man does not belong to a parish, he will not form friendships or have that feeling of oneness with his fellow Christians which ought to subsist between those who profess the same faith and belong to the same great body. Neither will he have that interest in, and feeling of responsibility for, the work of the Church which he should have. Nor will he take the part he should in the various societies and organizations by which the Church seeks to do her work. He will not be likely either to

be regular in the performance of his religious duties. In fact there is no surer way for a person to become lukewarm and negligent in regard to religion than for him not to belong professedly to any particular Church. Yet that is the position which many Christian people are in. Some do not even belong to any particular denomination, but go about Sunday after Sunday to different Churches, hearing different doctrines, seeing different modes of worship, but really taking part or becoming interested in none. Others go about among Churches of the same denomination, but with the same result. Then there are others who will go year after year to the same Church but never join it, never give their names or make themselves known to the clergyman in charge. This is not good for them, they are wasting, and failing to avail themselves of, the opportunities for good the Church might be to them, and it is a great drawback to the Church itself.

Of course we do not say that one should never go to any Church but the one to which he belongs. He may occasionally attend services in other parishes with great profit to himself, and very probably he will appreciate his own Church all the more when he goes back to it. But what we say is that every one should be enrolled as a member of some parish which he will look upon as his home, where he has his duties, his interests, his relationships, and where there is a clergyman who knows him, is interested in him, and will always be a friend to him in regard to his highest and truest interests. The clergy are required to keep lists of their parishioners, but owing to this fact of persons not making themselves known to the clergyman even whose parish they are attending, and from the constant changes, people coming and going, and being very irregular and uncertain in their attendance, it is almost impossible to keep correct lists even of the communicant members of the Church.

Every one settling in a place or removing into a new neighborhood should at once select the Church he prefers to attend, and then make himself known to the clergyman, and see that he is enrolled as a parishioner. And when he removes from one parish to another he should always ask for a letter of transfer. This will be an introduction for him to the parish to which he is removing, and secure for him all the benefit it can be to him, and it is the only way in which our Church books and statistics can be kept correct. Will not our Church people attend to this. Unless it is done our clergy are like generals who do not know who are their soldiers, and what general could accomplish anything if he did not know who belonged to him and whom he could depend on. And without it a Christian is nothing more than a religious tramp or vagrant, and will gain no more good himself and be no more benefit to the world than one who lives a mere vagabond life in society. Let every one belong to, and work for, and prize his Church, as he would his home.

Record for May.

Baptisms	2
Burials	3
Communicants added—	
New	1
By removal	2
Removed	1

OFFERINGS.

Current expenses	$ 396.40
Assistant Minister	150.00
Building Fund	1.10
New Organ	186.00
Poor	3.64
Sunday School	4.37
Diocesan Missions	5.00
Total	$ 746.51

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—A silk Cassock Girdle for the Rector, and 400 tickets for the Parish Tea, two polished oak Hymn tablets for the church, 22 books for Sunday School Library, two kneeling hassocks and pieces of carpet for ditto, candles and flowers for altar, two Japanned waiters, crate of strawberries, tea, sugar and cake for parish tea, a number of articles of table furniture were also loaned for that occasion.

LOST AND FOUND.—Two black fans, a pair of eye glasses, and a pearl scarf pin, have been picked up in the church and are awaiting owners. Apply to the sexton.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.—It is proposed this summer to make the experiment of doing what is now the general rule in most Sunday Schools, of changing the hour of the session from the afternoon to the morning during the summer, beginning with the second Sunday in June. The Litany service will be continued as usual. There is to be an entertainment, in which the scholars themselves are to take part in the Sunday Building on the evening of June 6.

THE NEW CHANCEL is progressing rapidly, we hope in the September issue of the *News* to tell just when it will be completed and the first service in it held. There are still some things about it for which we shall need more money, but we should prefer that those who can give anything at present should concentrate their gifts upon the organ which is what we need most.

ORGAN FUND—The following additional subscriptions for the new organ have been made since the last issue of the *News*, two $100, two $50. one $25, four $5, one $3, three $1. We confess that we are surprised that more persons have not contributed to this object under the scheme proposed in the April *News*. That was arranged so as to suit every ones pocket, that each member of the congregation might give something, from one dollar upwards, and we thought that this was an object in which there was such general interest that each one would be glad to aid in it, but it looks as if there was an unwillingness to give anything if it is impossible to give a large sum. But this is very foolish, for many small offerings count up, and if those who can give a little do not do so the Church suffers. It will be noticed there has been but three $1 subscriptions. Give your dollar if you can't give more. One hundred dollar subscriptions amount to just as much as $100 from one person.

CHANGE OF SERVICES.—As in former years we shall have in place of the ordinary night service on Sundays during the summer a twilight service which will consist of shortened evening prayer and a brief address at 7 P. M. beginning with the evening of Trinity Sunday. The double daily service and Wednesday evening service will also be suspended, but there will be morning service on all Holy Days, and on Wednesdays and Fridays throughout the summer.

ENVELOPES.—Persons going away for the summer are again urgently requested to put in the offertory before they go, their envelopes for the number of Sundays they expect to be away, so that the Church may be able to meet its expenses, which continue just the same during the summer months.

The warden tells us that a few, a very few, of those who have made pledges are behind hand, and in every case he believes it is because pledges have been made of a larger amount than there was ability to pay, or changes in circumstances have taken place which have made it impossible to fulfil the pledge. In these cases we would suggest that the person making the pledge should reduce the amount, which he can do at any time by notifying the warden. But don't give up giving something, and never stay away from church because you are not able to fill your envelope, no one knows whether you have an envelope or not and you can make it up later when you have the means.

In putting a number of envelopes in the offertory on one occasion it is not necessary to put the exact change in each, the whole amount may be put in one envelope, and the others for the number of Sundays you propose to be away, returned empty.

CHURCH IN HOT WEATHER.—Do not stay away from church because the weather is hot. Remember it is a divine obligation to go to church at least once a Sunday all the year round, and our 7 30 A. M. and 7 P. M. services will be always cool, whatever it may be in the middle of the day.

HOME FOR THE HOMELESS.—The proceeds of the work of the Industrial school this winter were sent as a donation to this most worthy charity for destitute colored persons, on Lombard street above Seventh.

ASCENSION FESTIVAL.—The celebration of our Dedication Festival passed off very pleasantly. The only drawback was that more did not take part in it. There are some persons whom it does not seem possible ever to get to church during the week, or to get to take any interest in the church they attend beyond going to one service of a Sunday.

The Parish Tea was a very pleasant affair. After the eatables had been well disposed of, addresses were delivered by the Rector, the Rev. Dr. Nicholson, of S Marks parish, and by Mr. J. Edw. Carpenter, our Warden. The school room was well filled, though we missed faces that ought to have been there, and to miss faces on such an occasion is like missing them at a family Christmas dinner. Some doubtless were detained by sickness or other unavoidable cause, but others simply from the languid interest they take in parish affairs and others because they won't be sociable. The guilds made a good showing at their anniversary on Saturday evening, when a very good sermon was delivered by the Rev. Father Field. We had also the pleasure of having with us on this occasion our former assistant minister, the Rev. Mr. Thorn, who had been summoned to the City by the death of his father.

CONCERT.—The first public performance of "The Mozart" was given in the parish building on Tuesday evening, May 28th. It proved a most gratifying success. Those who had not heard the chorus at its rehearsels, were surprised at the effectiveness with which all the numbers were rendered. Every selection was attacked with confidence, and all points of expression were well met. To the painstaking zeal of the conductor, Mr. F. R. Remont, may be attributed all lack of that nervousness and "greeness" which so often accompanies a "first concert," and which certainly was not visible on this occasion.

The Concert opened with a Piano Solo by Mr. A. T. Gardner, who also accompanied all the Solos. The opening chorus, "Softly fall the shades of Evening," and Barnby's "Sweet and Low," were probably the best rendered choral numbers. A duet from Lacey Baker's "Dies Irae," was beautifully sung by Masters G. William Hawkins and Louis M. Remont. The Solos of Mrs. Cooke and Miss Oates were also heartily appreciated by the audience, The Cornet Solo by Mr. Wm. Remont was in excellent taste and excellently performed.

The "Mozart" Choral Society is a most useful organization, and although not directly connected with this Church is yet capable of exerting a most useful influence, and is worthy of our heartiest support.

It invites the co-operation of ladies and gentlemen in its efforts to establish a strong and useful Choral Society, having for its object the cultivation of a taste for classical music.

Active membership is open to all singers and readers, and offers the following advantages over other societies of a similar character :—

1 There are no initiation fees. 2 There are no fines. 3 There are no assessments. 4 The only expense is the weekly dues of five cents, which can be paid weekly, monthly, quarterly, or annually, as best suits the members.

Those who cannot sing, but who are yet desirous of aiding the Society, can do so by paying two dollars annually in advance and becoming associate members. In return they will be entitled at all concerts or public rehearsals of the Society, to as many reserved seats as the Board of Managers may deem advisable.

Applications for active or associate membership, and any information that may be desired, will be cheerfully given on any Monday evening, from October 1st to June 1st, either before or after the rehearsals, which are held in the school room of the parish building of the Church of the Ascension, corner of Broad and South Streets. Particulars can be obtained from any member of the Society.

THE ASCENSION BASE BALL CLUB solicits the help and sympathy of all base ball enthusiasts within the parish. The club has made a very successful start this year, winning two out of the three games played, and losing the first through the non-appearance of four of its players.

The expenses of the club are comparatively small, but still they must be met, and subscriptions of any amount will therefore be very gratefully received by Mr. Lawrence Gaff, the Treasurer.

The Club proposes to arrange games with the other Church nines throughout town, and hopes to have the approval and support of those interested in this healthy and exciting sport.

SUNDAY SCHOOL HONOR ROLL.—

Sadie Milliken,	Jeannette Haslett,
Kate Story,	Maggie South,
Kate Hiller,	Annie Schone.
Ethel Waterman,	Mary McCracken,
Lizzie Martz,	Linda Ellis,
Walter Norris,	Sam. McCracken,
David McCracken,	James Honner,
Frank Spear,	Percy Norris,
Lee Anderson,	Heber Jackson,
Willie Perry,	John Snyder,
Annie Tomlinson,	Lily Hampton,
Maud Waterman,	Edith Spear.

There will be no issue of the *News* during July and August.

Subscriptions.

The following subscriptions were received during May.

Mr. Frederick Kinzle, Mr. Joseph Hartshorne, Dr. Bonnet, Mrs. C. F. Leaming, Mrs. T. H. Bowers, Mrs. M. S. Atwood, Mr. Edward Carpenter, Mr. John B. Haslett, Mr. E. L. Teakle, Miss Alice Spear, Mr. F. E. Remont, Mrs. Isaac Starr, Mrs. M. S. Jansen.

REPORT.

The following is the report of the Parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop.

Baptisms— Adults 4, Infants 46, total 50. Confirmed 19, Marriages 6, Burials 23, Families connected with the parish 245.

Communicants added—New 24; by removal 40; died 6; removed 32; present number 332.

Services—Sundays 207, other days 616, total 828; average attendance Sundays. 322; Children Catechised 77 times.

Sunday School—Officers and teachers 26, Scholars 185.

Bible Classes—Teachers 3, members 48.

Other Parish Agencies— Mother's Meeting, members 23; Industrial school, teachers 13, scholars 100; Men's Guild, Woman's Guild, Young Men's Guild, Young Woman's Guild, Boy's Guild, Chapter of S. Andrew's Brotherhood.

Money receipts from all sources— Pew rents 34.00; offertory 5,755.38; subscriptions for church debt and building fund, $5,403.89; interest, 24.95; entertainments, etc., $109.10; total, $11,329.52.

Money Expenditures and appropriations—Current expenses, (including salaries of ministers, for music, fuel and lighting, care of church building and grounds, and ordinary repairs of same) $3,724.54; interest on mortgage. $1500.00; improvements, $243,97; Episcopal and convention funds, 72.87; support of schools $146.20; for the poor $149.51; Episcopal Hospital 29.22 Missions, Foreign, $27.50; Domestic, $94.13; Colored people, $24.00; Indians, $33.50; Diocesan, $27.05; Tract and Prayer Book Societies, $23.25; Miscellaneous, $475.82; total, $6,571.56.

Financial Condition — Estimated value of property $65,000; encumbrance mortgage, $25,000, other indebtedness none

RITUAL CATECHISM.—Chapter VII.

Ques. What are the two great Fast days in the year?

Ans. Ash Wednesday—the first day of Lent—so called from the custom of putting ashes on the person as a sign of penitence, and Good Friday, which commemorates the Crucifixion of Christ.

Ques. What other Fast Days are there?

Ans. The forty days of Lent, the Ember and Rogation days, and all Fridays in the year, except Christmas day when it occurs on a Friday.

Ques. Why is Lent observed?

Ans. In imitation of our Lord's fasting forty days in the wilderness.

Ques. What are the Ember days?

Ans. The Wednesday, Friday and Saturday after the first Sunday in Lent, Whit-Sunday, September 14th, and December 13th. They occur thus at the four seasons of the year, and are meant as times for prayer for God's blessing upon the changing seasons. The Sundays succeeding these days are also the stated times for the ordination of the clergy, and they are to be employed also for prayer for those to be ordained, a special collect for that purpose being provided in the Prayer Book.

Ques. What are the Rogation Days?

Ans. The three days before Ascension Day, and are a fast of preparation for that Feast. They derive their names from Rogations or Processions being formerly observed on those days during which litanies were sung to supplicate God's blessing on the fruits of the earth, and the warding off disasters.

Ques. Why are all Fridays to be kept as fasts?

Ans. Because on that day of the week Christ was crucified.

Ques. What are feasts with Octaves?

Ans. Feasts whose celebration is prolonged throughout eight days. Proper prefaces in the Communion office are provided for such days.

Ques. What is a Dedication Festival?

Ans. A parish Festival observed in commemoration of the day on which the parish Church was consecrated, or from which it takes its name.

Ques. How are the Church Festivals and Fasts observed?

Ans. By appropriate services appointed in the Prayer book for the purpose, especially by selected Lessons, Collects, Epistles and Gospels, and by such music and ritual acts and ornaments as are calculated to set forth their character.

Ques. When two festivals occur on the same day, which is observed?

Ans. The service appointed for the superior day, that is the day of greater importance, is used, and the collect for the other festival is also said as a memorial.

(*To be Continued.*)

The Ascension News.

Vol. II. PHILADELPHIA, PA., SEPTEMBER, 1889. No. 7.

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.
318 So. Broad St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
GEO. H. HAVERSTICK.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
1114 Pine St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, 11 A. M.
Litany and Instruction, 3.30 P. M.
Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY:

10 A. M., Morning Prayer and Litany.

OPENING OF THE CHANCEL

SEPTEMBER 29.

11 A. M., Blessing by the Bishop.
7.45 P. M., Dedicatory Sermon by the Rector.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoons.

KALENDAR.—SEPTEMBER.

1 Eleventh Sunday after Trinity.
6 Friday—Fast.
8 Twelfth Sunday after Trinity.
13 Friday—Fast.
15 Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity.
18 Ember Day—Fast.
20 Ember Day—Fast.
21 S. Matthew, Ember Day—Fast.
22 Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity
27 Friday—Fast.
29 S. Michael and all Angels.

GUILD MEETINGS.

5 8 P. M., S. Barnabas' Guild.
17 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

12. 8 P. M., S. Andrew's Brotherhood.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 10 A. M.

Superintendent, Rev. Henry Kittson.
Librarian, Mr. Chas. L. S. Tingley.
Assistant Librarian, Mr. S. S. Penniston.

TEACHERS.

Miss Morrell,	Miss Davis,
Miss A. Jackson,	Miss McCauley,
Miss M. Harper,	Miss Blackwell,
Miss Anderson,	Miss Bond,
Miss T. G. Harper,	Miss Parmelee,
Miss Carman,	Miss Stewart,
Miss Hiller,	Miss B. Spear,
Miss Alice Spear,	Miss Schoch,
Miss Gilpin,	Mrs. Pollock,
Mr. Wm. Gilpin,	Mrs. Woodward.

Mr. W. H. Montgomery.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, (if sent by mail 60 cents) to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, 112 South Fourth Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

COMPLETION OF THE CHANCEL.

Our new Chancel is nearly completed. What remains to be done can be easily finished in time for the opening which has been set for the last Sunday in this month. The Bishop of the Diocese is expected to be present and open it with his blessing. The Church cannot be actually consecrated until all our debt is paid off.

We can see now how great an improvement to the exterior of the Church the addition is, and we shall soon see, when the partition is removed, how greatly the interior effect will be enhanced.

Of the things we asked for in the March number of the NEWS we have secured, the tiling of the Chancel, and of the space around the Font, and a brass Altar rail, and a rail around the Font. Over $700 has also been subscribed for the new organ. We trust the remaining amount needed for the organ, and the other things for the Chancel will come in time. We also need additional subscriptions for the Building Fund, as there are some extras not provided for, and other things about the building that ought to be done.

We are sure all will be delighted with the improvement of the Church, and we trust it will lead to a substantial increase in the size of the congregation, and a corresponding increase in the means at our command to build up this parish and make it all it should be.

SUMMER SERVICES.

Our Summer Services have kept up very well this year considering the number of persons who go away in the summer, and the great neglect by others of Church going during the heated period.

One Sunday during the summer, we saw in the newspaper, that in the largest Church in the city, the Holy Trinity, there had not been twenty persons at the afternoon service; the same Sunday we had over eighty at our evening service, and we seldom had much less any Sunday during the summer, and often more.

So those of the congregation who have been away, but who have kept up their contributions during their absence, can feel that they have not only maintained the Church's services for those at home, but that those services have been appreciated. The Choir too has kept together very well and given us good music all through the summer.

The Rector, as in former years, has been boarding with his family near the city, coming in town on Sundays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Holy Days. The Assistant Minister was away during July and August taking a trip down the St. Lawrence in a sail boat. Most of the members of the Vestry have also been away, though three or four faithful ones have been in Church every Sunday. We are thankful to say there has been very little sickness, and not a single death that we know of in the parish during the last three months.

We hope now every Sunday to see more and more of the parishioners return. And we trust that they will all come back with the determination to work with renewed interest and vigor in our enlarged and beautified Church. Let each remember that there is still a great deal to be done, and esteem it a privilege to have some share in building, and carrying on so attractive a Church in so central and prominent a position.

Record for June, July and August.

Baptisms	4
Marriage	1
Communicants added—	
New	2
By removal	1
Removed	3

OFFERINGS.

Current expenses	$ 719.64
Assistant Minister	150.00
Parish Tea	26.75
Johnstown Sufferers	53.66
Building Fund	15.77
New Organ	66.50
Poor	2.35
Sunday School	5.25
Diocesan Missions	.26
Total	$1,040.18

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—A tailor made Cassock for the Server, two dozen palm leaf fans for the Church, and a red silk embroidered banner with Staff and Mountings for S. Andrew's Brotherhood.

THE GUILDS.—The first meeting of S. John's Guild will be on the third Tuesday of this month. S. Mary's Guild will not meet until October, S. Barnabas' Guild meets on the first Thursday, and S Andrew's Brotherhood on the second Thursday of this month.

REMOVAL OF A VESTRYMAN.—We have to regret the loss of a member of our Vestry, Dr. Chas. B. Nancrede, which is caused by his removal to Ann Arbor, Michigan, to occupy the chair of Professor of Surgery in the State University there. Dr. Nancrede has been a member of the Vestry of this Parish since the autumn of 1880, he was chairman of the Building Committee during the erection of the Parish-Building and the main portion of the Church, to which he gave his constant personal supervision, and ever since his connection with the parish he has given his services in the choir, and has frequently assisted the Rector in reading the Lessons. His wife has also taken an active interest in the work of the parish, having for many years represented it on the Foreign Committee of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions, assisted in several of our entertainments, &c. The removal of those so long and prominently connected with the parish will be a great loss. But we must congratulate Dr. Nancrede on the honor conferred on him, it being we understand the most prominent position in his branch of the Medical Profession in the West. Our best wishes will follow him and his family to their new home.

BIBLE CLASSES.—The male and female Bible Classes will not resume their sessions until the first Sunday in October.

POOR FUND.—The Rector wants to call the attention of the congregation to the fact that the Relief Fund of the parish is more than twenty dollars over drawn and there is nothing on hand to begin the work of the mothers meeting, &c., the coming winter. Let everyone put something in the Poor boxes in the vestibule for this purpose.

SIT UP FRONT.—We trust that those attending the week day and early services, especially after the Chancel is opened, will sit up near the front, and not force the clergy to exert themselves unnecessarily to make themselves heard in the back part of the church.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES FOR THE POOR.—One of our members who is living in the country where she enjoys an abundant supply of fresh fruits and vegetables, very thoughtfully sent donations of these most acceptable gifts to some half dozen of the poorer members of our congregation, during the summer. They were much appreciated.

FLOWERS.—As last summer, our altar has been supplied entirely with flowers grown for the purpose, by another of our members who is in the country.

THANKS TO INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.—The following letter was received in acknowledgment of the donation of clothing &c. sent by our Industrial School, the result of the work of the school for the winter:

2021 PINE STREET,
SATURDAY, JUNE 8th, '89.

My Dear Miss Hewson:

Will you kindly thank the children of the Industrial School of the Church of the Ascension for their donation of clothing and groceries sent to the "Home for the Homeless." It was very good of them to remember the poor in our Home and the Board of Managers will not soon forget the act of love and charity.

Very Sincerely yours,
MARGARET M. MILLER, Sec'y.

CHOIR EXCURSION.—On Thursday, August 22nd, twelve boys of the choir, in charge of the Choirmaster, went down the Delaware River for a day's outing. They landed at Pennsgrove, and spent several hours in ball-playing, boating, fishing and other sports. Formidable quantities of lunch were conquered with an ease coming only from fresh air and exercise. The weather was delightful, and every member of the party determined to have a good time himself and to help the others to have the same. Two or three of the gentlemen of the choir who accompanied the party did much to add to the general good time and their presence was a pleasure to all. On landing at Arch St. wharf in the evening, all hands were ready to vote the day a great success, and to look forward eagerly to a second expedition of the same sort which is to be made in September to some other locality.

The funds for these outings of the Choir-boys, have been furnished by a number of members of the congregation who are very good friends of the boys and who appreciate the labors of the boys throughout the year; more, perhaps, than the boys themselves suppose.

OFFERINGS.—Our offerings for current expenses for the past four months, show an increase of $88.96 over the corresponding period of last year.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—No subscriptions to the NEWS have been received since the last issue. And a number of our old subscribers have not paid for the current year. Will they not do so? We do not like to be owing our printer money. And will not each member of the congregation pay the small sum of 50 cents a year needed to keep the paper up. We want, too, some new advertisements as some of our old ones are running out.

SUNDAY SCHOOL HONOR ROLL.—The experiment of holding the Sunday School in the morning during the summer months has not proved very successful. The teachers found it no more convenient to attend then than they did in the afternoon. However some few have been present, and the school has been maintained without intermission. Mr. Remont kindly took charge of it during the absence of the superintendent. The following children were present every Sunday during

JUNE:

Jeannette Haslett	David McCracken
Kate Story	Mary McCracken
Lottie Bryson	Ethel Waterman
Mary Stewart	Heber Jackson
Samuel McCracken	Joseph Spear

JULY.

John McCracken	Samuel McCracken
Willie Perry	Edith Spear
Jeannette Haslett	

AUGUST.

Mary Stewart	Ida Harrison

The Evensong.

The Rev. R. A. Sawyer, D. D., writes to *The Evangelist* (Presbyterian) of New York, about attending a church in London, when Evensong was sung: "Before you is the chancel window, the growth of two centuries—a whole Bible History in stained glass and marble relief work, the shadow on the one being more than compensated by the growing beauty of the other; while you linger lovingly on this embodied story of the holy pages, the bell ceases and the organ begins. Far away, as if it fell from heaven and just now caught your ear, comes a strain of wonderful sweetness that groweth nearer and grander every moment, until it breaks forth into a sort of triumphal march, when a distant door opens, and the white-robed choristers, followed by the clergy, come swiftly forward, fill their places, and bow in prayer, while the organ falls away to silence. Then suddenly, by a trained movement, all stand, and without a note of prelude burst forth into divinest harmony of loftiest praise—not the first time only, but the second and the third, and always the effect is magical on the tired, world-worn spirit. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, one seems to make the transit from earth to Heaven. Such effects, when honestly won and felt, are of priceless worth. A man must be harder than marble, or the English Evensong will sculpture him into something very like holiness. "Brothers, let us cease to worry over the externals of church order, and give ourselves more to praise. Even 'The Historic Episcopate' is forgiven and forgotten by a Presbyterian when his soul is so uplifted in the hour of Evening Prayer."

Visitation of the Sick.

If the following recommendation were generally observed it would tend to make sick-visiting more easy and more edifying: "When notice of sickness has been given to the minister of the parish, in compliance with the rule of the Church, the response to that visit is in the nature of an official, not a social visit. He goes to see the *sick* not the well. Thus going it is barely possible that the sick man or woman may have something special to say to the priest It is barely possible that he may have something to say to the sick. In the nature of the case it is not a time for crowding the sick chamber with all the relatives and friends available to hear what the parson is going to say. That of itself is sufficient to seal the mouths of most priests except to the merest generalities. And a sick room may, oft-times afford an opportunity for particular and individual instruction, which does not occur at other times. Remembering this it might be an act of consideration and kindness to leave the sick with the minister, at least, once in a while."—*S. James's Journal, Washington, D. C.*

Missionary Lending Library.

For several years there has been at the headquarters of the Women's Auxiliary in New York, a Missionary Lending Library, for the use of all interested to borrow from it. A few persons have done so from time to time reading the volumes themslves, and in some cases, reading them aloud in society meetings, or lending them from member to member. Catalogues of this library will be sent to any desiring them.

RITUAL CATECHISM.

Chapter VIII.

The Divine Offices.

Question. What is the chief service in the Christian Church?

Answer. The Holy Communion.

Ques. Why is this?

Ans. Because it was instituted by our Lord himself, to be the perpetual memorial of His Death and Sacriface. By it, S. Paul says, "ye do show the Lord's death till He come." In instituting it, our Lord used the language, and some of the actions, employed in the offering of the old Jewish sacrifices, and did it in connection with the celebration of the Passover, the chief Jewish Festival. It is evident therefore that He intended it to take the place in the New Dispensation of the animal sacrifices in the Old Dispensation, to be the continual memorial of His perfect sacrifice for the sins of the whole world, instead of the memorial of the deliverance of a single nation from a temporary bondage. It is the Divinely ordained means therefore whereby that sacrifice is set forth before men, pleaded with God, and the benefits therefore communicated to the believer.

Ques. How often should it be celebrated?

Ans. Every Sunday and Holy day at the least, and in Cathedrals and large Churches, every day if possible.

Ques. Why is this?

Ans. Because of its importance and benefits, and because it has always been so used in the Christian Church. We read in the Acts of the Apostles that the first Christians "continued daily in the breaking of bread." In the earliest account we have of Christian Worship, after the New Testament period, it appears as the great act of the Lord's day worship, and has always so continued in every branch of the historical Church. It has been the chief service in every Christian liturgy.

Ques. May there be more than one celebration of the Holy Communion in a Church on the same day?

Ans. Yes, to accommodate different persons. Celebrations which take place early in the morning are called Low Celebrations, because they are very simple, unaccompanied by music and other ritual accessories and are chiefly for the purpose of Communion. Those in the middle of the day are called High or Solemn Celebrations because they are generally sung, and accompanied with more ceremony, and are more for purposes of worship. The same priest however should never celebrate more than once in the same day, except in case of absolute necessity.

Ques. How should the Holy Communion be received?

Ans. Fasting if possible, as an act of reverence, and that we may not come to it suffering from repletion or drowsiness. It should never be celebrated after the middle of the day. And celebrations in the early morning hours are much the best for the reception of the Communion, as it is then more still and solemn, and we are freshest and have had nothing to disturb us, and can carry the thought of it with us throughout the day. On account of its great solemnity it should never be received more than once on the same day, except by a priest when he has occasion to duplicate, as the celebrant must always communicate.

Ques. May persons be present at a celebration without communicating?

Ans. Yes, especially if they have already received at an early service, or if they do not feel quite prepared to communicate. They can thus take part in the sacrificial side of the service, and no time is so profitable for meditation and prayer and intercession. All persons present at a celebration should remain on their knees throughout the whole service so employed, except when the rubrics direct them to stand. No one however should allow attendance at the Communion to take the place of its regular reception.

Ques. How often should the Holy Communion be received?

Ans. By the Canons of the English Church "Three times in the year at least, of which the feast of Easter shall be one." As our Lord speaks of its being done "oft," we are not fulfilling His Command unless we do it at least thus frequently. The other most prominent occasions for Communion are naturally Christmas and Whitsunday. Hence these are called the Communions of Obligation. But Christians should not be content with doing what is their least duty, the more frequently the Communion is received with preparation and devotion, the better. The Clergy, and those especially occupied in religious things, will want to receive it at least every Sunday.

Ques. What are the Daily or Choir Offices?

Ans. Those called Daily Morning and Evening Prayer, or Matins and Evensong. They are the condensation of the ancient offices for the seven Canonical hours, which were recited daily in the religious houses.

Ques. Of what do they consist?

Ans. Chiefly of the recitation of fixed portions of the Psalter, to which have been added lections from the Holy Scriptures, and prayers of penitence and intercession. They are the Church's daily oblation of praise and prayer and should be recited by every priest that he may discharge his priestly duty, set the highest ideal of worship before his people and give the fullest opportunities for worship. Almost every one in a parish could and should attend one or two, if not more of these services in a week, this would always secure a congregation. But the office should be said by the priest even if there are no others present.

Ques. What is the Litany?

Ans. It is a penitential supplication broken up into short petitions to give it intensity, and because they were used originally in processions.

Ques. Why is the Litany said on Wednesdays and Fridays?

Ans. Because they have always been regarded as penitential days, from our Lord having been betrayed on Wednesday and crucified on Friday.

Ques. When else may it be used?

Ans. On any day or occasion of special penitence.

Ques. What are known as the occasional offices?

Ans. Baptisms, Marriages, Churchings, etc., which are only occssionally performed.

Ques. What are Private Offices?

Ans. Those which are performed for the benefit of individuals or in private houses.

Ques. What are Pontifical Offices?

Ans. Those which can only be performed by a Bishop.

Ques. How has the Church provided for the proper celebration of all her offices?

Ans. By means of the Prayer Book which contains in substance the rites, and to a large extent the identical words, which have been used in all parts of the Church from the earliest times.

(To be Continued.)

The Ascension News.

Vol. II. PHILADELPHIA, PA., OCTOBER, 1889 No. 8

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

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334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.
318 So. Broad St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
GEO. H. HAVERSTICK.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
707 S. 15th St.

SERVICES.

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Morning Prayer, 11 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Litany and Instruction, 4.00 P. M.
Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

DAILY:

Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

WEDNESDAYS:

Evening Prayer and Lecture, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoons.

BIBLE CLASSES.

For Young Men, Sunday, 10 A. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Grimball.

For Ladies, Sunday, 3.00 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Hodge.

KALENDAR—OCTOBER.

4 Friday—Fast.
6 Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity.
11 Friday—Fast.
13 Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity.
18 S. Luke—Fast.
20 Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.
25 Friday—Fast.
27 Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.
28 S. S. Simon and Jude.

GUILD MEETINGS.

1 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
4 8 P. M., S. Barnabas' Guild.
8 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
15 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. John's Guild.
22 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
28 10 A. M., Anniversary of Women's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

17. 8 P. M., S. Andrew's Brotherhood.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2 30 P. M.

Superintendent, Rev. Henry Kittson.
Librarian, Mr. Chas. L. S. Tingley.
Assistant Librarian, Mr. Harry Carson.

TEACHERS.

Miss Morrell,	Miss Davis,
Miss A. Jackson,	Miss McCauley,
Miss M. Harper,	Miss Blackwell,
Miss Anderson,	Miss Bond,
Miss T. G. Harper,	Miss Parmelee,
Miss Carman,	Miss Stewart,
Miss Hiller,	Miss Schoch,
Miss Alice Spear,	Mrs. Pollock,
Miss Gilpin,	Mrs. Woodward,
Mr. Wm. Gilpin,	Mr. Ray Jones,

Mr. W. H. Montgomery.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, (if sent by mail 60 cents) to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, 112 South Fourth Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

THE ORGAN FUND.

Now that our Chancel is finished and occupied, we feel the one thing for us to do is to push the completion of the fund for a large Organ. We have the chamber standing ready to receive it. And the little organ we have is more than ever too small for the Church. And our Church and service is so complete in other respects, it seems too bad it should be wanting in this one particular. But it takes so much money to buy an organ and so much time to build it, that if we hope to have this want supplied by next Easter we must bestir ourselves, for the Vestry will not order the Organ until there is a reasonable prospect of being able to pay for it when it is ready.

This is an object which we should certainly suppose that every one attending the services of the Church would be interested in, and willing to contribute to, according to his ability. And to secure the contributions of all, we proposed a plan in the April number of this paper, by which subscriptions of any amount could be made. According to that plan, five subscriptions of $200, ten of $100, fifteen of $50, twenty of $25 thirty of $10, thirty-five of $5, forty of $3, fifty of $2, fifty-five of $1, would give $4,000, the amount required. In response to this appeal we have received so far three $100 subscriptions, five of $50, two of $25, five of $10, fourteen of $5, two of $3, eight of $2, eleven of $1.

Now who will fill up the remaining numbers? There are some attending the services of the Church who have not, to our knowledge, contributed anything towards the building or furnishing of the Church, who would be quite able, we should think, to make the larger subscriptions still required. And if *every* member of the congregation would put his or her name down for one of the smaller subscriptions,—an amount which would hardly be missed or which the sacrifice of some little personal indulgence would secure,—the whole sum would be raised.

We understand the Guilds have some entertainments in view for this end. And some of the little girls in the parish have been working during the summer, making things for a little sale for this object.

Let all give and work together for this end, and we shall soon have added to our already beautiful services, the pleasure and inspiration which comes from the sweet and soul stirring tones of that greatest of all musical instruments, a full Organ.

THE GENERAL CONVENTION.

Throughout this month, there will be in session in the city of New York, what is known as the General Convention, which is the great National Council of our Church. It meets only once in three years. It is composed of all the Bishops and of certain Clerical and Lay deputies from each of our Dioceses and Missionary jurisdictions. It is the great legislative body of our Church, and the prosperity and progress of the Church depends largely upon its action. It is something therefore in which every churchman should feel an interest. And the Church wisely provides a special Collect to be said in all our Churches while the Convention is in session, asking God's blessing on its deliberations.

The present session of the General Convention should be one of special interest to us, because there are several very important matters, nearly affecting us all, which will come before it, for its action. One is the revision of the Prayer Book, this was begun six years ago, but not completed, and may not be completed until yet another session three years off. As according to the Constitution of the Church no change can be made in the Prayer Book unless it has been proposed at one session of the Convention, and is acted on at the next. Certain changes were thus finally made at the last session, such as the restitution of the Magnificat and Nunc dimittis to the evening service, and certain other changes were proposed, which are to be acted on at this session. And the committee charged with the matter are going to propose some more changes which if considered favorably, will be acted upon in 1892.

Another very important matter will be the consideration of a new Hymnal. It has long been felt that there were a large number of Hymns in our present book which were unsuited for public worship, and consequently which are never used. And on the other hand, there are a great many excellent hymns not in the book, which we ought to have the privilege of using. A committee therefore was appointed at the last Convention to revise the Hymnal, which will bring in its report at this session.

We shall hope to explain in our next issue what action has been taken on these two important points. In the meantime, as no other Convention has ever had two such important matters to act on, let us constantly pray that it may be guided aright.

Record for September.

Baptisms	1
Burial	1
Communicants added—	
By removal	1
Died	1
Removed	5

OFFERINGS.

Current expenses	$ 298.97
Poor	5.45
Sunday School	2.31
Building Fund	1.30
Organ Fund	6.00
Total	$314.03

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH LAST MONTH. —Brass Altar rail and rail for Font 34 linen Cottas for the choir, the material being the gift and the work all done by one lady of the parish, a tailor made Cassock for the Cross bearer, two linen maniples embroidered, linen baptismal napkin embroidered, three purificators, kneeling carpet for Altar rail, two Turkish rugs for the Chancel from John Wanamaker, 12 kneeling hassocks, and 18 kneeling benches made by the Sexton. Six copies of the order of service for the blessing of the Chancel were made by a parishioner on a type writer.

CHANGE OF SERVICES. — Hereafter, beginning with the first Sunday in this month, the Litany service will be held at 4 P. M., instead of 3.30 P. M., as heretofore. The children of the Sunday School will assemble in the Church at 2.30 P. M., when there will be a short service and instruction especially adapted for them, after which the Sunday School will be held. At the Litany service, an instruction appropriate for adults will be given. The Sunday School children will not be required to attend the Litany service.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.—The sessions of the Sunday School were changed to the afternoon on the third Sunday in September. Since then the school has been gradually filling up, and we hope this year to have a larger school than ever before. We regret to lose our assistant librarian, Mr. S. S Penniston, by his removal to Holmesburg. Mr. Harry Carson will take his place. We are glad to welcome Mr. Ray Jones as a new teacher.

As noted above a change will be made in the session for the Sunday School, which it is hoped will be equally acceptable to both teachers and scholars.

S. BARNABAS', S. JOHN'S, S. MARY'S GUILDS.—The objects of these Guild's are to bind together the young men, the boys, and the young women of the parish, to assist them in the cultivation of their spiritual life, and to interest them in, and encourage them to work for the Church. So we earnestly invite all the young people of the parish to enter these Guilds. We are sure it will be for their profit and edification to do so. And the Church will surely thrive if the young people are interested and active in it. Let all the young people feel it their duty to belong to one of these Guilds.

ANNIVERSARY OF GUILDS. — The Anniversary of the Women's Guild of the parish takes place on Monday, October 28th, S. S. Simon's and Jude's day. The Rector hopes that all the female communicants will be present at the 10.00 A. M. celebration on that day, and attend the business meeting which will be held immediately afterwards in the Guild room. The reports for the past year will be read, and the work mapped out for the coming season. The Anniversary of the Men's Guild will take place on Friday, November 1st, All Saint's day. The Rector asks the men of the parish to attend one or the other of the Celebrations of the Holy Communion, on the morning of that day, making the welfare of the parish the object of their special intercession at that time. The business meeting will be held at 8 P. M., in the School building. Is it too much to ask all the men of the parish to come together on this one occasion in the year, for the purpose of becoming acquainted with one another and talking over plans for the advancement of the Church? No Church can do all it should do, unless the men take an interest in it.

KNEELING MATS. — Persons having at this season pieces of carpet to dispose of, can send them to the Church, and they will be made up into kneeling mats. We need more for our new pews.

OPENING OF THE CHANCEL. — We had a most propitious day for the opening of the new Chancel, and though the tile men disappointed us in not completing their work, still we managed to cover over the floor with rugs and carpet and presented a very respectable appearance. Every one agreed the Chancel looked beautifully. The Church was crowded at the 11 A. M. service. In addition to the Bishop who was the preacher on the occasion, and the clergy of the parish, the Rev. Dr. Childs and the Rev. Dr. Robins were present. The whole choir was present, and two banners as well as the Cross were carried in the procession, which passed round the Church.

The Church was filled again at night when the Rector preached a sermon setting forth the purposes for which a Church is built and how we have tried to carry them out here.

We will print next month the form of service used by the Bishop in blessing the Chancel.

THE NEWS.

The Rector was much startled this last month by the business manager of this paper asking him whether he did not think it had better be discontinued, as it is not paying for itself, and every issue we are running deeper into debt. The Rector's reply was he would not discontinue it without laying the matter before the congregation, if they believe the paper is useful they must devise some method of paying for it, if not it must be stopped.

We think it but right therefore, that a statement of the financial condition of the NEWS and its needs should be brought to your notice. We owed January, 1889, for printing, etc., $31.46. We owe now about $75.00, leaving advertisements entirely out of the question, if all subscriptions now due and to become due, are renewed, we shall have about $22.00 to offset this debt. We have on our list only 109 subscribers. Of this, nine do not belong to the parish, leaving just 100 subscribers out of our whole congregation, and yet we circulate every month nearly 500 copies of the paper. Do you not think this showing a rather mean one? We have frequently made appeals for a more liberal support for the paper, but the response has been of a most meagre description. We ought to have at least 200 subscribers from the parish instead of the 100 we have. There must be a large number of people now taking the NEWS free every month, who could easily afford to pay 50 cents per year to help sustain it. Then we need more advertisements and could readily get enough to fill two pages, if some attempt was made to obtain them. One lady not only promptly renewed her subscription but at the same time handed to the treasurer a donation towards paying off the deficit of last year, and shortly after procured an advertisement paying $4. This is the sort of interest we want taken in the NEWS, and many could accomplish just as good results if they would only try. We think the paper is fairly interesting and attractive, we *know* it is useful in the parish. Will you sit still and see its usefulness ended when a slight effort on your part would assure its succcess? The matter is left for your decision.

THE LATE BISHOP DOANE, of New Jersey, in preaching a number of years ago at a church in England, took as the theme of his discourse the subject of "Adult Baptism." After the sermon was concluded the Rector of the parish spoke to the Bishop in high terms of the sermon, but said that it had there no application, as he was

not aware of an unbaptized adult in his parish. Twenty years rolled on, and the good Bishop had in the providence of God been called to a higher sphere, and the Bishop's son, the present Bishop of Albany, preached at the same church. There was a person present who came forward after the service and told the Bishop of the sermon that he had heard preached by his father long years before, and said that he had felt that it was intended for him, for he was unbaptized and an unbeliever, but his heart had been touched, the good seed had taken root, and he had been converted to the truth, had since taken orders and become a clergyman in the Church of England. That clergyman is now well known as the author of the "Church Teachers' Manual," "Church Doctrine, Bible Truth," &c. The Rev. M. E. Sadler, Prebendary of Wells and Rector of Honiton, England.

The Mozart.

The weekly rehearsals of the Mozart Choral Society will recommence Monday, October 7th, 8 P. M. It is hoped all the members will be present.

RITUAL CATECHISM.

CHAPTER IX.

The Holy Communion.

Ques. What assistance should the Priest have in the celebration of the Holy Communion?

Ans. The Priest is usually attended by some minister or ministers to assist him, this being one of the purposes for which Deacons are ordained, as is stated in the Ordinal.

Ques. How many assistants should there be at a High or Solemn Celebration, and what duties do they perform?

Ans. There should be two clergymen to assist the Celebrant, called respectively the Gospeller and Epistoler, because one reads the Gospel and the other the Epistle. Sometimes they are also called the Deacon and the Sub-Deacon, because the one, even though a Priest, performs the Deacon's part, and the other assists him. The Gospeller stands on the step of the Sanctuary next below the foot pace of the Altar, on which the Celebrant stands, and the Epistoler stands on the step below the Gospeller. In addition to reading the Gospel and Epistle, they assist the Priest in arranging the Chalice, in the distribution of the Elements and in performing the Ablutions.

Ques. What assistants should there be at a Plain or Low Celebration?

Ans. One clergyman or layman who acts as Server He arranges every thing for the Priest in the Sanctuary and in the Sacristy. He brings him the vessels from the Credence and gives out and receives the alms basins. He kneels throughout on the lower step of the Sanctuary on the Epistle side and if a layman takes no part in the service. If a Priest or Deacon he may read the Epistle. It is useful also at a High Celebration to have one or more laymen act as Servers or Acolytes.

Ques. How is the Chalice arranged for the Celebration?

Ans. A folded Purificator is put on top of the Chalice, on which is placed the Paten, and on that the stiff Pall, over which is thrown the colored Chalice Veil, and the Burse containing the Corporal. Thus arranged the Chalice is placed on the Altar before the Celebration begins at a High Service, at a Low Service the Priest carries it into the Sanctuary when he goes, holding the knop with his left hand, and placing his right on top of the Burse. At both Celebrations the Celebrant carries the Chalice out with him.

Ques. How does the Priest make his private devotions before beginning the Celebration?

Ans. Standing humbly in the midst before the Altar, on the lowest step of the Sanctuary

Ques. Why does the Priest begin the service at the side of the Altar?

Ans. To distinguish the preparatory and subordinate part of the service from the more solemn part. He goes to the midst at the Creed, and remains there to the end.

Ques. What is the "right side" of the Altar?

Ans. The right or north side of the front, not the end. There would be no utility or symbolism in standing at the end, and no Christian liturgy ever directed it.

Ques. When should the Priest arrange the Chalice?

Ans. While the offerings are being collected. This is in accordance with the rubric, and is an economy of time?

Ques. What is often sung during this time?

Ans. After the Priest has "begun the offertory by saying one or more of the sentences," the choir sings them, or some other Anthem or Hymn.

Ques. What is the Lotio manuum or Lavabo?

Ans. Before the Priest arranges the Chalice, the server brings from the Credence an Ewer and Basin, holding the one in his right hand and the other in his left, and pours water over the Celebrant's hands which are held over the Basin. The Celebrant wipes his hands on a napkin which is on the left arm of the Server. This is both necessary for purposes of cleanliness and is symbolical of the purity which should distinguish those who handle Holy things. "I will wash my hands in innocency, O Lord, and so will I go to Thine Altar."

Ques. How does the Priest arrange the Chalice?

Ans. He removes it a little to the left of the Altar, while he takes out and spreads the Corporal in the midst, he places the Burse against the super Altar, replaces the Chalice on the Corporal, removes and folds the Chalice Veil, and places on top of it the Pall and Purificator. The Deacon or Server brings him from the Credence, the Breads, of which he takes as many as he thinks will be sufficient, and putting them on the Paten, places it on the Altar in front of the Chalice, and covers it with a corner of the Corporal thrown back over it. He then takes from the Server the Cruets, and pours into the Chalice enough wine and water, and places it on the centre of the Corporal, covering it with the Pall. The Elements are thus always covered while they are on the Altar, except during the Consecration.

Ques. Why is water as well as wine poured into the Chalice?

Ans. This has been the almost invariable use of the Church from the earliest times. It arose probably from the care of the Church to do in the Celebration exactly what our Lord did in the Institution, and there can be no doubt that he used the Cup of wine mingled with water, as that was the universal custom among the Jews. It is also said to symbolize the blood and water that flowed from our Saviour's side. The use of water as well as wine was prescribed by the first English Prayer Book.

Ques. Why is unleavened or wafer bread sometimes used?

Ans. Because that too has been the custom in the Western Church from the same reason, that Christ almost certainly used unleavened bread in instituting the Eucharist. It also seems but proper that a special bread should be made for this sacred purpose, instead of employing that commonly eaten, and because it has the great advantage of not crumbling as ordinary bread does and because it can always be kept at hand in readiness. It also was prescribed by the first English Prayer Book. The present book says "the finest wheaten bread shall suffice."

(*To be continued.*)

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8 Friday—Fast.
10 Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity.
15 Friday—Fast.
17 Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity.
22 Friday—Fast.
24 Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity.
29 Friday—Fast.
30 S. Andrew.

GUILD MEETINGS.

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26 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

14. 8 P. M., S. Andrew's Brotherhood.
The Industrial School, every Saturday at 10 A. M.
Mothers' Meeting every Wednesday evening after service.
Womens' Working Club. every Friday at 7.30 P. M.
Ladies' Aid Society, every Thursday at 3 P. M.
Embroidery Class, every Wednesday morning after Morning Prayer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2 30 P. M.

Superintendent, Rev. Henry Kittson.
Librarian, Mr. Harry Carson.
Assistant Librarian, Mr. Carroll Hodge.

TEACHERS.

Miss Morrell,	Miss Davis,
Miss A. Jackson,	Miss McCauley,
Miss M. Harper,	Miss Blackwell,
Miss Anderson,	Miss Bond,
Miss T. G. Harper,	Miss Parmelee,
Miss Carman,	Miss Stewart,
Miss Hiller,	Miss Schoch,
Miss Alice Spear,	Mr. Ray Jones,
Miss Gilpin,	Mr. Wm. Gilpin,

Mr. W. H. Montgomery.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, (if sent by mail 60 cents) to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, 112 South Fourth Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

CHANGES IN THE PRAYER BOOK.

We said in our last issue that we hoped to be able in this number to explain what changes in the Prayer Book had been made by the General Convention which has just closed its sessions. We will not, however, attempt to explain them all, but only those which will effect the general character of the services in this parish. Almost all the changes proposed at the General Convention held in 1886 were adopted in this Convention of '89 and so are now part of the law of our Church. Those which will affect us are chiefly those in regard to the shortening of Morning Prayer both on Sundays and week-days. The new rubric at the beginning of Morning Prayer allows the Minister "on any day not a Sunday," to omit the Exhortation, "Dearly Beloved Brethern," saying in place of it, "Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God," and to end Morning Prayer with the Prayer for Grace, and 2 Cor. xiii, 14. Of this we shall avail ourselves as it seems unnecessary to repeat every day the long Exhortation setting forth the purposes of public worship to those who are perfectly familiar with them and have come to Church in order to fulfil them. The Prayers which follow that for Grace, we will use in rotation, so that one or more of them shall be said every day, and all of them in the course of the week.

The rubric also provides that on any day when the Holy Communion is immediately to follow Morning Prayer, the Minister may pass at once from the Sentences to the Lord's Prayer, first pronouncing, "The Lord be with You, *Answer*, And with Thy Spirit, *Minister*, Let us Pray." This permission we propose also to avail ourselves of, as it will help to shorten the morning service, the length of which so many complain of, and will remove some very unnecessary and unedifying repetitions. For whenever the Holy Communion is celebrated, there is a confession and absolution in it, why therefore should another confession and absolution be said immediately before, especially when the same confession and absolution is repeated in the Evening Service? Such solemn words are apt to lose their force and impressiveness from such constant repetition. The Prayers after that for the President may also be omitted when the Holy Communion is celebrated, as their substance is contained in the Prayer for Christ's Church.

There is another change in the Prayer Book which will enable us to shorten our Sunday morning service. Twenty new selections of Psalms, some of them consisting of a single Psalm, have been set forth in place of the old

ones. One of these we shall always use, unless the Psalter for the day happens to be particularly short. The object of having the whole Psalter divided up into so many Psalms to be used each day, was that the whole Psalter might be read through every month. But as the vast majority of our Sunday congregations never come to Church but on Sunday, this is never accomplished. There is no object therefore of their using just the Psalms appointed for the days of the month on which the Sundays fall. And we find too that many of the congregation become very weary when the Psalter is long. It is a greater strain also on the choir than anything else they sing. And some of the selections contain joyful and some penitential Psalms. The Psalter can thus be made to correspond better to the Church season than it can by using the Psalms in course.

On week-days we shall still use the Psalter as divided for each day of the month, and also generally on Sunday evenings when the service is shorter, and there is not so much to be sung. But by the changes on Sunday mornings we shall hope to solve the question, which has been agitating so many parishes where there is a weekly celebration of the Holy Communion, as to how to shorten the mid-day service. Some have Morning Prayer said at an earlier hour and have only the Communion at mid-day, others omit Morning Prayer and say only the Litany before the Communion, so that those who go only to the mid-day service never take part in Morning Prayer at all. But if it is shortened as we are now permitted to shorten it, and the unnecessary and unliturgical repetitions removed, it, with the Holy Communion together, will not make too long or unreasonable a service.

Another advantage of these changes is that it will make the evening service entirely different from the morning service. People often say that there is no use of going to Church twice a day because they have to say over exactly the same things which they said in the morning. But now there will be nothing in the evening service that was in the morning except the Creed, the Lord's Prayer and the versicles. We think this is an important gain, and trust it will lead to the revival of the old and proper practice of Christians going to Church at least twice on the Lord's day.

Some of the other changes made in the Prayer Book were the appointing of several new sentences at the beginning of Morning and Evening Prayer appropriate to the different seasons of the Church year, and some new offertory sentences, and a presentation of the candidates to the Bishop in the Confirmation office. Quite a number of changes have also been proposed at this Convention, but as they cannot be acted on finally until three years hence, we need not concern ourselves with them now. But we are thankful to say that it was agreed on all sides that the work of revision of the Prayer Book shall finally cease then, so that the fixed standard Prayer Book

can then be published. And we are also thankful that the revision has taken the course it has. For while there were some things which we would like to have seen in the Prayer Book which have not been adopted, we think that nearly everything that has been done has been an improvement and some things which were proposed which were very undesirable have been rejected. We believe that the Prayer Book as finally revised, will be much superior to what it was before, and better adapted for the various wants of our time and people.

Action on the Hymnal was deferred to the next Convention to be held in 1892.

Record for October.

Baptisms	2
Burials	5
Communicants added—	
New	2
By removal	5
Removed	3
Died	1

OFFERINGS.

Current expenses	$ 223.54
Building Fund	333.44
Organ Fund	91.00
Poor	2.01
Sunday School	5.55
Diocesan Missions	.33
Total	$655.87

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH. — Ingrain carpet for Sacristy, kneeling carpet for font rail, 9 kneeling hassocks, Brown's Animal History, 60 parts, for parish library. Through the liberality of our Assistant Minister, our Sunday school has also received for the first time, in many many years, the gift of a perfectly new library of about 200 volumes, making together with the best of the old books about 500 in all, of which a catalogue has been printed The same liberality has also entirely refitted the Guild room, by coloring the walls and ceiling, putting down a new carpet, furnishing an oak extension table, &c.

MEN'S BIBLE CLASS. — A long felt want of a Bible Class for men on Sunday afternoons has at last been supplied by Mrs. Kittson undertaking its charge. It will meet in the male Bible class room at 3 P. M., and it is hoped the members will afterwards attend the 4 P. M. service in the Church.

CHILDREN'S SERVICE.—The change in the afternoon service seems to work well. The attendance of the children being larger than ever before at this time of the year. It is hoped that the 4 P. M. service will grow into a regular Sunday afternoon service for adults.

GUILD ANNIVERSARIES. — That of the Women was better attended this year than usual. Things were so organized that we think there is good prospect of increased work being done. Still we are disappointed in more not coming forward to help. It is strange that Christians should not consider it a privilege to have the opportunity of doing something for the cause of their Master.

BIBLE READINGS. — The Assistant Minister is giving a course of Bible readings on the Miracles of Our Lord, at the Wednesday evening services this Winter.

ENTERTAINMENT FOR ORGAN FUND. —S. Mary's and S. Barnabas' Guilds purpose giving a Dramatical and Musical entertainment during the first week in December, in the Drawing Room, 40th and Locust streets, West Philadelphia, for the benefit of the Organ Fund. The aim of the committee in making up the programme has been to give an evening of first-class fun, and they can promise two amusing farces and music by competent performers, one of whom has sung in a leading part on the operatic stage. We trust, that knowing what a great addition a large organ will be to our services, that this effort on the part of the Guilds to forward the work, will receive the hearty support of the Vestry and congregation. Tickets can be had on application to Mrs. Bond, or Messrs. Montgomery or Tingley.

ENTERTAINMENTS.—S. Mary's Guild gave a very pleasant social tea on their recreation meeting night last month. The only draw-back being that the invitations were not as widely disseminated as it was intended they should have been, so that many were not present whom it was hoped would have been there.

An All Hallow Eve party was also given to the children of the Sunday school, consisting of magic, recitations, &c., which was greatly enjoyed by the youngsters.

MISSIONARY AND POOR BOX.—Donations of money and clothing are now needed for the annual missionary box and for the work of the Mother's meeting.

Pastoral Letter.

DIOCESE OF PENNSYLVANIA,
EPISCOPAL ROOMS, 1102 WALNUT ST.
PHILA., October 19, 1889.

To the Churchwomen of the Diocese:

Dear Fellowlaborers in the Lord:—Each succeeding year affords fresh illustrations of the power and blessedness of the organized work of Christian women. The recent meetings of the Women's Auxiliary in New York, in connection with the meetings of the General Convention as the Board of Missions were not only means of spiritual refreshment to those who were present, but they nerved each heart anew to do more than ever before to make known the Saviour's love, and to help and comfort those who are laboring in His name. It would be a great benefit if the spirit of those meetings should be diffused throughout the Church until every heart is warmed and every hand is busy in the work of Christ.

In the hope that by coming together for conference and prayer we may all be quickened to greater diligence in The Master's Service, I have appointed an all day meeting of the Pennsylvania Branch of the Woman's Auxiliary, to be held on Thursday, November 21st, in St. Andrew's Church, Philadelphia, Eighth street, between Locust and Spruce, to which I cordially invite you.

The following will be the order for the day:

10 A. M., Holy Communion.

11 to 12.30, Addresses.

12.30 to 2 P. M., Lunch in the Parish Building, for all.

2 to 4, Addresses.

It is expected that Bishop Morris, Bishop Talbot, Bishop Kendrick, Rev. A. H. Locke, of China, and Rev. Paulus Moort, of Africa, will speak.

Faithfully yours,

O. W. WHITAKER,
Bishop of Pennsylvania.

SERVICE.

For the opening and blessing of the Chancel of the Church of the Ascension, Philadelphia, September 29th, 1889, adapted from a service used by the Lord Bishop of Aberdeen, in opening S. Mary's Church, Aberdeen, February 11, 1864.

The Bishop having taken his chair on the north side of the Sanctuary the Rector shall approach him and say:

Right Reverend Father in God, in the name and on behalf of the Rector, Church Wardens and Vestry, and of the Congregation of the Church of the Ascension, I request you to bless and formally open this building for the worship of Almighty God.

The Bishop shall reply:

I am willing so to do, the Lord being my helper.

Then proceeding to the midst of the Sanctuary, the Bishop shall say,

V. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Who hath made Heaven and Earth.

V. The Lord's name be praised.

R. Henceforth, world without end.

V. Lord, we have loved the habitation of Thy House.

R. And the place where Thine Honor dwelleth.

V. Lord, hear our prayer.

R. And let our cry come unto Thee.

O Lord God, whom the Heaven of Heavens cannot contain, and yet who dost vouchsafe to have Thy dwelling upon earth in houses built for the worship of Thy Name, look down, we beseech Thee upon this place, and by Thy grace cleanse it from all defilement, and keep it pure and free from all evil, driving hence all spiritual wickedness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, to Whom with Thee and the Holy Ghost be all honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

Grant, O Lord, that they who in this place shall in their own persons renew the promises and vows made for them by their sureties at their baptism and thereupon be confirmed by the Bishop, may continue Thine forever, and daily increase in Thy Holy Spirit more and more until they come to Thine everlasting kingdom. *Amen.*

Grant that they who may be joined together in this place in the Holy Estate of Matrimony may faithfully perform and keep the vow and covenant betwixt them made, and remain in perfect love and peace together unto their lives end. *Amen.*

Grant that those who shall here confess their sins, and seek of Thee, the God of all consolation, mercy and pardon, peace and quietness, may ever find Thee in the fulness of Thine abundant charity. *Amen.*

Grant that by Thy Holy Word, which shall be read and preached in this place, the hearers thereof may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfill the same. *Amen.*

Grant that they who shall here offer the Sacrifice of Praise and Thanksgiving, may find and feel that such sacrifices are acceptable unto Thee. *Amen.*

Grant that they who shall here receive the Holy Sacrament of Thy love may so eat the flesh of Thy dear Son, Jesus Christ and drink His Blood, that their sinful bodies may be made clean by His most Sacred Body, and their souls washed through His most Precious Blood, and that they may evermore dwell in Him and He in them. *Amen.*

And be pleased, O Lord, as Thou didst accept the offering of Solomon in the house that he built for the glory of Thy Name, to receive the varied gifts here presented for Thy service. Bless those who have given of their substance towards raising and furnishing this House of Prayer. Remember this to them, O Lord, for good, bless them in their going out and coming in, in mind, and body, in spirit and estate. *Amen.*

And so we beseech Thee, O Lord, to bless and sanctify this building which we now dedicate to Thy service and glory. *Amen.*

"Peace be within thy walls and plenteousness within thy palaces." (Psalm cxxii, v. 7.)

"Thine, O Lord, is the greatness and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty; for all that is in heaven and earth is Thine: Thine is the Kingdom, O Lord, and Thou art exalted as head over all. All things come of Thee and of Thine own have we given Thee." (1 Chron. xxix. 11-15.)

The Bishop shall return to his seat.

Alleluia Sequence.

Morning Prayer. Special Psalm, xlviii. First Lesson, Gen. xxviii, 10. Second Lesson, Rev. xxi.

Holy Communion—Collect, Epistle and Gospel for Consecration of a Church.

Another Choir Excursion.

On the 5th of October the boys of the Choir, accompanied by two gentlemen, took a trip to the Switchback. The weather was fine and the temperature just cool enough to make an out of door exercise thoroughly enjoyable.

The party took the morning train; and though compelled to separate and shift about considerably in order to secure seats in the crowded cars, the boys managed in some unaccountable way to derive considerable pleasure from the long and tedious ride.

Probably the only miserable person was one of the gentlemen. He was standing in the front of the car when a benevolent lady who had been regarding a batch of the capering youngsters with no little curiosity, made room in her bench and invited him to sit down beside her, a privilege which he accepted—inwardly with a vague feeling of uneasiness, outwardly with every appearance of deep thankfulness.

As soon as the benevolent lady had thus adjusted the bucket, she immediately began to work the pump-handle with that nervous, feminine energy so familiar and so terrible to many unfortunates of the opposite sex. "Are the boys from a home? No! From a choir? Indeed! What choir? Then they sing? How charming! I'm sure that boy there is a lovely singer. Won't you have them sing? I should enjoy it *so* much, etc., etc."—But the poor wretch had sneaked away on the pretense that one of the boys needed his attention.

At Mauch Chunk the boys, after leaving the train, were marshalled, counted and "hustled" into the gravity car. Lunch was eaten on Summit Hill, and as each boy had provided his own dinner it may be imagined there was no scarcity of provisions. Indeed one would have thought that the commissary department of an army had come to a halt upon the mountain side. This important matter concluded, several relic hunting maniacs of the party secured some souvenirs and then the mines were visited. The rest of the day was spent in various games upon the top of the mountain. Prisoners-base, lame-duck, and duck-on-davy, all came in for a fair share, and it may be confidentially admitted that Mr. Wilson proved himself quite as expert at these sports as any of his juvenile companions. Indeed, it was owing to his well directed efforts that the success of the expedition was so pronounced, and without having consulted that gentleman's own wishes, we take the liberty of hoping that he will be a fixture in all such excursions in the future.

OUR "RITUAL CATECHISM" has been crowed out this month, it will be continued in our next issue.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following have been received during October. These, with one new advertisement and $7.40 donations are all the responses received to the appeal in our last issue. Shall the NEWS be continued?

Mr. Edward Carpenter,
Mr. H. G. Gray,
Mrs. Hess,
Mrs. H. W. Wharton,
Mrs. Bond,
Miss Bond,
Mrs. Darlington,
Mrs. Gundaker,
Mrs. Pollock,
Miss Pemberton,
Miss Lea,
Miss Edith Whelen,
Rev. Fred. Lobdell,
Rev. Chas. J. Mason,
Miss Schell,
Mr. Wilson,
Miss Hewson.
Mr. W. P. Pepper

The Ascension News.

Vol. II. PHILADELPHIA, PA., DECEMBER, 1889 No. 10

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.
ASSISTANT:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.
318 So. Broad St.
RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.
ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
GEO. H. HAVERSTICK.
SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
707 S. 15th St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, 11 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Litany and Instruction, 4.00 P. M.
Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

DAILY:

Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

WEDNESDAYS:

Evening Prayer and Lecture, 7.45 P. M.

THURSDAYS DURING ADVENT:

Holy Communion, 7.30 A. M.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoons.

BIBLE CLASSES.

For Men, Sunday 3.00 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Kittson.
For Young Men, Sunday, 10 A. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Grimball.
For Ladies, Sunday, 3.00 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Hodge.

KALENDAR.—DECEMBER.

1 First Sunday in Advent.
6 Friday—Fast.
8 Second Sunday in Advent.
13 Friday—Fast.
15 Third Sunday in Advent.
18 Ember day—Fast.
20 Friday—Ember day—Fast.
21 S. Thomas, Ember day—Fast.
22 Fourth Sunday in Advent.
25 Christmas day.
26 S. Stephen.
27 S. John Evangelist—Fast.
28 Holy Innocents.
29 Sunday after Christmas.

GUILD MEETINGS.

3 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
5 8 P. M., S. Barnabas' Guild.
10 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
19 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. John's Guild.
24 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

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Miss Davis,
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Miss Blackwell,
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Mr. Wm. Gilpin.

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THE DAILY SERVICE.

We have in this Church a daily service, prayers said every morning and evening. Why is this? We answer because the Prayer Book provides a daily service, and evidently expects it to be used. If it was intended only for Sundays, it would be called the Sunday Morning and Evening Service, but it is not called that, but "Daily Morning and Evening Prayer." And when we look at the Prayer Book and Canons of the Church of England, from which we got our Prayer Book, we find there the same services together with the command to every Clergyman to say them daily, either in public or in private.

And as the Preface to our Prayer Book says that our Church has no intention of departing from the principles of worship of the Church of England, it is evident, even though we have not the direct command to say this service every day, that it is the mind of the Church that it should be so said. And if that is the mind of the Church, every loyal Clergyman will feel that it is his duty to carry out that intention.

The history of the Daily Service is this. In the Jewish Church, there were daily sacrifices, the offering of incense and the observance of hours of prayer, as well as the Sabbath-day services. And in the New Dispensation we read in the Acts of the Apostles that the Apostles "continued daily in the breaking of bread and in prayers," that is in Celebrating the Eucharist which Christ instituted to take the place of the Jewish sacrifices, and that they observed as well the hours of prayer in the Temple. And from the earliest Christian ages we find that the Eucharist was thus often offered daily, and that in addition stated services of prayer and praise were recited throughout the day. This was especially and most fully done in the Monastaries and various religious houses, where large numbers of Christian men and women lived in community. In them an almost continuous worship was kept up by day and night. The special hours of prayer observed were seven, Matins sung at midnight, which consisted really of two offices Nocturus which belonged to the night office and Lauds which was the first of the day offices, Prime sung at 6 A. M Terce at 9 A. M., Sext at noon, Nones 3 P. M., Vespers 6 P. M., Compline 9 P. M. These were called the Canonical Hours, and the services appointed for them were contained in a book called the Breviery. At the time of the Reformation in England the offices in this book were not only translated into English, but were simplified and condensed into two offices called Matins and Even Song, which, with some slight changes are what we have in our Daily Morning and Evening Prayer. The Breviery offices were really never said, except in the religious houses or in the Cathedrals or by the Clergy in private. But the daily offices in the Church of England and our own Church, are intended for the people, to be said in every parish Church. So that the English Church has the proud distinction of being the only Church, or Christian body, which has a really popular daily worship, which corresponds to that of the primitive Church and of the old Dispensation.

So we try to carry out the intention of the Church, that thus as an Institution it may fulfil one of the purposes for which it exists, the due and appropriate worship of Almighty God, that it may set before the people the highest ideal of worship, and give them the fullest opportunities for it.

There is no greater need than that of bringing our religion into our daily life. And if we never worship but on Sundays, we are not giving God all that we should, and our worship will not have all the effect in our lives that it should.

Most Christians try to make up for this by daily private worship at home, but however necessary this is, it does not take the place of the service in Church. At the same time we do not say that it is an obligation for every Christian to attend Prayers in Church twice every day. But we do say that if there are any who could do this, or who could go once a day, it would be a very beautiful and beneficial thing for them. And though there may not be many among our busy people who can do that yet, we do think that it would be perfectly practicable for nearly every one in our congregation,—except those who have business engagements just at those hours—to go to at least *one* such service every week. If all did this, it would have the effect of connecting the Sundays, bringing one's religion into his week day life, giving him an half hour of retirement from the world, and thought about religious things which could not but have an effect on his religious life, and would be, we should think, of great comfort and sweetness to him. And if all in the congregation made a rule to come thus each to one service in the week, we would be sure of having quite a number at every service, instead of merely the two or three and sometimes none, that we have now.

Will not each member of the congregation who can possibly so command his or her time make a resolution to attend at least one daily service in the Church each week during the coming winter? It would make our daily service a reality, it would cheer the hearts of the Clergy to see their privileges shared, and the opportunities for worship they offer to the people appreciated, and above all it would, we are sure, be of great spiritual benefit to those who practiced it.

We earnestly hope to see the daily service become the rule in

all our Churches, and to find the people more and more largely attending it.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

We are very happy to announce that the question of the continuance of the News has been solved by a single member of one of our Guilds having energetically secured us some fifteen new advertisements, which will make up the deficiency in our accounts. We still want however, every member of the parish to become a subscriber. And as we think those who subscribe ought to have some advantage over those who do not, we propose hereafter to send the News by mail to all who subscribe at 50 cents a year without any additional charge.

Our parishioners can take no better way of showing their good will than by consulting our advertisements and patronizing, as far as possible, the advertisers, so that those who have so cheerfully helped us to fill our columns and our treasury may realize that in helping us they have helped themselves. Mention the NEWS to others.

Record for November.

Baptisms	6
Burials	1
Communicants added—	
New	2
By removal	9
Removed	3

OFFERINGS.

Current expenses	$ 332.21
Assistant Minister	150.00
Year Book	12.85
Organ Fund	540.00
Building Fund	5.26
Poor	20.65
Sunday School	5.26
Ascension News	16.00
Choir Excursion	25.00
Freedmen Missions	5.00
Domestic Missions	1.00
Episcopal Hospital	27.07
Total	$1140.30
Proceeds of children's fair for Organ Fund	60.80

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Closet for Mother's Meeting, gilding gas pipes in Chancel, comb and brush for sacristy, roller towel for choir room, grain and fruit for Thanksgiving day, clothes and material for poor. Two colored pictures in gilt frames for Guild room. Linen alb, amice and chasuble embroidered, canton flannel cover with lace border for credence, linen cover for do embroidered.

COURSE OF SERMONS.—The Rector proposes to deliver on Sunday evenings beginning with the first Sunday in Advent a course of historical sermons on the Founders and Fathers of the Church. The subjects for the four Sundays before Christmas will be S. John Baptist, S. Peter, S. John, and S. Paul.

ENTERTAINMENT FOR ORGAN FUND takes place at the Drawing Room, 40th below Locust St., on Tuesday evening Dec. 10th. Tickets may be obtained from Mrs. Bond or Mr. W. H. Montgomery.

ORGAN FUND.—We are glad to say that about half the sum required to pay for the new organ has now been pledged. Shall we not soon have the remainder that is needed? We repeat what we have said before, that as the Chancel was built by the subscriptions of three or four persons without any general appeal to the congregation, we think that all should subscribe to put in the organ. Let *each* give something whether it be a large or small offering. Subscriptions may be handed to the Rector or Wardens, or placed in an enveloped, marked for the organ, in any offertory, or dropped in the Alms box in the vestibule which is designated for this purpose.

GUILD ENTERTAINMENT.—All the male Guilds of the parish propose to have a joint entertainment in the parish building on the evening of St. John's day, Dec. 27th, to which representatives of other male Guilds will be invited. All the members of S. Barnabas and S. John's Guilds, and of S. Andrews Brotherhood are expected to be present.

CHRISTMAS COMMUNION.—Let all remember that Christmas day is one of the three great seasons in the year when all Christians are expected to make their communion. There will be three Celebrations that day at 7.30, 8.30, and 11 A. M. If you can not come that day, come on one of the Holy days or Sundays near it.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS.—As in past years special offerings will be asked from every member of the Church on Christmas day. When we are giving gifts to each other in our households that day we must not forget to give a gift to our Mother the Church, which is the great household which includes all Christians. We depend on the offerings of that day to pay the interest on the mortgage on our property, $750, which becomes due this month.

REMEMBER THE POOR.—The congregation must bear in mind that the only way we have of making collections for the poor in this parish is through the Alms boxes in the vestibule, and so constantly from time to time drop something in them. The work among the poor is increasing and we have not the means to carry it on.

CHILDREN'S FAIR.—Some little girls connected with, and interested in, the parish held a fair in the parlors of Mr. Carpenter our Senior Warden, on the last day of November, for the sale of articles, made chiefly by themselves, for the benefit of the organ fund. They realized $60.80. Very good, and very many thanks.

READING ROOM.—One of the members of S. Barnabas Guild is in the Guild room every Monday evening to to keep it open as a reading room for any who will use it.

THE YEAR BOOK FOR 1888–89 has been printed. Copies may be otained from the Sexton. It contains the report of all the work of the parish for the past Church year.

THE CHOIR now sing regularly an Anthem Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, and a special Anthem during the offertory at the Sunday evening Service. There will also be a choir hereafter at the 4 P. M. service, so as to make it a regular afternoon service.

THE BUSINESS MEETING OF S. MARY'S GUILD is changed this month from the second to the fourth Tuesday as the entertainment in West Philadelphia is to be given on the second Tuesday, and the Guild will meet hereafter every Tuesday evening, as classes are being formed for instructions in voice culture, music, embroidery and dress making. These classes are open to all members of the Guild, others can join them for a small consideration.

MISSIONARY BOX.—All the ladies of the congregation are invited to meet at the Church every Tuesday after morning prayer to sew for the Missionary box which is now being made up.

SUBSCRIPTIONS IN NOVEMBER.—Mrs. Charles Lynch, Miss Davis, Mr. Chas. E. Bonnet, Dr. T. R. Neilson, Mr. W. H. Tevis, Mrs. Henry Lehman, Mrs. Weaver, Mrs. F. McVeigh, Mr. Ray Jones, Miss Voigt, Mrs. Chas. E. Allen, Mr. S. S. Peniston, Miss A. S. Sherrett, Miss Wurts.

Donations $10.

RITUAL CATECHISM.

CHAPTER IX.

Holy Communion.

Ques. How does the Priest present the offerings of the people?

Ans. They are brought by the Server to the Deacon, and by him to the Priest, who elevates them slightly to show that they are dedicated to God's service and then places them on the Epistle side of the Altar.

Ques. Can anything beside money be included in the offerings?

Ans. Yes, anything that is to be given or dedicated to God's service may be thus offered and consecrated to its purpose at this time, as implied in the rubric which speaks of "other devotions of the people."

Ques. Why do the people stand at the presentation of the offerings?

Ans. To show that it is the solemn offering of their substance as a tribute and act of worship to God, in which the Priest is their Agent.

Ques. What is called the Canon?

Ans. The Prayer of Consecration of the Elements, because it is conducted by an invariable rule or Canon in all liturgies.

Ques. What is a Sanctus or Sacring bell?

Ans. A bell sometimes rung at the Consecration to call the attention of the people to it and to stir up their devotion?

Ques. How does the Priest Consecrate the Elements?

Ans. In addition to the manual acts prescribed in the Prayer Book, he should make the sign of the Cross over each Element before he lays his hand on it, and elevate it slightly at the words "do this" to show that they are thus offered to God. Some also place the Paten on top of the Chalice after the Consecration and elevate them together at the words "which we now offer unto Thee," which is called the econd or greater Oblation.

Ques. How is the fraction performed?

Ans. If Wafer Breads are used, there is always one piece, which is larger than the rest, which is for this purpose, and is broken into three parts. If ordinary bread is used, one piece should be cut larger than the others and broken in the same way.

Ques. When should the Priest make his Communion?

Ans. During the singing of the Hymn or Anthem which follows the Consecration. He first kneels to make his private devotions, then rises and receives each Element standing, after which he kneels again. He receives standing, both because of greater convenience and because it is his official position as a Priest?

Ques. What is the most appropriate Anthem to be sung after the Consecration?

Ans. The Agnus Dei. It has long been used in this place; the first English Prayer Book directed it. Other Hymns may be sung after it, while the people are receiving the Communion, or the organ should be played softly during this time.

Ques. How should the people receive the Elements?

Ans. They should kneel erect, not bending over, and receive the Bread in the ungloved palm of the right hand which is placed over the left hand and so conveyed to the mouth. They should never take the Element with the fingers, as there is danger of its falling to the ground or particles being rubbed off it. In administering the Chalice the Minister should always retain hold of the knob of it, lest it should fall in being passed backward and forward, but the person receiving it should always guide it to his mouth by putting his hand on the foot of it, otherwise it is difficult for the Minister always to see that the Element has been received.

Ques. In distributing the Elements, on which side of the Chancel should the Priest begin?

Ans. Always on the Epistle side, thus following the course of the sun, from the south to the north, it being supposed that Churches are built having their Chancels in the East.

Ques. How are the remaining Elements consumed?

Ans. Excepting under very extraordinary circumstances the celebrant ought to be able to do this himself without calling any one to his assistance. He first consumes the remaining Breads, and then reverses the Paten over the Chalice and taps with his fingers on the bottom of it, so that any crumbs or remaining particles will fall into the Chalice. He then drinks all that is in the Chalice.

Ques. How are the Ablutions performed?

Ans. The Server brings the Cruets from the Credence, and he or the Deacon, when there is one, pours into the Chalice first a little wine, with which the Celebrant rinses the Chalice and then drinks it, secondly a little wine and water is poured in, and thirdly, if necessary, a little water by itself, and the same thing is done, after which the Celebrant wipes first his lips and then the Chalice with the Purificator, which he then folds, places on the Chalice, and then arranges the Chalice as it was at the beginning of the service and carries it out of the Sanctuary with him.

Ques. What is the necessity for these Ablutions?

Ans. They are necessary from the rubric in the Prayer Book that directs that none of the sacred Species be carried out of the Church. This cannot be done without the cleansing and rinsing of the vessels that contained them. And if done in the Sacristy it would not be done as carefully and reverently as at the Altar.

At a high service the choir should sing the Nunc Dimittis or some other appropriate Anthem during the Ablutions, and the people should remain kneeling until they are performed. They should then rise and remain standing until the clergy and attendants have left the Sanctuary.

Ques. When is incense used?

Ans. According to the ancient rite it was used in High Celebrations of the Holy Communion at the Introit, the reading of the Gospel, the Oblation and after the Consecration. The Altar was incensed by the Celebrant in the midst and at the Epistle and Gospel sides. The Celebrant was then incensed by the Deacon, and he in turn by the Server, who afterwards incensed the choir. Incense was also used in Processions and at Burials, and at the Benedictus in Morning Prayer and the Magnificat in Evening Prayer when solemnly sung.

It is much to be desired that this most Scriptural, Ancient and Universal Symbol, so expressive of prayer, and adoration and intercession should be used in a simpler way, not involving the incensing of persons and things, the purpose of which is not so evident.

(To be continued.)

CHURCH NEWS.

THE SUBJECT of "Prayers for the Dead" is being discussed by the Clerical Brotherhood which meets every Monday morning in this city at the Church of the Epiphany.

S. MARK'S HOME for aged women, in charge of the Sisters of S. Margaret, is now open on Lombard street above Broad. Any aged person able to pay an entrance fee will be received there for life.

AT THE monthly meeting of the Domestic committee of the Women's Auxiliary to be held at the Church of the Holy Trinity, Dec. 30th, at 11 A. M., Bishop Tuttle is expected to make an address. All interested in Missions are invited to be present.

The Ascension News.

VOL. III. PHILADELPHIA, PA., JANUARY, 1890. No. 1

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.
318 So. Broad St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
GEO. H. HAVERSTICK.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
707 S. 15th St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, 11 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Litany and Instruction, 4.00 P. M.
Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

DAILY:

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Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

WEDNESDAYS:

Evening Prayer and Lecture, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoons.

BIBLE CLASSES.

For Men, Sunday 3.00 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Kittson.

For Young Men, Sunday, 10 A. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Grimball.

For Ladies, Sunday, 3.00 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Hodge.

KALENDAR.—JANUARY.

1 Circumcision.
3 Friday—Fast.
5 Second Sunday after Christmas.
6 The Epiphany.
10 Friday—Fast.
12 First Sunday after Epiphany.
17 Friday—Fast.
19 Second Sunday after Epiphany.
24 Friday—Fast.
25 Conversion of S. Paul.
26 Third Sunday after Epiphany.
31 Friday—Fast.

GUILD MEETINGS.

2 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Barnabas Guild.
7 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
14 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
21 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. John's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

9. 8 P. M., S. Andrew's Brotherhood.
The Industrial School, every Saturday at 10 A. M.
Mothers' Meeting every Wednesday evening after service.
Womens' Working Club. every Friday at 7.30 P. M.
Ladies' Aid Society, every Thursday at 3 P. M.
Embroidery Class, every Wednesday morning after Morning Prayer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2 30 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. Wm. Gilpin.
Ass't Superintendent, Mr. W. H. Montgomery.
Librarian, Mr. Harry Carson.
Assistant Librarian, Mr. Carroll Hodge.

TEACHERS.

Miss Morrell,	Miss Gilpin,
Miss A. Jackson,	Miss Davis,
Miss M. Harper,	Miss McCauley,
Miss Anderson,	Miss Blackwell,
Miss T. G. Harper,	Miss Bond,
Miss Carman,	Miss Parmelee,
Miss Hiller,	Miss Stewart,
Miss Alice Spear,	Miss Schoch.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, (if sent by mail 60 cents) to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, 112 South Fourth Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

OUR YOUNG MEN.

Three Societies have been organized within the limits of this City; S. Andrew's Brotherhood, the Iron Cross Society and the Friendly Society. The object of these Societies is to encourage the young men of the Church to live a Godly life and to take their place in the work of the Church of God. Much enthusiasm has been aroused, and the sympathy of many Bishops has been elicited. The wonderful success in extending their influence, and the rapid increase in membership are evidences of the great need existing for such associations and of the desire of our young men to be up and doing when the opportunity offered. The force of example is contagious, and the following well-known case may have been the experience of most of us who as boys, were cast in the world of school life.

When they laughed at a little boy on one of our Government training ships for boys, for kneeling down and saying his prayers before he got into bed, the same as he did at home, he stopped and made up his mind to say them in bed. Pretty soon he stopped saying them altogether. A year after another new boy came. He knelt down too and every one laughed and jeered him. He finished his prayers and then went quietly to bed. The next night he did the same and there was the same laughing and jeering, and it was the same several nights. The seventh night the boy who had stopped praying slipped out of bed and knelt beside the new boy. Before many nights other boys knelt down and the laughing began to grow fainter. Now a great many kneel and pray every night and morning, and, though a great many are still ashamed to, there isn't a boy who would allow any fun-making at the boys who pray.

Many in Church and Sunday-school sign themselves with the Sign of the Cross, in token that they shall not be ashamed to confess the Faith of Christ Crucified, and manfully to fight under His Banner against sin, the world and the devil, and to continue Christ's faithful soldiers and servants until their lives' end, and bow the knee at the name of Jesus. How is it outside? When *you* heard that wicked story did you *smile?* The Church of God needs young men who are not ashamed of the Church of God

Her young men believe that Jesus Christ came down from Heaven for us men and for our salvation: at home, at school, on the play ground, in the factory, the counting house, the college, the question is being asked—and honestly—"Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?" everywhere She needs young men to answer "Come and see."

Her divine Lord said to the young man "Go and sell that thou hast and give to the poor:" at our doors are the hungry, the cold, the sick: everywhere She needs young men willing to go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel; to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction.

She teaches her young men the Creed, the Lord's Prayer and the Ten Commandments: the Church of God needs young men in her Sunday-school willing in turn to teach the Creed, the Lord's Prayer and the Ten Commandments to others.

The Church of God needs young men to minister unto the Lord: of the many made Hers by the washing of water, how few assume any duty in the service or care of the Sanctuary. Samuel of old ministered before the Lord being a child. Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and ere the Lamp of God went out in the Temple of the Lord where the Ark of God was, the Lord came and called Samuel, and Samuel answered: "Speak, for Thy servant heareth."

The Church of the Ascension seems to us well placed to be the Church for young men. Its attractive interior, its free seats, its bright and frequent services, its enormous field for aggressive and evangelistic work, give our young men just those opportunities and facilities for which they are all clamoring so loudly and so persistently. The Clergy of this parish are willing to lead the young men into broad fields of usefulness, where the richest harvest can be gathered into the garners of the Most High.

Record for December.

Baptisms	4
Burials	1
Communicants added—	
New	3
By removal	11
Removed	4

OFFERINGS.

Current expenses	$ 874.11
Poor	27.02
Sunday School	6.43
Domestic Missions	.50
Diocesan Missions	.06
Christmas Festival and Decorations,	56.02
Building Fund	110.00
Organ Fund	70.65
Assistant Minister	150.00
Total	$1295.69

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Engraving of Madonna in wooden frame, four photographs framed for Guild room. Bagatelle board, two books and five magazines, 1½ tons of coal, candles for Altar, Lectionary for 1890, clock for Sacristy, red plush and yellow satin dossel for Sanctuary, linen surplice, embroidered, for Rector, donations of clothing for missionary box and the poor, and of oranges, &c., for Christmas festival, regilding Altar cross. The clock came to the Church anonymously. Will the unknown giver accept our thanks.

CHRISTMAS.—The Church was decorated this year by the erection of a lofty screen at the entrance of the choir, covered with green, and by the hanging of a new and very handsome dossel of plush and satin,—the gift of a few members of the parish,—behind the Altar.

The designs of both of these were furnished by the Architect of the Church. Through the kindness of the Rev. Dr. Batterson, we were enabled to have three celebrations of the Holy Communion on Christmas Day. The effect of which was to make the num-

ber of communicants at the early services—125, far outnumber those in the middle of the day—46. The Children's Festival took place on the evening of S. Stephen's day, as Holy Innocent's day, being Saturday, was not appropriate or convenient for it. Some new features were introduced into the entertainment which proved very successful. On Monday evening before Christmas, each member of the mother's meeting was given a turkey and bag of potatoes for a Christmas dinner. The music on Christmas day and the Sunday after was well rendered, in spite of the absence of the choir-master, which was caused by the death of a relative. The Rector wants to acknowledge his obligations to the Rev. Dr. Batterson for his kind assistance during the three Sundays in December the Assistant Minister was kept from Church by sickness.

The teacher of the female Bible-class was much gratified by the reception of a beautiful silver pencil case from the members of her class. Each member of the several Bible-classes received a box of bon-bons and a Christmas card from the teacher.

MISSIONARY BOX.—All the ladies in the congregation are invited to meet in the parish building, after prayers, every Tuesday, to sew for the missionary box, or sewing may be taken home if preferred.

CHURCH FURNITURE. — Our old Bishop's chair, Altar rail and Credence table, with one of the linen covers of the latter have been presented to a new Church which has just been built at Crisfield, Somerset County, Maryland.

THE ANNUAL Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew was held on S. Andrew's Dav in the Church of the Epiphany. The Rector of the Ascension who is Chaplain of the District Branch celebrated the Eucharist at 8 o'clock and Rev. Dr. McConnell preached at the evening service.

THE NEW ORGAN.—We announced last month that about one-half the money required for the building of the new organ had been subscribed. We also asked for a subscription from every member of the parish for this purpose. We now announce that the organ has been contracted for and is being built, but we deeply regret to say that we are *not* able to announce a general response to our appeal for subscriptions.

There has been received since the December issue of the News a total sum of $70.75; of this $50.00 was obtained from a gentleman outside the parish. The remaining $20.75 was given by 23 members of the parish in amounts varying from one cent to $5.00. This we are not at all satisfied with. We meant exactly what we said last month, for we think it the duty of *each* parishioner to make his or her contribution to this fund whether the amount be one cent or $100 00. We most sincerely trust that you will all look upon the matter in the same light, and that next month we may be in a position to record a large nnmber of new subscribers to the organ fund.

Advertisements.

The friends of the News will notice a number of blank spaces on our advertising sheets. The advertisements which formerly filled these spaces have expired, and we have not been able to secure their renewal. Will you not help us to get others to take their places? Some of the stores which you regularly patronize would probably give you an advertisement for a year if you apply to them. Will you make the effort?

Subscriptions.

Subscriptions for the year 1890 are now due and payable. Be good enough to renew without delay. We are now sending the News by post to all subscribers at the uniform rate of 50 cents per year. Please keep the business manager informed of your correct address. How many of you will send one new subscriber when renewing your own subscription? The following subscriptions were received during December:—Mrs. A. Jackson, Miss F. Jackson, Mr. S. Jackson, Miss J. Davis, Mr. H. C. Atkinson, Mr. M. F. Roberts, Mrs. M. S. Jansen, Mrs. Milliken, Miss McCauley, Cash.

A CIRCULAR.

The following circular was handed to all coming to the Church on the first Sunday in December.

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION.

To its Worshippers:

The committee to whom the Vestry has committed the charge of looking after the expenses of the Church, kindly beg leave to call your attention to the great need of an increase in its revenue, and to the importance of each worshipper subscribing to the system adopted and known as the envelope system. The Church being free and having no endowment fund, depends entirely upon each individual attendant assisting by regularly giving so that the current expenses including the Clergy's salary, music, heat, gas, etc., can be promptly paid.

The amount of the individual contribution is a matter to be decided entirely by the conscience of the contributor, and a knowledge as to what it is is entrusted only to the Accounting Warden. The account is kept by numbers and not names of the contributors. No scheme could be devised to better equalize the appearance of the offerings of all, the poor as well as those in better circumstances. each envelope as it is placed on the plate be it from rich or poor, resembles its neighbor. If in your Sunday offerings you are now giving five cents per Sunday. can you not increase it to ten cents? If this proportion of increase is applied to all contributions we would then have ample revenue to support the Church, and we are sure that none would feel any poorer.

Remember this Church is free to all and depends entirely upon the Worshippers for its support.

Statement.

The report of the business manager of the NEWS for the year 1889 is as follows:

RECEIPTS.

Balance for December 31, 1888 . .	$ 2.04
Received from Subscriptions	70.40
" " Advertisements . . .	37.50
" " Donations	27.45
	$137.39

EXPENDITURES.

Balance Cost of Publication for 1888,	$ 33.50
Cost of Publication for 1889	136.50
" Postage "	4.09
	$174.09
Deficit	36.70

We think all friends of the News must be pleased with the above statement. Last year (1888) the News failed to be self-sustaining, the deficit being $31.46. This year (1889) the deficit is only $3.20. But we still have the unpaid balance of 1888 to provide for. Six donations of $5.00 each would cancel this indebtedness. Who will hand in one? The business manager wishes to express his gratitude for the interest shown in the News by quite a goodly number of the parishioners. Can not the interest be more general during 1890? Will you not *all* try to help us? Many thanks are also due the publisher for his interest in the work, his willingness to make changes, &c., and above all his forbearance in the matter of payments. The latter is all the more reason why that 1888 deficit should be paid at once. We will gladly publish any sums received for this purpose.

December 31st, 1889.

RITUAL CATECHISM.

CHAPTER X.

Customs.

Ques. What are some customs observed in connection with the Church Seasons?

Ans. At Christmas the Churches are usually dressed with evergreens. But it is often overdone, the Churches being given over to the taste of the upholsterer to the destruction of that of the architect. It is very common to festoon wreaths of leaves over the entire Church. This should never be done. If wreaths are used at all they should follow the lines of architecture, over the arches, round the capitals of the columns, etc. But it is better to use natural boughs, tied round the columns, etc., in a natural way, and the chief decoration should be concentrated about the Chancel. A temporary Rood Screen, where there is no permanent one, covered with greens is probably the most effective decoration that can be used.

Ques. How long should the Christmas greens remain in the Church?

Ans. From Christmas eve until the eve of the Feast of the Purification, unless Septuagesima should come before when they are taken down on its eve.

Ques. How should the Feast of the Epiphany be distinguished?

Ans. By the special use of lights, to typify that Christ is the light of the Gentiles.

Ques. How are the penitential seasons of Advent and Lent marked?

Ans. The Te Deum and Gloria in Excelsis are not sung during Advent or from Septuagesima to Easter. The Benedicite is sung in place of the one and some appropriate hymn in place of the other.

Ques. How is the Passion Tide marked?

Ans. From Passion Sunday to Easter all the pictures and ornaments of the Church are removed or veiled. The Altar Cross, Candlesticks and processional Cross are veiled with black or violet crape.

Ques. How is Palm Sunday observed?

Ans. By a Procession of Palms. The Clergy and choir going round the Church each carrying branches of Palms or other trees, and singing an appropriate Hymn. Palms may also be placed on the super Al ar and attached to the processional Cross. They are generally distributed to the people after the service.

Ques. How is the Institution of the Holy Communion on Maundy Thursday commemorated?

Ans. With special music and the use of white vestments, flowers, etc. But all the other services on that day should be conducted as during the rest of the Passion Tide.

Ques. How is the special solemnity of the three last days in Holy week marked?

Ans. No Gloria Patri is sung after any of the Canticles or elsewhere, except after the last Psalm of the Psalter when the rubric requires it to be sung.

Ques. How is Good Friday observed?

Ans. There should be no high or festive celebration of the Holy Communion on this day. In some Churches it is omitted entirely. After Morning Prayer and the Litany, "The Reproaches" are sung, and from 12 to 3 P. M., the hours during which our Lord hung upon the cross, there is a continual preaching of the Passion, interspersed with the singing of hymns. In some Churches also the Stations of the Cross are observed. It is well also to have sermons or meditations on the Passion every day or night during the Holy Week.

Ques. Why is the Altar sometimes stripped of all vestments on Good Friday?

Ans. To typify our Lord's humiliation on that day, being stripped of all His garments. This may be done instead of using a black Altar cloth on that day.

Ques. How is Easter celebrated?

Ans. With the finest music, the richest vestments, the choicest floral and other decorations that the church can command. Banners are also often carried in procession or hung around the church, on this and other high festivals. Bouquets of flowers may be placed on the Altar on every festival day in the year, unless perhaps during Advent and Lent. But on great Festivals additional flowers in pots are placed round the Altar and in other prominent places in the Church. Additional lights are also sometimes used on this and other Festivals, or carried in processions.

Ques. How are the Ember and Rogation days marked?

Ans. In common with other Penitential seasons, by the use of violet vestments, and the disuse of the Te-Deum and Gloria in Excelsis, except at the Whitsuntide Ember days because they occur within the octave of a great Festival. The Litany should be recited on each of the Rogation days.

Ques. How are Thanksgiving day and Harvest Home festivals observed?

Ans. By placing specimens of the fruits of the earth on the super Altar and in the Chancel. But care should be taken to observe dignity in the arrangement, lest the Chancel assume the appearance of a market.

At no time should decorations of any sort be put upon the Altar itself. Nothing should ever be placed there but the Chalice and Paten, the offerings of the people, and a single Altar book on its rest.

Ques. How should baptism be performed?

Ans. By dipping, or pouring water on, the person three times at the mention of each person of the Trinity.

Ques. What custom is observed in Confirmations?

Ans. The female candidates are often dressed in white or wear veils.

Ques. How are marriages sometimes conducted?

Ans. The choir is present. It meets the bridal party at the entrance of the Church, and precedes it to the Chancel, singing an appropriate hymn.

The groom usually comes to the Church by himself and awaits the bride at the Altar.

All marriages, baptisms, and funeral services should be held in the Church, never in private houses, except under most extraordinary circumstances. There should also be celebrations of the Holy Communion at marriages and burials when possible.

Ques. What is sometimes done at the consecration of a Bishop?

Ans. He is invested with the Mitre and Pastoral Staff, the symbols of his Episcopal authority.

Ques. What is often done at Ordinations?

Ans. After the laying on of hands the Bishop invests those made Priests with the Chasuble or the stole placed over both shoulders, and those made Deacons with the stole placed over the left shoulder and tied under the right arm.

Ques. How should Clerics be buried?

Ans. Bishops in their Episcopal habits, Priests in their Eucharistic vestments, violet or with violet stole, Deacons in cassocks and surplice with stole. Lay readers, Servers and choir men and boys may be buried in cassock and cotta; and members of religious orders in their respective habits.

Ques. Is it common for Bishops or Priests to bless Altars, Fonts or other things used in the service of the church?

Ans. Yes, on the same principle that churches and church yards are consecrated.

Ques. When and why are Processions made through the church?

Ans. On special occasions to mark their dignity and importance.

(To be continued.)

The Ascension News.

VOL. III. PHILADELPHIA, PA., FEBRUARY, 1890 NO. 2

Church of the Ascension.

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Litany and Instruction, 4.00 P. M.
Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

DAILY:
Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 7.45 P. M.

THURSDAYS DURING LENT:
Holy Communion, 7.30 A. M.

Confirmation Instructions, Mondays, 4 P. M., Thursdays 8 P. M., during Lent in the Guild Room.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoons.

BIBLE CLASSES

For Men, Sunday 3.00 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Kittson.

For Young Men, Sunday, 10 A. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Grimball.

For Ladies, Sunday, 3.00 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Hodge.

KALENDAR.—FEBRUARY.

2 Septuagesima.—Purification B. V. M.
7 Friday—Fast.
9 Sexagesima.
14 Friday—Fast.
16 Quinquagesima.
19 Ash Wednesday.
22 First Sunday in Lent.
24 S. Matthias.
26 Ember Day.
28 Ember Day.

All days in Lent, except Sundays, are Fasts.

GUILD MEETINGS.

4 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
6 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Barnabas' Guild.
11 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
18 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. John's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

13. 8 P. M., S. Andrew's Brotherhood.
The Industrial School, every Saturday at 10 A. M.
Mothers' Meeting every Wednesday evening after service.
Womens' Working Club. every Friday at 7.30 P. M.
Ladies' Aid Society, every Thursday at 3 P. M.
Embroidery Class, every Thursday morning after Morning Prayer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2 30 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. Wm. Gilpin.
Ass't Superintendent, Mr. W. H. Montgomery.
Librarian, Mr. Harry Carson.
Assistant Librarian, Mr. Carroll Hodge.

TEACHERS.

Miss Morrell,	Miss Gilpin,
Miss A. Jackson,	Miss McCauley,
Miss M. Harper,	Miss Blackwell,
Miss Anderson,	Miss Bond,
Miss T. G. Harper,	Miss Parmelee,
Miss Carman,	Miss Stewart,
Miss Hiller,	Miss Schoch.
Miss Alice Spear,	Miss Allibone.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, 112 South Fourth Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

WHAT WE HAVE DONE AND WHAT WE WANT TO DO.

It is satisfactory to look back and see the progress we have made since we took possession of the vacant lot on Broad Street, in June, 1885, with nothing in hand but part of the purchase money of the property on Lombard St. By November, 1885, our substantial two-story parish building on the rear of the lot had been erected and paid for. This gave us a place in which to hold our services, and afforded us from the start a commodious workhouse in which the Schools, Guilds and all the work of the parish could be carried on. June 3rd, 1886, the corner stone of the Church was laid, and by the following December, the nave and aisles were completed and occupied for Divine service. Gradually all the aisle windows were filled with memorial stained-glass, the capitals of the columns carved, and other enrichments made.

Last summer we erected the chancel, organ chamber and sacristy, which have so improved the Church, and now we have made a contract for a large pipe organ to be put in before April 1st, at a cost of over $4000. We shall thus have erected and furnished within less than five years, a handsome church and school building at an expense of over $44,000, all of which has been raised, except what we still need for the organ. During this time our average Sunday attendance has increased from about 250 to 400 persons, and our current receipts from about $3,500 to $6,500, without counting special gifts for the Building Fund and improvements. This is what we have done.

But we must not think that we have done all that there is to do, and it is well to set before our people from time to time, what we have still before us, that they may be incited to further efforts to make our Church all it should be. So we here set down in order some of our further needs. We want $1,500 to complete the payment for the organ; $25,000 to pay the mortgage on the property, which is really the purchase money for the ground, all the money we have spent having been paid for the buildings we have erected.

Then we need money to grade and pave the southern part of our lot and run an iron fence along the whole Broad Street front. Then we want to fill our chancel and clere-story windows with handsome glass, to put in a new Altar and Reredos, a metallic or wooden Rood screen, a stone or brass pulpit, oak stalls and Litany desk. Each of these things might be a memorial. We want also to tile our aisles. Then we should have money to purchase the corner property, so as to extend the Church to South Street, and erect a tower with a chime of bells, and perhaps a clock, at the corner of the two streets. Then we should build a clergy house on the other end of our lot, and put another story on our present school building to furnish—what we very much need—an infant school room, a ladies work room, a kitchen, and a gymnasium.

After which we should provide an endowment for the permanent support of the Church, to insure its work being always carried on, no matter what fluctuations may occur in the wealth of its membership. And then there would be still room for beneficence in establishing a day school and other charitable agencies which should cluster round a large city Church, to say nothing of assisting in all the works of the Church at large.

This is a large programme and will require the raising of a great deal of money. It may require a long time to accomplish it, but if all our present members are as much interested in the Church as they should be, and give as liberally as they can, and remember us as well in their wills as in what they give during their life time, it will not be impossible.

Let each member see what he or she can do individually towards establishing our Church according to the plan we have sketched, thus making it a strong and lasting power for good. For what better purpose could we work or give our money?

Record for January.

Baptisms, Infant	1
Adult	1
Burials	2
Communicants added—	
By removal	9
Removed	2
Died	1

OFFERINGS.

Current expenses	$ 279.52
Poor	19.97
Sunday School	5.11
Domestic Missions	70.00
Organ Fund	155.85
Building Fund	728.98
Total	$1259.43
Pruceeds of Entertainment for Organ Fund	$ 123.75

PARISH NOTES.

ST. MARY'S GUILD. — Instruction classes have been formed in connection with the Guild, the meetings of which will be held hereafter as follows:

First and third Monday evenings of every month, Embroidery Class. Second and fourth Mondays, Dressmaking. Second Tuesday, Business Meeting. The other Tuesday evenings of the month, Elocution and Music. Instructions will be given in any kind of embroidery or dressmaking, those attending being expected to find their own materials.

Any woman belonging to the parish who has been confirmed can become a member of the Guild; those unconfirmed or belonging to other parishes may be elected members after due nomination. The dues are ten cents a month, which entitles the members to the benefit of the above classes.

ENTERTAINMENT—St. Barnabas and St. John's Guilds held a joint annual entertainment on the evening of the first Thursday in January. They sat down to the number of thirty-eight, including some guests from other

Guilds, to a bountiful Tea, for the serving of which they were indebted to the members of St. Mary's Guild. A pleasant evening was passed, which all seemed to enjoy.

ENTERTAINMENT FOR ORGAN FUND.—We have only just heard of the amount received from the entertainment given in December in West Philadelphia, for the benefit of the organ fund $123.75, and so can only now express to the gentlemen and ladies, both outside and inside the parish, who got up and assisted in that very enjoyable affair, our indebtedness to them for their kindness.

POOR FUND—We have now some thirty-nine women connected with the Mother's Meeting. To provide material for this work and assist those who are in need, we require funds. Two meetings of the ladies were held and several appeals made by the clergy in regard to it. Quite a response was made by contributions placed in the alms boxes for the poor in the vestibule. But we want *regular* offerings for this purpose. One gentleman has promised to give $1 a week, and others, smaller sums. Will not more do the same? The contributions may be placed in the alms chests or handed to Mrs. Kittson, who has charge of the Mother's Meeting.

LENTEN SERVICES.—In addition to the daily prayers at 10 A. M., and 5 P. M., there will, during Lent, until Holy Week, Holy Communion every Thursday, at 7.30 A. M., and a lecture after prayers on Friday afternoons. The choir will be present at the daily 5 P. M. prayers, and we shall avail ourselves this year of the new rubric after the final collect which says, "in places where it may be convenient, here followeth the anthem," to sing our Lenten Psalm, De Profundis, in this place. As it is sung kneeling, it will require no change of posture, but it will avoid bringing the two things we sing close together, and on Fridays the lecture will follow immediately after the anthem and the prayers following will be omitted. This will make the service on Friday but little longer than on other days. The Rector will lecture on Fridays on the six stages of life. Infancy, Childhood, Youth, Manhood, Maturity and Old Age.

CONFIRMATION.—The Bishop of the Diocese has appointed the evening of Thursday April 10th, the Thursday after Easter, to administer Confirmation in this Church. It is hoped that all in the parish, of sufficient age, who have not yet been confirmed, will give in their names for presentation to the Bishop at that time. Instructions preparatory to Confirmation will be given in the Guild room every Monday at 4 P. M., and every Thursday at 8 P. M., beginning with the first week in Lent. Persons desiring to be confirmed are expected to attend one or other of these series of instructions, or to see one of the clergy privately, in regard to the matter.

GIFT TO THE CHURCH.—We have only received one gift this month, but that is a most useful one, viz., a vesting altar, that is, a large oak case to hold all our vestments, pulpit hangings, stoles, chalice-veils, linens, etc. There is a separate drawer for each different color of vestment, other drawers for the eucharistic vestments and altar linens, and a cupboard for the cruets, etc. It is altogether most complete and handy.

MISSIONARY BOX. The Committee having charge of making up our annual missionary box, succeeded in sending off, early last month, a very good box valued at $125. It seems to have been much appreciated, if we may judge from the following extracts from the letter of the missionary acknowledging its receipt: "It gives me heartfelt pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of the elegant and substantial gift from the ladies of the Church of the Ascension You have done me a great and lasting service for which I cannot be too thankful. It would have been impossible for me to have gotten these treasures without your timely help and I have most seriously needed them. Your gifts are helpful to us to the greatest extent."

We wish we had the means to send another box. It would afford work to those who perhaps cannot serve the Church in any other way, and would fill another of the many appeals that are being made.

ORGAN FUND.—The receipts from the entertainment and some contributions have increased our organ fund, $279.60, during the last month, $125 of this was from two anonymous contributions of $50, and one of $25, through the offertory, for which we are very grateful. But as we have still a considerable amount to raise we want to point out that the amount so far contributed has come from about 78 different persons, and that 14 of these do not belong to our congregation, so that only 64 of all our members have contributed anything towards this purpose. And then we have only 25 offerings under $5. Now we think there is a good deal of pride in this. People wont give anything if they cannot give a large offering. But all should give in proportion to their means, and if each one would give *something* according to that rule, we would have all we need. Let each one who wants to see the organ in the Church give something towards it.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE.—Arrangements have now been made by which our regular choir is present at the 4 P. M. Sunday service, thus making it one of the regular services for those who prefer an afternoon to an evening service.

ACCIDENT TO THE SEXTON.—While trying to clear up the cellar last week our sexton accidentally ran a nail into his knee. It may lay him up for some time, as injuries to the knee are often very troublesome. His place is being supplied by Mr. John Anderson, formerly Sexton of S. Luke's Church.

SERVICE FOR S. ANDREW'S BROTHERHOOD.—The quarterly meeting of the Diocesan Chapters of the S. Andrew's Brotherhood will be held in this Church on Thursday, February 27, at 8 P. M. Sermon by a special preacher.

HISTORICAL SERMONS.—The concluding sermons on Sunday evenings of the course on "the Founders and Fathers of the Church" will be delivered on the Sundays of this month up to the beginning of Lent, on S. Jerome, S. Augustine and S. Chrysostom.

GYMNASIUM.—The boys of S. John's Guild have been trying to raise a sufficient sum to purchase some gymnastic apparatus which can be placed in the back part of our large school room, as we have no room we can devote to it exclusively. It will afford a useful and healthful entertainment for our young men. They have now about $75 towards it, but it will cost $115.

ADDRESSES.—All subscribers to the NEWS will please keep Mr. Cope informed of their correct addresses, if they want to receive their copies regularly.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions were received during January

Mr. B. Johnson,	Mr. G. H. Haverstick,
Mrs. C. Tingley,	Mr. W. M. Newnam,
Mr. C. L. S. Tingley,	Mr. F. S. Keese,
Miss M. H. White,	Mrs. Jno. Alexander,
Mr. M. F. Roberts,	Mrs. W. H. Webb,
Mr. F. R. Hall.	Mr. Chas. A. Nicholson,
Miss L. F. Carter,	Mrs. Chas. A. Nicholson,
Mr. Wm. H. Cope,	Miss M. G. Harper,
Mr. R. Armstrong,	Miss M. W. Harper,
Miss Zantzinger,	Miss R. McIlheny,
Miss Hoy,	Miss Parmelee
Miss Eleanor Willing,	Mrs. H. C. Pollock,
Mr. Jno. Barton,	Mr. David Rea,
Miss Dickerson,	Miss L. Jackson,
Mrs. H. G. Batterson,	Miss E. L. Stokes,
Mrs. F. G. Molony,	Mr. Sam'l Wetherill,
Mr. W. F. Smith,	Mrs. Sam'l Wetherill,
Miss H. S. DeBeust,	Miss E. Colley.

Donations, $5.00

CHURCH NEWS.

AN EXAMPLE FOR RICH MEN.—The late Mr. Schoenberger of Pittsburg, who died a few weeks ago, left in his will $1.000,000 to charities. Among other bequests he gives to his parish Church, Trinity Church, Pittsburg, which he largely built himself, $100,000 *on condition* that the seats in it should all be made free and that a daily service should always be maintained in it. We wish others would remember their churches in their wills, and *attach the same conditions* to their gifts.

RITUAL CATECHISM.

CHAPTER IX.

Symbols.

Ques. How and why have symbols been employed?

Ans. They have been used by every nation and society, as an easy and effective way of setting forth or teaching great truths or facts, *e. g.* Standards, Flags, Seals, Coats of Arms, etc.

Ques. How long have such things been employed in the Christian Church?

Ans. Universally from the very earliest times as we see from inscriptions in the catacombs and on Christian monuments of the first and second centuries.

Ques. What is the great Christian Sign?

Ans. The Cross, because on it our Lord suffered, thus offering the great sacrifice for human sin, and giving the sublimest exemplification of heroism and self devotion. No other sign could so fully set forth the greatest characteristics and the most essential teachings of our religion.

Ques. What are its forms?

Ans. 1. The Latin Cross, in which each end of the transverse beam and upper part of the central beam are one half the length of the lower part of the central beam. 2. The Greek Cross, in which all the four arms of the cross are equal in length and at right angles to each other. Often the Greek Cross is doubled and each, or two, of its arms form a cross. 3. The Maltese Cross, which is the same shape as the Greek Cross except that the ends of its arms are widened. 4. The S. Andrews Cross, in which the arms are all equal but not at right angles. 5. A floriated cross, one in which the end of the arms terminate in fleur de lis or other ornamental figures. 6. The Celtic Cross, which has a circle running round the juncture of the cross, and the central beam often greatly prolonged.

Ques. What do the letters I. H. S. stand for?

Ans. They are the chief letters in the name JESUS in the Greek and so stand for it. Some also say they stand for the Latin words IESUS HOMINUM SALVATOR, Jesus the Saviour of men. The letters I. H. C. stand for IESUS HOMINUM CONSOLATOR, Jesus the consoler of men.

Ques. What does the sign XP stand for?

Ans. It is a monogram composed of the Greek letters, X, Chi and P, Rho, which are the chief letters in the Greek word CHRISTOS, Christ, and so stand for it.

Qnes. What sign is used for the Holy Ghost?

Aus. The Dove, because in that shape He descended on our Lord at His baptism. He is also sometimes represented by a tongue of fire, because in that appearance He lighted on the Apostles at Pentecost, and the color, for services, etc., which relate to the Holy Ghost, is red.

Ques. What signs are used for the Trinity?

Ans. The triangle, or three circles, or both entwined, the three leaf clover, or fleur de lis.

Ques. What is the sign of the Holy Eucharist?

Ans. A Chalice and Paten with a wafer, having a cross drawn upon it, perpendicular to the paten. It is also sometimes symbolized by a sheaf of wheat and bunch of grapes.

Ques. What do the letters B. V. M. stand for?

Ans. The Blessed Virgin Mary. The color for things relating to her is blue.

Ques. What is an Agnus Dei?

Ans. It is the figure of a Lamb with a halo round its head and a banner, with a cross upon it, supported by one of its front legs. It represents our Lord as "the Lamb of God."

Ques. How else is our Lord sometimes represented?

Ans. In His character of "the Good Shepherd," the figure of a Shepherd with his Shepherd's crook and a lamb in his arms.

Ques. What was a very common sign of our blessed Lord in the early Church?

Ans. The fish, from an anagram formed on the letters of the Greek word meaning a fish, JESUS CHRIST, Son of God the Saviour.

Ques. What are the signs of the four Evangelists?

Ans. The four beasts which S. John saw in his vision, Rev IV, 7, the first like a lion, the second like a calf, the third had a face as a man, the fourth a flying eagle.

Ques. Which do these represent?

Ans. S. Matthew the man, because he gives us our Lord's human geneology and dwells on His human life. S. Mark the lion, because he sets forth His kingly dignity. S. Luke the ox, because he tells more of the priesthood and sacrifice of Christ. S. John the eagle, because he soars to the contemplation of His divine character.—*S. Jerome.*

Ques. How are the Apostles represented?

Ans. S. Peter, with the keys, because of our Lord's words to him, "I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of Heaven." S. Paul, with the sword, because he was beheaded. S. Andrew, with the shaped cross on which he was crucified. S. James, with the pilgrims staff and scallop shell, with book and broad hat. S. James the Less, with book and club, because he suffered death from a blow from a fullers' club. S. Philip, with a small cross, the staff knotted like a reed. S. Matthew, with pike or spear, S. Matthias with an axe, S. Bartholomew with a knife, S. Simon with a saw, because by those instruments they were each killed. Many other saints have their respective signs.

Ques. What are symbols of the Church?

Ans. An ark, or a ship, or a pelican.

Ques. What of the Resurrection?

Ans. The Phœnix, because it was supposed to rise from its ashes, and the Peacock, because its flesh was supposed to be incorruptible.

Ques. What of Saints?

Ans. The palm branch and crown.

Ques. What is a Halo or Nimbus?

Ans. A circle drawn round the head of the figure of a Saint. That round the head of our Lord usually has a cross within it.

Ques. What is the proper form of a Christian tomb?

Ans. The cross, in some shape.

Ques. What letters are often inscribed on tombs?

Ans. R. I. P. which stand for the Latin words Requiescat in pace, may he rest in peace. Sometimes the words "In Peace" are inscribed or "May light perpetual shine upon him."

(To be continued.)

The Ascension News.

VOL. III. PHILADELPHIA, PA., MARCH, 1890 No. 3

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.
318 So. Broad St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
GEO. H. HAVERSTICK.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
707 S. 15th St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, 11 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Litany and Instruction, 4.00 P. M.
Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

DAILY:
Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 7.45 P. M.

THURSDAYS DURING LENT:
Holy Communion, 7.30 A. M.

Confirmation Instructions, Mondays, 4 P. M., Thursdays 8 P. M., during Lent in the Guild Room.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoons.

BIBLE CLASSES.

For Men, Sunday 3.00 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Kittson.

For Young Men, Sunday, 10 A. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Grimball.

For Ladies, Sunday, 3.00 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Hodge.

KALENDAR.—MARCH.

1 Ember Day
2 Second Sunday in Lent.
9 Third Sunday in Lent.
16 Fourth Sunday in Lent.
23 Passion Sunday.
25 Annunciation B. V. M.
30 Palm Sunday.
31 Monday in Holy Week.

All days in Lent, except Sundays, are Fasts.

GUILD MEETINGS.

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Miss Carman,	Miss Schoch,
Miss Hiller,	Miss Allibone,
Miss Alice Spear,	Miss Lucas.

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OUR FINANCES.

We trust none of our members were discouraged by the list of big things that we would like to see done in the parish, which we gave in our last issue. We only wanted to set before our people the opportunity we have in this location of doing a large work if we were properly equipped for it, in the hope, that having the full conception before them of what the Church ought to be, they might be stimulated to constant and further efforts for its improvement, and that some individuals perhaps might be moved to give us one or more of the things we need, or contribute largely toward them.

And of course we are not so sanguine as to hope that every thing we want will be done at once. But we propose to take them in hand in the order we set them down. First, to collect what we still need to pay for the organ; Second, to get the few hundred dollars necessary to fix up our grounds, put up iron railing, etc., and then to begin a systematic effort to reduce our debt. This is a great burden, and the amount we pay every year in interest on it is so much taken away from our current expense account, and before very long would amount to a sum as large as the debt itself. In the five years since we assumed it, we shall have paid $7500 in interest, nearly a third of the whole debt itself. If we could be relieved of this we should have just so much more money every year for our current expenses. So our great effort, now that we have our chancel and its necessary furniture, should be directed to this end. After that we can talk of other improvements.

But in the meantime we must remember that our current expenses, including the interest on the mortgage, have to be met all the time. To do this the Vestry adopted some two years ago, as the mode by which the Church should be supported, what is known as the Envelope System. It is the method of securing contributions generally used in free Churches. But some of our members do not understand it. Some people think that a free Church means one in which you do not have to give any thing. But that would not be possible in any Church, for one of the great duties of the Church is to teach people to be liberal givers. A free Church is one in which all the seats are free to any one, and in which people are not required to give according to the seat which they occupy, or reserve when they don't occupy it, but in which they are expected to give in accordance with their ability. In a free Church the poor man and the stranger have the same rights as the rich man. In it, he who can only give a little has just the same privileges as he who can give much. And the Envelope System secures just this. Each one attending the Church is asked to make a pledge to give as much as he can afford every week, until he gives notice to the contrary, and then he is furnished with envelopes in which he puts his offering every Sunday, and no one knows what is in that envelope but the Rector and the Warden. And it is on these offerings that the Church depends for its support. So every one should use them, even if they could not give more than five cents a week. Every one should contribute to the support of the Church, because all have the equal benefit of it.

And all attending the Church should not only use the envelopes, but be conscientious as to the amount they give in them. It is not as in a worldly business where each one tries to get off as cheaply as he can, but is a duty to be discharged to God, one in which all should be governed by considerations of duty and of love. And the best guide one can take in determining the amount they should give, is to make it the same as they would pay for a pew in a Church where the pews are rented, if they could afford to take one. These rates are fixed by the amount required to meet the expenses of the church. And as most of the people attending our Church want, we are sure, to have as talented clergymen, and as good music, and as well decorated and heated and lighted a Church as the best in the city, they ought to give the same amount they would be required to pay in those Churches. Yet the amount so far pledged through the envelopes with us is not a quarter of the pew rent in S. Mark's or S. Stephen's Churches. So if our people want their Church to compare with those, or to do the right thing by their clergy and other servants, they must give as much as the parishioners of those Churches do. And if any one can afford to pay pew rent in another Church, and does not give the same amount here, he is simply taking advantage of a system designed to benefit the poor, to defraud the Church of what is her due.

And then our people must remember that as the amount they contribute through the envelopes takes the place of what they would pay as pew rent in another Church, they should give in addition to various charitable objects, the poor, Sunday Schools, Missions, etc., as they would in pew-rented Churches through the various collections which are always being taken up. These things are necessaries, and all should contribute toward them as regularly as they do to the support of the Church. Giving of our substance to the Church of God, and for charitable and benevolent objects, is just as much a Christian duty, as prayer, or Church-going, and if we fail in it, if we "shut up our compassion, how dwelleth the love of God in us?"

"If thou hast much give plenteously, if thou hast little, do thy diligence gladly to give of that little."

LENT.

The season of Lent is intended as a time for self-improvement, for the earnest effort to correct what may be wrong in our characters or disposition. It is a time for special discipline and devotion, for more frequent Church-going and attendance at the Blessed Sacrament. It is a time for special self-denial, for performing acts of benevolence and charity, in short for cultivating and perfecting our Christian Character. Are we employing the season for these purposes? Do we set definitely before ourselves these objects and make earnest efforts to effect them? Ample opportunities are offered us which can be used for this end; there is an abundance of objects appealing to our charity. Are we employing them, and embracing our opportunities for doing good? This season of Lent is one of the oldest and most widely used parts of the Church's discipline, and if we employ it as the Church intends we should, we will find it most useful and beneficial for our souls growth and our highest welfare.

Record for February.

Baptisms,	2
Marriage,	1
Burials	1
Communicants added—	
By removal	6
Died	1

OFFERINGS.

Current expenses	$ 448.74
Poor	25.09
Sunday School	6.52
Organ Fund	115.93
S. Andrew's Brotherhood,	8.09
Total	$604.37

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—During the last month some friends of the parish have fitted up our Bible Class and ladies' work room, by having the walls and ceiling colored, the old rag carpet taken up and replaced by an ingrain rug, and the old table consisting of a board on tressels, replaced by an oak extension table. The small front room has also been furnished with a similar rug, and a gas cooking stove, a shelf and pegs for hanging up hats and wraps. We have also received various donations of clothing, etc., for the poor.

LENTEN SEWING.—The members of "the Ladies' Aid" invite all the ladies of the congregation to join them in sewing during Lent for the benefit of the Home for Crippled Children, on Thursday afternoons, at 3 P. M., or if any prefer to take work home, they can get it before any of the afternoon services from one of the ladies in charge

THE ENTERTAINMENT BY S. JOHN'S GUILD, given for their gymnasium fund was quite successful. It consisted of a magical exhibition, kindly given by Mr. Bowman Price, recitations by Master Dutton, a member of the Guild, and a repetition of one of the pieces performed in West Philadelphia for the benefit of the organ fund. The proceeds of the entertainment were about $30, which, with the subscriptions previously received, have enabled the Guild to purchase quite a number of gymnastic appliances which are already in use, and much appreciated.

SALE OF ORGANS.—We have been able to dispose of the large reed organ we bought when we first moved into the parish building but which we have not used for the last two years. We have also the prospect of our selling the pipe organ we have now in use, when our new organ is put in; we shall thus add several hundred dollars to our organ fund. We expect to have the new organ put in this month, but we still need more money to pay for it.

SERVICES IN HOLY WEEK.—As the next number of the NEWS will not come out until just before Easter, we publish here the list of services for Holy Week which will be the same as in previous years.

Palm Sunday, Procession of the Palms, before the 11 A. M. service.
7½ A. M., daily, Holy Communion.
10 A. M., daily, (except Good Friday) Morning Prayer and Holy Communion.
5 P. M., daily, Evening Prayer.
8 P. M., daily, Sermon on the Passion.

GOOD FRIDAY.
11 A. M., Morning Prayer, Litany and Singing of the Reproaches.
12 to 3 P. M.. Preaching of the Cross.

NOTE.—Copies of the words of the Reproaches will be distributed to the congregation at the service. Persons who may not be able to remain during all of the service and preaching on Good Friday, can come or leave the Church at any time during the singing of the hymns with which the preaching will be varied.

CONFIRMATION.—As the evening appointed by the Bishop for Confirmation happened to be that of the annual meeting of the Vestry and also of the meeting of S. Andrew's Brotherhood, at the request of the Rector, the Bishop has changed his appointment to Wednesday evening, April 16th.

WORK OF THE CLERGY.—In addition to their regular work in the parish the clergy have undertaken to help some of their Brethern during Lent, the Rector preaching in S. James' Church, Kingsessing, S. John the Baptist, Germantown, Trinity, West Philadelphia, and at one of the noonday services in S. Paul's Church, and the Assistant in the Church of the Evangelists and S. Peter's Church.

EASTER OFFERINGS. As the amount pledged through the envelopes, together with the contributions of strangers through the ordinary offertories, is still far from being sufficient to meet all our current expenses, we must depend as we have in former years for large special contributions on Christmas and Easter. On the Sundays preceeding Easter the Rector will be able to announce just how much will be needed to meet all our obligations up to the end of our financial year, April 30th, and we trust that each member of the congregation will do his best to contribute his share toward the sum required, so that we may be able to come out, as we usually have heretofore, with every thing paid up to the end of the current year. Our expenses have been heavier this year than ever before and it will require extra liberality on the part of each contributor to meet them. If any one fails the balance may come out on the wrong side of the account.

OFFERINGS FOR DIOCESAN MISSIONS.—As in other years the amount apportioned to this parish for the support of Diocesan Missions is $50. This ought to be paid this month. All offerings placed in the alms box in the vestibule of the Church which is marked for "Missions" will be devoted to this purpose. Let each one give something and the amount can be raised without any one feeling it. We are ashamed to say that we have never yet paid our assesment in full. Do not let us be derelict this year, and so prove false the allegation so often made that free Churches do nothing for any one but themselves.

DEATH OF FORMER SEXTON.—Mr. Steward Mitchell, sexton of the Church for nearly six years during the present Rectorship, died very suddenly February 23d. He was only sick a few hours.

S. ANDREW'S BROTHERHOOD SERVICE.—The quarterly service for all the Diocesan Chapters of S. Andrew's Brotherhood, was held in the Church, on the evening of February 27th. About one hundred members of the brotherhood were present and some nine of the clergy; the full choir was present, entering the Church in procession from

the Parish building with the members of the Brotherhood, carrying the banners of the various Chapters. An effective sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Watkins of West Philadeiphla. But very few persons were in the congregation beside the members of the Brotherhood. Whether this was because our people supposed the service was only for the Brotherhood, or because the night was a little rainy, we do not know. We do know that those who stayed away, missed an inspiring service and a good sermon. A short business meeting of the Brotherhood was held afterward in the school room.

EASTER COMMUNION.—As every one will want to make their Communion on Easter day, there will be three celebrations, at 7.30, 8.30 and 11 A. M. We trust all who possibly can will come to one of the early celebrations. If any cannot come on Easter Day itself, let them come to one of the celebrations on Easter Monday or Tuesday, which is one of the purposes of having Communions on those days.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions were received during February: Mrs. Dr, Butcher, Mr. J. H. Botwright, Mr. Jno. M. Steward, Mrs. Wm. P. Chandler, Miss Goodman, Mrs. T. H. Bowers, Miss A. H. Chamberlaine, Mrs. Carman, Mr. Jno. B. Hazlett, Mr. Jas. Lescure.

Subscriptions due and *unpaid* 28.

RITUAL CATECHISM.

CHAPTER XI.

Church Music.

Ques. How early was music used in the services of the Christian Church.

Ans. Our Lord and His Disciples sang a hymn at the Last Supper, and Paul and Silas when they were in prison. The Apostles exhorted Christians to the singing of Psalms and Hymns, and in early accounts of Christian worship, we read of singing, especially the Psalms of David. The early Christians, having been accustomed to the worship of the Jewish temple, in which singing and the use of musical instruments formed so large a part, it is probable that they formed their worship after that model.

Ques. What is the propriety of using music in Divine worship.

Ans. First, because it is the highest and most artistic form of human expression, and therefore, the most fit to be employed in God's service; and secondly, because it is calculated to inspire and call forth human devotion.

Ques. Should the prayers of the Church as well as the hymns be sung.

Ans. Yes, because music is quite as capable of expressing devotion and penitence, as praise—many hymns or portions of the hymns, as of the Te Deum, are prayers—and because it affords a more solemn and more effective way of rendering them, than simply saying them.

Ques. What is "intoning?"

Ans. It is the reciting of prayers, etc., upon a single note, or with slight inflections.

Ques. What is the technical meaning of the expression, "say or sing," in the Prayer Book.

Ans. It is to recite on a single note, or to sing to a melody.

Ques. What portions of the service should especially be sung?

Ans. The Canticles and Psalms.

Ques. How are they generally sung?

Ans. To Gregorian tones, or Anglican chants.

Ques. What are they?

Ans. The Gregorian tones are a method of singing in unison, according to certain inflections arranged by Pope Gregory the Great, and supposed to be adaptations of the ancient Hebrew method of chanting. Anglican chants are a method of singing in parts with a regular recitative and cadence. There are a great variety of them, and they are peculiar to the Anglican Church.

Ques. What is an anthem?

Ans. It is a set piece of music in harmony, often containing solos and duets. The Canticles, Te Deum, Creed, etc., are often sung in this way.

Ques. What are the great musical portions of the Communion Office?

Ans. The Kyries—the responses to the Commandments,—the Creed, the Agnus Dei, generally sung after the Consecration; the Ter Sanctus, and the Gloria in Excelsis.

Ques. What is a Church Service?

Ans. It is a musical arrangement of the several parts of the Communion Office by one composer. Sometimes it includes a Te Deum and Benedictus to correspond.

Ques. What is meant by "Presenting?"

Ans. It is the singing of the first notes of a Psalm, Canticle, Creed, etc., by the Priest of Cantor, to announce to the Congregation what is about to be sung, or to what tone.

Ques. What is antiphonal singing?

Ans. It is the singing of alternate verses by two choirs, or by the Priest and choir. It is especially adopted when a long Psalm or number of Psalms are to be sung, as it rests the voices and adds life to the singing.

Ques. What is an "Introit?"

Ans. A Psalm, Hymn or Anthem sung as the Clergy are entering the Chancel to begin the Communion Office.

Ques. What is an "Offertorium?"

Ans. A piece of music sung or played during the collection of the offerings.

Ques. What are Processionals and Recessionals?

Ans. Psalms or Hymns sung as the choir is entering and leaving the Church.

Ques. What is a Quartet Choir?

Ans. One composed of four persons singing the Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass parts.

Ques. What is a Chorus Choir?

Ans. One composed of a large number of singers.

Ques. How long have Boy Choirs been used in the Church.?

Ans. From a very early period, and they have always been continued in the Church of England since the Reformation, as they were before it, in the Cathedrals and Royal Chapels. Of late years they have been introduced largely both in England and in this country, into parish Churches. They are now really distinctive of the Anglican Communion, as they are not used in any Roman Catcholic Churches, or those of the Protestant denominations, at least in this country.

Ques. Why are they clad in surplices?

Ans. That they may be, like the other ministrants of Divine worship, "decently habited," that is, becomingly and appropriately to the holy service in which they are engaged, as the Priests and Levites in the Jewish worship, wore the linen ephod.

Ques. Where should the Choir always be placed?

Ans. In the Sanctuary, in front of the people, to lead their praises, as the clergy do their devotions.

(To be continued.)

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The Ascension News.

Vol. III. PHILADELPHIA, PA., APRIL, 1890 No. 4

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.
318 So. Broad St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
GEO. H. HAVERSTICK.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
707 S. 15th St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, 11 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Litany and Instruction, 4.00 P. M.
Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

DAILY:
Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoons.

BIBLE CLASSES

For Men, Sunday 3.00 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Kittson.

For Young Men, Sunday, 10 A. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Grimball.

For Ladies, Sunday, 3.00 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Hodge.

KALENDAR—APRIL.

1 Tuesday before Easter—Fast.
2 Wednesday before Easter—Fast.
3 Maunday Thursday—Fast.
4 Good Friday—Fast.
5 Easter Even—Fast.
6 Easter Day.
7 Monday in Easter Week.
8 Tuesday in Easter Week.
11 Friday—Fast.
13 Low Sunday.
18 Friday—Fast.
20 Second Sunday after Easter.
25 S. Mark's Day—Fast.
27 Third Sunday after Easter.

GUILD MEETINGS.

7 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
8 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
17 8 P. M., Meeting of S. Andrew's Brotherhood.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Festival of the Industrial School, Saturday 12th. A. M.
Mothers' Meeting every Wednesday evening after service.
Womens' Working Club, every Friday at 7.30 P. M.
Ladies' Aid Society, every Thursday at 3 P. M.
Embroidery Class, every Thursday morning after Morning Prayer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2 30 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. Wm. Gilpin.
Ass't Superintendent, Mr. W. H. Montgomery.
Librarian, Mr. J. Lardner Howel.
Assistant Librarian, Mr. Carroll Hodge.

TEACHERS.

Miss Morrell,
Miss A. Jackson,
Miss M. Harper,
Miss Anderson,
Miss T. G. Harper,
Miss Carman,
Miss Hiller,
Miss Alice Spear,
Miss Gilpin,
Miss McCauley,
Miss Blackwell,
Miss Bond,
Miss Parmelee,
Miss Schoch,
Miss Allibone,
Miss Lucas,
Miss Saunders.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, 112 South Fourth Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

THE HOLY COMMUNION.

How few Church people really understand or appreciate what the Holy Communion is! There are multitudes who look upon it as if it was something which only concerned a very few particularly pious people, but which the generality of people had no concern with. So we have come to have two classes of persons in our congregations, those who are communicants and those who are not, whereas every one should be a communicant unless he is an infidel or is leading an abandonedly wicked life. For consider what the Holy Communion is. It is what our blessed Lord instituted to be His memorial. In doing so He used much of the language and many of the acts connected with the offering of the Jewish sacrifices, especially that of the Passover, the memorial of deliverance of the Jewish people from their Egyptian bondage. So just as the Jews offered those sacrifices as the memorial of God's goodness to them, and as the means by which they sought His pardon and favor, so it is evident that our Lord intended the Sacrament He instituted under such solemn circumstances to serve the same purpose in the new dispensation He was inaugurating. So He commands that it should be done "oft, in remembrance of" Him. S. Paul says "as oft as ye do this, ye do show forth the Lord's death till He come," and that it is "the communion"—that is, the communication—"of the body and blood of Christ." It is the memorial of Christ's death both before men and before God. It sets forth to men more vividly and eloquently than any words or picture or other method could, the sacrifice of the death of Christ for man's sake. It is the proof and pledge to him of God's goodness and favor towards him, and it is the means by which the benefits of that sacrifice are communicated and sealed to men. And it is a memorial before God, that is, the means by which man sets forth and presents before God what His only begotten Son has done for man, and so it is the most potent and effectual mode of prayer.

Now if these are its purposes, it is evident that they apply to all men who are believers in the truth of the Christian religion. All need to be kept in mind of what Christ did and suffered from love to man, to have ever vividly kept before the mind all the benefits of Christ's sacrifice, and to be strengthened and refreshed by having those benefits communicated to them. And all need to pray, to use this the most effectual means of prayer.

The Holy Communion is in short the great distinguishing act of Christian worship, the heathens, Buddists and Mohammedans use prayer and praise in worship. But only Christians celebrate the Holy Communion. It is the method by which the Christian confesses his faith in Christ, and pledges his fealty towards Him. And that should be a thing which he will do not only once in his life, or seldom, at great intervals, but which should be a joy and interest and help for him to do often. So we find the Holy Communion has always been regarded by the great body of the Christian Church. In the book of the Acts of the Apostles we read that they "continued daily in the breaking of Bread," and it is evident from the same book that it was one of the purposes for the assembling of Christians on the Lord's day. And from the history of the Church we find that it was always and everywhere celebrated at least upon every Sunday and Holy day, down to the Reformation. And our Prayer Book witnesses that it was the intention of the English Church that the same practice should continue. And it is so celebrated to-day by all the Greek and Roman Churches, which together constitute the immense majority of Christians. It is only among the various Protestant sects that the peculiar conception of the Holy Cummunion to which we have referred has sprung up. And it is through our association with members of those bodies that those views have come so largely to prevail among us. But we should try to come to look at it as the Scriptures and Church History and our own formularies teach us, to realize all that it is and all that it imports. And then we will come to feel that it is something which is of supreme importance to all, it will be the greatest interest and joy to all to celebrate it, and one will feel that to fail to do so means really to apostatize from Christ. In all Christian history the greatest penalty the Church could inflict on any one has been to excommunicate him, that is forbid his coming to the Holy Communion. And yet how many among us thus excommunicate themselves.

It is because we hold this view of the Holy Communion that we celebrate it in this parish as frequently as we do. And we trust that it will come to be more and more appreciated and used, that the number of Communicants will come to be the same as the number of the attendants at the church, and that it will come to be the exception, a rare and surprising thing that any one should leave the church when the celebration of the Holy Communion begins.

Record for March.

Baptisms	1
Burials	2
Communicants added—	
New	1
By removal	7
Removed	2
Died	2

OFFERINGS.

Current expenses	$459 86
Poor	23 97
Sunday School	9 32
Building Fund	75 00
Organ Fund	251 33
Flowers	23 27
Indian Missions	51 00
Diocesan Missions	24 53
Total	$918 28

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH. — We received last month a most acceptable donation of two dozen Prayer Books and two dozen Hymnals from the Female Prayer Book Society, a new clergy surplice embroidered, a canton flannel credence cover, edged with hand-made lace, and an embroidered linen cover for the same, twelve books for the Parish and Sunday school library, and some palms for Palm Sunday. Two corporals, two maniples, a fair linen cloth, four purificators and a linen pall have also been made and embroidered, to be sent to mission Churches.

THE NEW ORGAN. We are much disappointed that the new organ is not ready, as it was promised, for use on Easter day. But through sickness of workmen and other causes it was unavoidably delayed and the builders have asked for an extension of their time for a week or ten days. So we shall hope to be able to have it played on Low Sunday or the Sunday following. As soon as it is in position, we shall have a special service for its dedication, together with an Organ recital, of which due notice will be given. The offertory on that occasion will be for the Organ fund, and the congregation must remember that we still need over a $1,000 to complete the payment for it. The fund has been growing slowly each month, but we must keep it growing until it is all paid for, as this is the first indebtedness we have incurred for anything beside our ground rent.

NEW CHOIR STALLS.—We are happy to announce that a gentleman has offered to put in our permanent choir stalls, which will be a great improvement over the temporary ones we have been using, which were first made when we held our services in the parish building, and have been altered and put together and pieced out with chairs in the various chancels we have had since. The new ones will be much handsomer and more comfortable. They will be made of oak to correspond with the organ case. There will be yoke stalls for the clergy, and the ends of the stalls will terminate in carved poppy-heads.

GYMNASIUM.—The gymnastic appliances procured by S. John's Guild are now in full use. The Guild meetings are every Monday evening. The girls of S. Mary's Guild also use them on Tuesday evenings.

LENTEN SEWING.—The ladies accomplished quite an amount of sewing this Lent, enough to constitute a nice donation, valued at $25, to the Home for Cripple Children, a most deserving charity.

DEATH OF MR. LEACH.—It is singular that two persons who were formerly Sextons of this Church should have died within two weeks of each other. Mr. Leach was sexton for some fifteen years during Bishop Hare and Rev. Mr. Stuart's Rectorships. He was buried from the Church on Sunday, March 9th, and as he belonged to a number of societies his funeral was very largely attended. He had been in ill health for over a year. The last time he was able to be in Church was on the dedication of the new chancel, when he came both morning and evening.

VESTRY ELECTION—The annual election for vestrymen will be held on Easter Monday. The polls will be open from the conclusion of Divine Service in the morning until 1 P. M. There are two vacancies in the present vestry, owing to the removal from the city of Dr. Charles B. Nancrede and Mr. Salmon A. Buell. We understand that Mr. William H. Tevis and Mr. William Platt Pepper, two recent additions to our congregation, will be nominated in their places.

ADVERTISEMENTS. We must thank several of our members who have exerted themselves to secure us new advertisements. It is a very substantial way of helping the paper and so helping the Church, for we think all agree that the NEWS is very useful in keeping all our people informed about their Church, and instructing them in regard to its principles, its progress and its wants.

EMBROIDERY CLASS.—The ladies of the embroidery class have been kept very busy of late on quite a number of orders they have received. They are also engaged in working a new white silk altar cloth for the Church which we shall hope to see before long.

AMOUNT OF EASTER OFFERING.—According to the estimate of the accounting Warden, we shall need an offering of about $700 on Easter day to meet all the current expenses of the parish up to the close of the financial year. We trust it will be forthcoming.

S. ANDREW'S BROTHERHOOD.—The regular monthly meeting of the Brotherhood will take place this month on the third Thursday, in place of the second, as there is a Confirmation instruction and a Vestry meeting which will occupy the clergy on that evening.

CONFIRMATION will be administered in the Church on Wednesday evening, April 16th, as announced. The Instructions will be continued on Mondays at 4 P. M., and Thursdays at 8 P. M. until then. The class will be about the same size as last year. There are many in the parish who should be confirmed who have not given in their names.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions were received during March.

Mrs. T. H. Helsby,	Mrs. Marshall,
Mrs. M. S. Atwood,	Miss Mary Price,
Mrs. Thos. B. Allen,	Mr. Thos. Robb,
Mrs. M. A. Brock,	Mrs. Wm. H. Cope,
Mrs. Hiller,	Miss A. D. Butler,
Mr Thos. Simmickson,	Miss Wagner,
Miss F. E. Smith,	Miss C. Carmichael,
Mr. H. G. Gray,	Miss E. H. King,
Miss A. Haynes,	Miss Holbrook,
Mrs. Larzelere,	Miss C. Thwaites.

CHURCH NEWS.

SERVICES in S. Paul's Church, Third street, below Walnut, have been held every day in Lent from 12.30 to 12.50 P. M., for business men who could attend most conveniently at that hour. Short addresses being given each day by different clergymen, on Mondays by a layman under the auspices of S. Andrew's Brotherhood.

THE Rev. Dr. Vibbert of Chicago, formerly Rector of S. Luke's, Germantown, has been called to the Rectorship of S. Peter's Church, Third and Pine streets.

THE Rev. Dr. Nichols, Rector of S. James' Church, 22d and Walnut streets, has been elected assistant Bishop of California. Both these gentlemen have signified their acceptance. The one will be a gain and the other a loss to our city.

THE new parish of S. Elizabeth in the south-western part of the city, 16th and Mifflin streets, is now fairly established, the parish house, in which services will be held until the Church is built, having been formally opened by the Bishop in February. The city is growing very rapidly in that direction and a new Church is much needed there.

THE handsome marble Altar and Mosaic Reredos, which has been since the Centennial Exhibition in the Memorial Hall, in the park, is at last to be put to the use for which it was intended. It has been purchased for S. Mary's Church, West Philadelphia. The Chancel is being prepared to receive it. We had always hoped that we might have had it here. But its price was beyond us.

IT IS ANNOUNCED that Mr. William W. Astor will present to Trinity Church New York, bronze doors costing $100,000, in memory of his father who has recently deceased.

Effect of a Musical Service.

"I *am* an Episcopalian. I am every thing that has any good in it. Honey is honey, no matter where it is; and I will say this, and my Episcopalian brethren may make as much of it as they can, that their service in their Cathedrals lifted me up as no sermon ever did, as no prayer ever did, and brought me nearer to Christ, nearer to God, nearer to Heaven, with a suffusion of tears and almost dissolving body. It carried me higher than ever I stood before."—*Henry Ward Beecher.*

Deadheads.

A number in the parish contribute nothing to its support. They do not rent sittings or pews; they place little or nothing on the plate as it passes Sunday after Sunday; they give regularly and systematically to no parish or Church cause, and yet they are not poor either. In fact, they are what the world calls religious "deadheads." They occupy places in church, they appear to enjoy the worship, they get the benefit of the preaching and music, they call for the services of the clergyman in sickness and trouble, and expect him to lay them away decently and in order when they die, all free of cost. In the meanwhile they spend upon their worldly ease and enjoyment what they are thus saving from the parish and the Church. We submit this to be rather small, and if it is done intentionally, it is mean; if thoughtlessly, it is reprehensible.—*The Living Church.*

RITUAL CATECHISM.

CHAPTER XI.

Ecclesiastical Offices.

Ques. What are the three Orders in the sacred Ministry?

Ans. Bishops, Priests and Deacons.

Ques. What are the duties of Bishops?

Ans. They are the successors of the Apostles to whom our Lord committed the government of the Church. Each rules over a district called a Diocese, or in the case of a mission, a missionary jurisdiction; they have the chief care and direction of the Churches, Church institutions, funds, etc., the direction and discipline of the clergy and laity. They alone have the power of ordination.

Ques. Is each Bishop and Diocese an independent Church?

Ans. No. The authority of the Church lies in the universal Episcopate. But for convenience neighboring Dioceses are associated together into Provinces which act as the unit of the Church for all purposes except such as relate to Faith and Morals.

Ques. How do Bishops receive their office?

Ans. They are elected by the clergy and laity of their Dioceses or sometimes by the clergy of the Cathedral Church. But the majority of the Bishops of the Province must consent to the election, and they only can consecrate the elect.

Ques. What is the Bishop who presides over a province called?

Ans. An Archbishop, Metropolitan, Primate or Presiding Bishop.

Ques. How is he chosen?

Ans. Generally he is the Bishop of the chief city or most ancient See. Sometimes he is the oldest Bishop by Consecration. Sometimes he is elected.

Ques. What are his duties?

Ans. He presides at all meetings of Provincial Synods, takes order for the Consecration of Bishops-elect, hears appeals from Diocesan Courts, presides at trials of Bishops, etc.

Ques. What is an Assistant or Coadjutor Bishop?

Ans. One who assists a Diocesan or Missionary Bishop. He can perform all Episcopal acts for which the Bishop commissions him, but he has no independent authority. He generally has the right of succession.

Ques. What is a Suffragan Bishop?

Ans. A Bishop consecrated to take the entire episcopal oversight of a portion of a Diocese. The term is also applied to the Bishops of a Province as distinguished from the Presiding Bishop.

Ques. What is a Patriarch or Pope?

Ans. One who presides over a group of Provinces. The ancient Patriarchates were Jerusalem, Antioch, Alexandria, Rome and Constantinople.

Ques. What are the duties of a Priest?

Ans. To celebrate the Holy Communion and other Sacraments of the Church, to preach, to preside over or assist in the care of a particular Church or parish, and perform other ministerial duties.

Ques. How does he receive the office?

Ans. Any man of requisite age, education and character, as proved by examinations and testimonials, may be ordained by a Bishop, the other clergy of the Diocese consenting to and taking part in his ordination personally or by their representatives.

Ques. What are the duties of a Deacon?

Ans. To assist the Priest in Divine Service, to instruct the youth and to look after the poor and needy of the parish. He cannot celebrate the Holy Communion, or pronounce the Absolution or Benediction. He can Baptise in the absence of the Priest, and preach if he be licensed thereto by the Bishop.

Ques. How is he ordained?

Ans. By the Bishop alone after due examination and recommendation by some of the clergy and laity of the Diocese.

Ques. Where does he exercise his office?

Ans. Wherever his Bishop may appoint. All Deacons are at the absolute direction of the Bishop and can be sent wherever he sees best, though if licensed by the Bishop to act as assistant to a priest, they work under his direction.

Ques. Is the office of a Deacon ever discharged by a Priest?

Ans. Yes frequently, particularly in parishes where it is desired to have more than one celebration of the Holy Communion in a day, or to perform other priestly duties which cannot be conveniently discharged by the clergyman in charge of the parish.

Ques. Must all entering Holy Orders be first made Deacons?

Ans. Yes, and they may remain Deacons for life, or after due probation and examination they may be advanced to the Priesthood, provided they have been Deacons for at least one year.

(To be continued.)

DREKA

FINE STATIONERY AND ENGRAVING HOUSE

1121 CHESTNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA

LEADING OPTICIANS.

NOTICE! The Ladies' Aid Society will take orders for any kind of plain sewing; aprons, underwear, etc. Orders can be given to Mrs. Gundaker or Mrs. Bond, at the Church, after prayers on Friday mornings, at ten o'clock.

The Ascension News.

VOL. III. PHILADELPHIA, PA., MAY, 1890 No. 5

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.
318 So. Broad St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
GEO. H. HAVERSTICK.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
1316 Bancroft St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, 11 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Litany and Instruction, 4.00 P. M.
Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

DAILY:
Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoons.

DEDICATION FESTIVAL.

ASCENSION DAY, MAY 15TH

7½ A. M., Holy Communion.
11 A. M., Choral Morning Prayer and Holy Communion.
5 P. M., Evening Prayer.
8 P. M., Choral Shortened Evening Prayer and Anniversary Sermon by the Rector.
May 16th. 8 P. M., Parish Tea for Parishioners and others, in the School Room.
May 17th. 8 P. M., Anniversary of Guilds. Procession of Guilds with Service and Sermon by Rev. Father Benson, of Oxford, Eng.

KALENDAR.—MAY.

1 SS. Philip and James.
2 Friday—Fast.
4 Fourth Sunday after Easter.
9 Friday—Fast.
11 Rogation Sunday.
12 Rogation Day—Fast.
13 Rogation Day—Fast.
14 Rogation Day—Fast.
15 Ascension Day.
16 Friday—Fast.
18 Expectation Sunday.
23 Friday—Fast.
25 Whitsun Day.
26 Whitsun Monday.
27 Whitsun Tuesday.
28 Ember Day—Fast.
30 Ember Day—Fast.
31 Ember Day—Fast.

GUILD MEETINGS.

5 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild
8 8 P. M., Meeting of S. Andrew's Brotherhood.
13 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Mothers' Meeting every Wednesday evening after service.
Embroidery Class, every Thursday morning after Morning Prayer.

BIBLE CLASSES.

For Men, Sunday 3.00 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Kittson.
For Young Men, Sunday, 10 A. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Grimball.
For Ladies, Sunday, 3.00 P. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Hodge.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2 30 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. Wm. Gilpin.
Ass't Superintendent, Mr. W. H. Montgomery.
Librarian, Mr. J. Lardner Howel.
Assistant Librarian, Mr. Carroll Hodge.

TEACHERS.

Miss Morrell,	Miss Gilpin,
Miss A. Jackson,	Miss McCauley,
Miss M. Harper,	Miss Blackwell,
Miss Anderson,	Miss Bond,
Miss T. G. Harper,	Miss Parmelee,
Miss Carman,	Miss Schoch,
Miss Alice Spear,	Miss Allibone,
Mrs. Pollock,	Miss Lucas,

Mr. Brinton Whitehead.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

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RITUAL.

By ritual, we mean those ceremonies, acts, and ornaments of the Church which are not prescribed in the Prayer Book, but which are necessary in performing its offices. For instance, the Prayer Book says nothing about the furniture or ornamentations of the chancel, or about the dress of the Ministers, or as to many of the postures they shall assume. Yet it is manifest that the chancel must be furnished ; that the Ministers should be properly vested, and that they must assume postures, or perform acts in celebrating Divine worship.

And the question is, by what law or rule these things are to be governed. And Clergymen follow different principles in regard to them. Some think they should be ruled by the customs of the Church, simply as it has been in this country since the Revolution. But that seems a very narrow rule to follow, as it cuts us off from all previous traditions of the Church, and shuts us up to a period in which the Church has been very weak and depressed, and can hardly be supposed to be adapted to all the wants and tastes of our rapidly increasing populations.

Others prefer to follow as nearly as possible the Ritual of the Church of Rome, as if, being a great and ancient Communion, it was the natural standard on such matters. But the objection to this is, that much of the present Ritual of the Church of Rome is not ancient, but novel, has no authority from antiquity, was never at any time used in the Church of England. Moreover, there are grave doctrinal differences between our Church and that of Rome. And even admitting that its Ritual does not necessarily teach or symbolize its peculiar doctrines, it does do so in popular estimation, hence the use of distinctive Roman Ritual creates that impression, or raises a prejudice which interferes with the teaching of true Catholic doctrine.

A third class of clergymen are eclectic, and follow what use, or variety of uses, their personal judgment or tastes prefer. But such individualism has neither authority nor wisdom to commend it.

But there is a fourth rule which seems to us the right one, and that is to follow the laws and traditions of the whole Anglican Church as it has existed, not only for the last hundred years or so, but from the very beginning of its separation from Rome. And for for this there is distinct authority, for, although there are no Ritual directions in our Prayer Book, the Preface of the Book declares that it has no intention of departing from the principles of worship of the Church of England, from which it was derived, and there is a rubric in the Prayer Book of that Church, which declares that all the

"ornaments of the Church and of the Ministers thereof shall be retained and be in use that were in use in the second year of the reign of King Edward VI." Hence we are sent back to the Prayer Book of that time, which was the first English Prayer Book, to find the rules we should follow, and that Book, and the Injunctions which accompanied it, specify the various ornaments, vestments, etc., which shall be used.

And if we examine these, we shall see that while they retain all the distinctive acts and elements which have been employed in Christian worship from the very beginning, and which entered into Jewish worship before it, there are, nevertheless, marked differences between it and the modern Roman Catholic Ritual. For instance, it forbids the Elevation and showing of the Elements to the people for worship, and it nowhere directs, as indeed the older Sarum Ritual, from which ours was derived, never directed the Priest to genuflect, *i.e.*, to kneel rapidly on one knee, as is so frequently done in the Roman Ritual, but only to kneel and bow. while the English Prayer Book directs the use of all the ancient vestments of the Church, it is known that they differed essentially in shape from the present Roman vestments, the surplice and chasuble being long and full, instead of the short lace Roman cotta and fiddle-back chasuble. So, as to the ornaments of the altar, modern Roman altars are covered with a multiplicity of candles, generally six large ones, the Cross being regarded as the seventh, and innumerable small ones. But the first English Prayer Book forbade the use of any candles, excepting two, "to signify that Christ was the true light of the world." And the altars of the Cathedrals, and Royal and College Chapels, and principal Churches in England have had two, and but two, candles on them since that time. Thus, while retaining the various acts and symbols which have entered universally into religious worship, and to which we are entitled, and not to use which in some form is to put us out of sympathy with the rest of Catholic Christendom, a marked distinction between the worship and appearance of English and Roman Churches is thus kept up, which, at least as long as those Churches are not in communion with each other and differ as widely as they do, seems to us advisable.

It is not necessary that the Ritual of all branches of the Church should be the same ; witness the great difference between that of the Eastern and Western Church. Nor is it necessary that the Ritual of one branch of the Church should always remain the same, and if a new use should spring up, and be universally adopted among us, we would not hold out against it. But the rule which we have given above seems to us to have the highest authority and to be the wisest for the present, and is that, we believe, which is followed by the best and most prominent Churches both in this country and in England.

Moreover, we think it very unwise for constant changes to be

made in the Ritual of a Parish, as it keeps the people excited and in unrest and suspicious of the intention and tendency of things. We have now in this Parish an orderly, dignified and beautiful service, in thorough accord with the rubrics of the Prayer Book and the best customs and traditions of the English Church, and from that standard it is the intention of the present Rector not to depart, but to keep things essentially as they now are. We say this that people may know what they have to expect, and not be looking for or fearing constant changes.

OUR DEBT,

Munificent Offer Towards its Reduction.

The only debt on our property is the mortgage of $25,000 which we have always had on the land. The interest on this is a great drain upon us. If we could be relieved of it we would then be in a very sound condition, could pay our clergy the salaries they are entitled to, and add to our appropriations for music, benevolent work, etc.

The mortgage is due on the 10th of next month, and must then be either paid off or renewed. Or, if it could be reduced, we should be so far assisted. We have great pleasure in saying that we have received an offer, and are authorized to announce that a gentleman will give $2500 towards this latter purpose, *provided* an equal sum is contributed towards the same by the 10th of June.

We are very anxious that this offer should be taken up, and yet we feel that the congregation has been asked to do so much lately, in the building of the chancel and putting in the organ, that it is hardly possible to make a general appeal for this purpose just now. But are there not some individuals whom God has blessed with this world's goods, who either belong to our Parish or are interested in its work, who will step forward and help us to avail ourselves of this generous offer, which will relieve us so far of this incubus, and set us permanently on our feet, to take the rank and do the work we should among the Churches?

This appeal is sent forth with the prayer that God may move the heart of some one or more into whose hands it may fall to respond to it.

Record for April.

Baptisms—	
Adults	4
Infants	5
Confirmation	24
Marriages	1
Communions of the Sick	3
Burials	2
Communicants added—	
New	5
By removal	7
Removed	13

Finances.

The receipts for the month of April for current expenses were $898.16. This sum represents the special offerings of Easter, which amounted to $551.25, exclusive of the envelopes for the day.

There are now about 350 communicants in this Parish. There are 140 who have made pledges under the envelope system.

The Finance Committee particularly request those who have not made pledges to do so without delay, that the Vestry may be able to make the necessary appropriations for the coming fiscal year.

We still need $1,000 to complete the Organ Fund.

Benevolent Offerings.

Of the Sunday School	8 81
For the Poor	9 34
" " Industrial School	48 89
" Diocesan Missions	23 35
Collected by members of the Women's Guild:	
For Foreign Missions	23 00
" Freedmen "	23 00
" Female Prayer Book Society	12 00
" Tract Society	9 00

These last collections have extended over several months.

The amount received for the Organ fund during the month was $1,272.27, of which the

Women's Working Club gave	$37 00
Sunday School	30 00
Industrial School	7 00
Sale at S. Mary's Guild Tea	16 00

PARISH NOTES.

S. MARY'S TEA.—S. Mary's Guild gave another of their very pleasant and successful teas on the evening of April 22d. Written invitations were sent to all the young people of the parish and to the members of the vestry and their wives. A large number were thus brought together and made acquainted with each other, many of whom had never met before. The evening wound up with a package party, a number of articles which had been made by members of the Guild, being tied up in packages and disposed of by means of an auction which netted $16, which was given to the organ fund. We are sure all who were present enjoyed themselves, and such occasions are very profitable in cultivating sociability in the congregation.

DEDICATION FESTIVAL.—We shall keep Ascension day, the name day of our Church, which comes this year on the 15th of this month, as in other years, by a special anniversary service and sermon by the Rector on the evening of Ascension day, in addition to the usual services during the day. On the following evening we shall have our annual Parish Tea, to which every one attending the Church is invited. Tickets of admission will be sold for 25 cents, to cover the cost of the entertainment; but they will be given to all who cannot afford to buy them. And we want to see every member of the Parish present. On Saturday evening will be the annual services for all the Guilds of the Parish, with procession and a sermon by a special Preacher. All the members of S. Mary's, S. Barnabas, and S. John's Guilds, and of S. Andrew's Brotherhood, will assemble in the Parish building, and enter the Church preceded by their respective banners and wearing their badges; the pews in the middle aisle will be reserved for them.

ENVELOPES FOR BENEVOLENT PURPOSES. By resolution of the Vestry the Accounting Warden has been directed henceforth, in sending out the envelopes for the support of the Church at the beginning of each quarter, to send with them one extra envelope for one of these four benevolent purposes,—the Poor of the Parish, the Support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools, the General Missions of the Church, and Diocesan Missions. These are objects to which all should contribute. And it is sought thus to secure an annual contribution towards each of them from every member of the Parish. A new circular has also been prepared, to be sent out with the envelopes, explaining the mode of collecting offerings in the Parish.

SONS OF THE REVOLUTION.—The Rector of our Parish was honored by being asked to preach in Christ Church, on the afternoon of the second Sunday after Easter, before the Society of the Sons of the Revolution, of which he is a member. Not only were the members of the Society present, but also those of the Cincinnati, about fifty of the Loyal Legion, and the whole of the First City Troop in their picturesque uniform, besides numerous visitors. It is due to the Rector of Christ Church to say that the suggestion of Mr. Hodge's name as the preacher on this occasion came from him. Mr. Hodge expects shortly to ask him to preach for us.

THE DEDICATION OF OUR NEW ORGAN took place Wednesday, April 23d, 1890, 8 P. M. The following service, which had been licensed by the Bishop of the Diocese for similar occasions, was used: Processional Hymn, 423; Psalm 150; Lord's Prayer and Collect of Dedication, followed by Doxology, "Praise God from whom all Blessings Flow;" Offertorium, Hymn 430 (offerings being for the organ fund); Collect and Blessing; Recessional Hymn, 433. After which an organ recital was given by Mr. D. D. Wood, Organist S. Stephen's; Mr. J. Benton Tipton, Organist S. Clement's; Mr. Stanley Addicks, Organist Church of the Transfiguration; Mr. Robert B. Salter, Jr., Organist Church of the Ascension—as follows:

Part I.

1. March in Bb, Silas
   Mr. Salter.
2. Con Moto Moderato—en forme d'Ouverture, Henry Smart
3. Barcarolle, from 4th piano-forte Concerto, W. Sterndale Bennett
4. Prelude and Fugue in Eb (S. Ann's), J. S. Bach
5. Romance from Symphony, "La Reine de France," Haydn
6. Offertoire for Easter Day, Batiste
   Mr. Tipton.

Part II.

1. Grand Offertoire (S. Cecelia) in D, Batiste
   Mr. Addicks.
2. Serenade, Op. 8, Beethoven
   Mr. Wood.
3. Bridal Song, Jensen
   Mr. Addicks.
4. Overture to Semiramide, Rossini
   Mr. Wood.

The offertory amounted to $22.

The organ was played for the first time on Low Sunday, and adds immensely both to the beauty of the Church and the perfection of the service. But the congregation must remember that we have still about $1000 to raise to complete the payment of it.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH. — Linen chalice pall edged with lace, white satin center for altar dossal, bottle of wine for Communion, pair of long wax tapers, fine linen chalice veil, oak platform and desk for school room, 100 copies of Littell's Living Age, and 20 dozen colored eggs for Easter. There was also received anonymously a pair of brass seven branch candlesticks with a box of candles for same, with request that they be placed on the altar. The Rector takes this method of acknowledging the same, and thanking the donor for his kind intentions, though he does not see his way clear at present to use them in accordance with the principles laid down in our editorial on Ritual.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GIFT OF ALTAR LINEN.—

Mexia, Tex., April 11th, 1890.
To the Church of the Ascension, Philadelphia.

Dear Brother and Sisters in Christ: We, the Sisters of Christ Church, Mexia, Tex., send you greeting, and thank you very much for your beautiful present of Communion linen on the 7th inst. It will add greatly to our pleasure when we gather around the Lord's table, and see your offering to Him, to think that we have friends, though far away, who sympathize with us in our struggle for a Church.

Very truly yours in Christ,

ELIZABETH T. MICHARD,
Sec. Lady's Aid Society of Christ's Church, Mexia, Texas.

We would like our ladies to keep on making such sets of linen to give away, as there are weak Churches and Missions all over our country that would be glad to have them.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions were received during April: Mr. J. E. Carpenter, Mrs. J. E. Carpenter, Dr. Thos. R. Neilson, Mrs. Henry Selby.

Subscriptions due and *unpaid*, 19. All subscribers whose subscriptions have expired have been notified of the fact. If *you* are among the number, will you please make prompt payment.

Report of the Mother's Meeting and Working Women's Guild, Church of the Ascension, Easter, 1890.

This report covers a period of seven months only, from 1st Oct. to 1st May.

The Mother's have met on every Wednesday, after the usual service in the Church, which they all attend, when their needs were attended to and material of various kinds distributed. On these occasions 125 articles of clothing were distributed; marketing and groceries were also given to several families each week, and five members were aided at various times to pay their rent; 12 tons of coal have been divided amongst the members. For this coal the President desires to thank Mr. W. P. Pepper for three tons, Mrs. Jackson for two, and Mr. Drayton for one; also the Young Men's Bible Class collected $7 towards our coal fund. Nine large blankets and five comfortables were distributed; seven of these were the generous gift of a lady not a member of the Parish. We are also indebted to this kind lady for two sets of new flannels, two new dresses, and a carpet rug for the small Bible Class Room.

The Working Women's Guild met on every Friday, from 7 to 10 o'clock, for work. There are now 38 members on the roll. Once a month the meeting is of a social character, ending with a tea. These meetings have been well attended during the winter, except during March. All the members are communicants, with only six exceptions, and regularly attend the services on Sunday. Their children also are regular at the Sunday School. Six hundred and sixty-five articles of clothing have been cut and made, and four dozen towels hemmed. These articles have been sold to the members at a moderate price, and all the receipts devoted to the Organ Fund. We desire to extend our thanks to the members of the Parish who so kindly contributed to our funds. The cash donations from this source have amounted to $150.93; our expenses have been $150.90. In addition, the following gifts have been received: 2 dozen cups and saucers, 2 plates, 2 dozen plated spoons, 2 cake plates, 2 dozen white uniform aprons for the Guild members, 30 Guild badges, 1 large closet, 1 oak extension table, 1 work basket and pin cushion, the use of 1 Singer sewing machine, Five ladies of the congregation have kindly provided ample provisions for the monthly tea. The work is growing and promises well for the future, but we need money to carry it on. We need willing hearts and hands to help in this good work. We need the prayers of the Parish. F. M. KITTSON.

DREKA

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NOTICE! The Ladies' Aid Society will take orders for any kind of plain sewing; aprons, underwear, etc. Orders can be given to Mrs. Gundaker or Mrs. Bond, at the Church, after prayers on Friday mornings, at ten o'clock.

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VOL. III. PHILADELPHIA, PA., JUNE, 1890 No. 6

Church of the Ascension.

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Morning Prayer, 11 A. M.
Litany and Instruction, 4.00 P. M.
Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.00 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS:

Morning Prayer and Litany, 10 A. M.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoons.

BIBLE CLASSES.

For Young Men, Sunday, 10 A. M.
Teacher, Mrs. Grimball.

KALENDAR.—JUNE.

1 Trinity Sunday.
6 Friday—Fast.
8 First Sunday after Trinity.
11 S. Barnabas.
13 Friday—Fast.
15 Second Sunday after Trinity.
20 Friday—Fast.
22 Third Sunday after Trinity.
25 Nativity of S. John Baptist.
27 Friday—Fast..
29 S. Peter.—Fourth Sunday after Trinity.

GUILD MEETINGS.

2 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
10 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
12 8 P. M., Meeting of S. Andrew's Brotherhood.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. Wm. Gilpin.
Ass't Superintendent, Mr. W. H. Montgomery.
Librarian, Mr. J. Lardner Howel.
Assistant Librarians, Mr. Langdon,
Mr. Carroll Hodge,

TEACHERS.

Miss Morrell,	Miss Gilpin,
Miss A. Jackson,	Miss McCauley,
Miss M. Harper,	Miss Blackwell,
Miss Anderson,	Miss Parmelee.
Miss T. G. Harper,	Miss Schoch,
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FREQUENCY OF COMMUNION.

There is a great difference among the people in this parish in regard to the frequency with which they receive the Holy Communion, and the question is often asked, how often should it be received?

It is evident from our Lord's use of the word "oft" in connection with its institution that He intended it should be frequently received, and if we read the history of the Church we see that at first, and in many places, it was received daily, with others every Sunday. Many canons were passed by various Councils in regard it, and finally the rule was established in the Roman Catholic Church that every Christian must receive it at least once a year, under pain of excommunication, and in the English Church, at least three times a year, of which the feast of Easter should be one. This would seem to be the lowest number of times that could be described by "oft." So that if a Christian did not receive at least this number of times, he was not making any effort to fulfill his Lord's command, and avail himself of the means of grace at his disposal. Hence these Communions are to be regarded by all Christians as of obligation, and they will be naturally made at the great festivals of Christmas, Easter and Whitsun-day. But a Christian ought not to be satisfied with doing only the least that he is required to do, and if he appreciates what the Holy Communion is, he will want to get all the benefit from it he can. So that in addition to these Communions of obligation, he will want to make other Communions frequently throughout the year. How frequently he will make them must depend upon his devotion, and upon the leisure and opportunity he has to make his preparation for it. For the Holy Communion should never be approached lightly, carelessly or as a mere matter of form. A special preparation should be made before each Communion. If all were living the holy and devout lives they should, it would be natural, and well for them, to receive every Sunday and Holy day, if not more frequently. This should be the ideal after which all should aim. And the Clergy and those especially engaged in Church work, or religious things will want to receive that often. But great care should be taken by every weekly Communicant to see that his life and character correspond to his action and that his Communions do not degenerate into a mere form. It is indeed a great privilege and a beautiful thing for one to be a weekly Communicant, but sometimes the very frequency of a privilege leads to its not being appreciated or to its being carelessly used.

For the majority of persons living in the world, we suspect that a monthly Communion, with additional ones at the Festivals and other special occasions, is the most profitable rule. But whatever number one fixes on, whether monthly, or weekly, let it be a rule. Do not leave it to chance or to the impulse of the moment. Always determine how often you will receive, and have a definite time to make your Communions. We fear that often in Churches where there is a weekly celebration there are persons who do not make their Communion as frequently as they do in Churches where there is only a monthly one. For where it is celebrated only monthly the people seem to take it for granted that they are expected to make their Communions, and prepare themselves accordingly. Whereas when there is a weekly Celebration they think they can come any Sunday and so put it off from time to time and really do not go as often. There should be a Celebration every Sunday and Holy day at the least, as the Prayer Book intends, that the highest worship may be continually offered to God, and the fullest opportunities be given to the people to communicate. But if a Christian does not feel prepared to make his Communion every Sunday, he should then fix upon certain Sundays on which he will, and be just as regular about it as he would if there were only Celebrations in the Church upon those Sundays.

As no Christian would be regular in saying his prayers unless he had a definite hour in each day in which to do it, so should he secure regularity in performing this the chief and most important act of religious worship, by having an inflexible rule as to the time for it. If he becomes careless or indifferent about it, there cannot fail to be a disastrious effect upon his religious life. Of course, though one may not always feel prepared to Communicate whenever the Holy Communion is celebrated, he can always remain during the Celebration and take part in it as far as he can. There can be no better way to prepare to communicate than that to remain during a Celebration. But as one grows in his religious life he will naturally want to Communicate more frequently.

Record for May.

Baptisms	7
Burials	2
Communicants added—	
New	7
By removal	2
Died	1
Removed	3

Finances.

Receipts for Current Expenses during May were $455.00, of which $275.95 was required to meet the expenses of the month, leaving $177.05 to meet the $750.00 Interest on the Mortgage due June 10th.

Benevolent Offerings.

Of the Sunday School	5 31
For the Support of the Schools	8 23
" " Poor	19 54
" General Missions	10 00
" Diocesan Missions	10 00
" Assistant Minister	118 75
" Building Fund	343 33
" Organ Fund	105 00
" Special Music	24 66
" Church Debt	50 00

MRS. FRANKLIN B. GOWEN is about to build a Parish House for Grace Church, Mt. Airy, to cost $10,000.

PARISH NOTES.

OUR DEDICATION FESTIVAL was observed this year with more interest that in previous years, but still there was not as large an attendance at the services as we should like to see. The morning of Ascension day was very rainy, which may have accounted for the very small attendance at 11 o'clock, but more would have been there if this Festival was regarded as it should be. The attendance both on Thursday night and at the anniversary of the Guilds was larger than last year, but we should have liked to have seen the Church crowded on both occasions. Father Benson preached a very thoughtful sermon.

THE PARISH TEA was a great success in point of members, but we were much disappointed at the failure of the speaker of the evening, Mr. George C. Thomas, who had promised to make an address, to put in an appearence, and the comfort of the older persons was much interfered with by the number of children present, who monopolised the seats, made a great disturbance and devoured far more than their share of the provisions. The only remedy for this another year will be to rigidly exclude all children, which will be only just, as the Parish Tea is not intended for them, they having their own Festivals at Christmas and Easter.

ENVELOPES FOR THE SUMMER.—Persons going away from the parish for the summer will not fail to put the envelopes for the Sundays they will be away in the offertory, before going, that we may have the means to carry on the Church during that time.

ABSENCE OF MR. KITTSON.—We regret to announce that the Assistant Minister has been obliged on account of his health to ask for an indefinite leave of absence. The Rector is looking for some one to take his place, but hopes that in the Autumn Mr. Kittson will be able to return in renewed health and strength.

THE NEW CHOIR STALLS have only just been put in the Church, though promised for Ascension Day. The delay has been due to the long continued strike among the carpenters, the contractor having absolutely no one to work for him. They are very handsome and complete the furnishing of the Chancel.

CHANGE IN SUNDAY SERVICES.—The special service for the children at 2.30 P. M. is discontinued for the summer, the children being expected to attend instead the 4 P. M. service, and we begin with the first Sunday after Trinity the shortened twilight service, at 7 P. M. in place of the regular Sunday night service. We trust all our people who remain in town will attend at least one service each Sunday during the summer. The daily service is discontinued, but there will be service on all Holy days and every Wednesday and Friday morning.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH. Pair of glass cruets for the altar, Sketch book of the American Episcopate, 2 Virginia creepers, 2 white china dishes, 100 copies of the Imitation of Christ, 2 large bundles of clothing, crate of strawberries, 3 large cakes, large number of small cakes, 15 dozen tea biscuits, ginger bread, 4 dozen bananas, tea, coffee, sugar, etc., and 400 tickets for the Parish Tea.

OUTSIDE IMPROVEMENTS.—The congregation will be glad to learn that the Vestry has decided to improve the exterior of the Church, by putting up stone steps, completing the pavement, sodding our vacant lot and placing an iron railing along the Broad St. front. Special contributions are asked for this purpose.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions to the NEWS were received during May: Mr. Chas. E. Bonnet, Miss E. H. Cooke, Mrs. C. F. Leaming, Miss Trucks, Miss A. J. Stewart, Miss M. Gilpin, Mr. E. L. Teakle.

Subscriptions due but *unpaid*, 18. Of those due, but unpaid last month, *only* 5 have been paid. Notice has been sent several times to these subscribers, notifying them that they were in debt to the NEWS. May we once more call the attention of all delinquents to the above fact.

REPORT.

The following is the report of the Parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop.

Baptisms—Adults 5, Infants 28, total 33; Confirmed, 24; Marriages, 3; Burials, 18; Families connected with the parish, 267.

Communicants added—New, 14; by removal, 61; died, 6; removed, 35; present number, 366.

Services—Sunday, 237; other days, 557, total 794; average attendance Sundays, 372; Children Catechised 77 times.

Sunday School—Officers and teachers 27; Scholars, 200.

Bible Classes—Teachers 3, members 35.

Other Parish Agencies—Mothers' Meeting, members 38; Industrial school, teachers, 11; scholars, 100; Men's Guild, Woman's Guild, Young Men's Guild, Young Woman's Guild, Boy's Guild, Chapter of S. Andrew's Brotherhood.

Money receipts from all sources—Pew rents $51.00; offertory $6,551.60; subscriptions for building and organ fund, 4,633.13; interest, 86.82; entertainments, etc., $226.50; total, $11,549.05.

Money Expenditures and Appropriations—Current expenses, (including salaries of ministers, for music, fuel and lighting, care of church building and grounds, and ordinary repairs of same) $3,771.75; interest on mortgage, $1500.00; improvements, $8,289.70; Episcopal and convention funds, $93.11 support of schools, $146.75; for the poor, $228.67; Episcopal Hospital $27.07; Missions, Foreign, $23.00; Domestic, $72.50; Colored people, $28.00; Indians, $51.00; Diocesan, $55.00; Tract and Prayer Book Societies, $21.00; Johnstown sufferers, $53.66; Miscellaneous, $552.68; total, $14,921.98.

Financial Condition — Estimated value of property $70,000; encumbrance, mortgage, $25,000, other indebtedness none.

In his anniversary sermon on Ascension night, the Rector called the attention of the congregation to the substantial advance that had been made during the past year, in the erection of the Chancel, the putting in of the organ, and the decided increase in the congregation, 75 having been added to communicant list. He also pointed out that the receipts for current expenses and benevolent objects were $800 more than the previous year, while the total receipts both last year and this year were over $11,000. He asked whether in view of that fact, it would be too much to expect the congregation during the coming year to raise $5,000 towards reducing the Church debt.

BOYS FOR THE CHOIR.

The music of the Church, bearing, as it does, such an important part in the Sunday services. is a subject that must be of interest to all. For a Parish like ours, the annual appropriation for this purpose is quite liberal, but something besides this is needful.

A boy choir cannot exist without boys. The older boys are continually dropping out of the Choir as their voices change, and younger ones must take their places. In other words, the constant loss at one end must be met by a constant supply at the other. In this the members of the congregation and those interested in the Parish can help

the Church greatly by influencing boys to seek membership in the Choir. Occasionally boys are found who are absolutely without musical instinct, but, in general, any bright, intelligent boy, from eight to twelve years of age, can become a very useful chorister. Choir boys always enjoy their work thoroughly, and, beside a salary, they receive what is of far greater value, careful training and instruction that will be useful to them all their lives. You are asked, therefore, to bear in mind the needs of the Choir, and if you should be acquainted with any such boys, even though they belong to families entirely outside the Parish, urge them to apply for admission to the Choir. The Choirmaster may be seen after any of the Sunday services or on Friday evenings, or may be communicated with through the Rector. Half a dozen boys are desired at once, and a good voice can always be made useful.

RITUAL CATECHISM.

CHAPTER XI, (Continued.)

Ques. What is an Archdeacon?

Ans. A Clergyman, generally in Priest Orders, who acts as assistant to the Bishop in his care of the Diocese. If there is more than one, the Diocese is divided into districts over each of which an Archdeacon presides. He can make visitations, and investigations at the direction of the Bishop and report to him, and he has charge of the missionary work. He is called "the Bishop's eyes."

Ques. What is a Dean?

Ans. He is the Chief Minister of the Cathedral or Bishop's Church. The term is also sometimes applied to officers having similar duties to those of an Archdeacon.

Ques. What are Canons and Prebendaries?

Ans. They are the clergy of a Cathedral, who with the Dean constitute the chapter. Formerly they embraced all the clergy of the Diocese, and latterly they have been regarded as their representatives.

Ques. What is a Rector?

Ans. He is a regularly instituted clergyman in charge of an independent parish.

Ques. How is he appointed?

Ans. He is elected by the parishioners or their representatives, the Vestry, or he is appointed by the person or persons who built or endowed the church, or by their heirs, or by some person or corporation designated by them, but the authority to enter upon the office he receives only from the Bishop of the Diocese, by induction or institution.

Ques. How can he be removed from his office.

Ans. After Institution, only by due process of impeachment and trial before his peers.

Ques. What is an Assistant Minister?

Ans. A clergyman who assists a Rector in the care of a parish.

Ques. How is he appointed?

Ans. Generally by the Rector. Sometimes he is elected by the Vestry, with the consent of the Rector, but he must be licensed or recognised by the Bishop.

Ques. What is a Curate?

Ans. It is literally any one who has the cure or care of souls. In the Ordinal it is the term applied to the Rector or head of the parish. But practically in the Church of England, it is the designation of Assistant Minister.

Ques. What is a Perpetual Curate?

Ans. One who has the permanent charge of a separate chapel in a parish, which, like a Rectorship, is regarded as a Benefice. The difference between the beneficed and unbeneficed clergy is that the former hold their positions for life, but the latter may be removed at any time, at the will of the Bishop or person who appointed them.

Ques. What is a Vicar?

Ans. One who takes the place and performs the duties of a Rector.

Ques. Whas is a Chancellor?

Ans. The legal advisor of the Bishop. He is generally a member of the Cathedral Body.

Ques. What is a Precentor?

Ans. The clergyman who has charge of the music in a Cathedral or collegiate church. The term is also applied to the choir master in a parish church or chapel.

Ques. What is a Chaplain?

Ans. A clergyman in charge of the chapel of a public institution or a private chapel, or officiating in the army or navy, or for some organization.

Ques. What are the titles of the clergy?

Ans. Priests and Deacons are addressed as Reverend, Bishops as Right Reverend, Metropolitans as Most Reverend, Deans as Very Reverend, Archdeacons as Venerable.

Ques. What are the Minor Orders?

Ans. It is a term formerly applied to those who discharged the duties of sub-deacon, reader, catechist, etc.

Ques. How are these offices generally executed now?

Ans. By laymen who act as lay readers, Sunday school superintendents, servers, etc.

Ques. What is a Server or Acolyte?

Ans. A layman or boy who acts as an attendant to the priest and assists him in tne service of the sanctuary.

Ques. What is a Thurifer?

Ans. A man or boy who carries and serves the Thurible or Incense boat.

Ques. What is a Verger or Sexton?

Ans. One who has the care of the church edifice, acts as usher, etc. It corresponds to the ancient office of doorkeeper.

Ques. What is a Warden?

Ans. A parish officer representing the laity. He is to see that all things are provided that are necessary for the church; is responsible for the preservation of order during Divine Service, and presides at Vestry meetings in the absence of the Rector. He should report to the Bishop any failure of duty, or viciousness of life, or error in doctrine on the part of the Rector. If accounting warden, he is Treasurer of the Parish Funds. There are generally two Wardens, one chosen by the Rector, the other elected by the vestry.

(To be continued.)

In a Choir for 78 Years.

A MAN has just died who was a member of the Cathedral Choir, in Cork, Ireland for 78 years, having entered it in 1812 when he was 9 years old. He had served under nine Deans and six Bishops of Cork, and had witnessed the jubilees of two British Sovereigns, George III and Queen Victoria.

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LEADING OPTICIANS.

NOTICE! The Ladies' Aid Society will take orders for any kind of plain sewing; aprons, underwear, etc. Orders can be given to Mrs. Gundaker or Mrs. Bond, at the Church, after prayers on Friday mornings, at ten o'clock.

The Ascension News.

Vol. III. PHILADELPHIA, PA., SEPTEMBER, 1890. No. 7

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANTS:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.
REV. H. L. GAMBLE.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
GEO. H. HAVERSTICK.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2029 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, 11 A. M.
Litany and Instruction, 4.00 P. M.
Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS:

Morning Prayer and Litany, 10 A. M.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoons.

KALENDAR.—SEPTEMBER.

5 Friday—Fast.
7 Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity.
12 Friday—Fast.
14 Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity.
17 Ember Day—Fast.
19 Friday—Ember Day—Fast.
20 Ember Day—Fast.
21 S. Matthew — Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity.
26 Friday—Fast.
28 Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity.
29 S. Michael and All Angels.

GUILD MEETINGS.

8 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
11 8 P. M., Meeting of S. Andrew's Brotherhood.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. Wm. Gilpin.
Ass't Superintendent, Mr. W. H. Montgomery.
Librarian, Mr. J. Lardner Howel.
Assistant Librarians, Mr. Langdon,
Mr. Carroll Hodge,

TEACHERS.

Miss Morrell,	Miss Gilpin,
Miss A. Jackson,	Miss McCauley,
Miss M. Harper,	Miss Parmelee,
Miss Anderson,	Miss Schoch,
Miss T. G. Harper,	Miss Allibone,
Miss Carman,	Miss Lucas,
Miss Alice Spear,	Mrs. Pollock.
Mr. Brinton Whitehead,	

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, 112 South Fourth Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

THE DEATH OF DR. KEYS.

Since our last issue we have lost by death one of our Vestrymen, Dr. Roger Keys. He was probably the oldest regular attendant of the Church and one of its most devoted members. He became a member of the parish during the Rectorship of Bishop Hare. He was elected Vestryman in 1874 and served continuously in that capacity until his death. He was Accounting Warden from 1879 to 1885. He always took an active interest in the Church, and in fact the parish really owes its present existence to him. For at a critical period in its history in its old location, when it had become so depressed that the Vestry felt it impossible to continue its services any longer, so that they passed a resolution to close the Church and hand the keys to the Bishop, for him to dispose of the property as he saw best, Dr. Keys came forward and offered to keep up the Church at his own risk. This he did and when the present Rector was elected, the parish owed him some $800, he had advanced out of his own pocket to meet its expenses. All this was paid back to him, and he lived to see the Church not only revived and flourishing, but removed to a new location and furnished with a new edifice in which it is certain to make great progress and become a permanent and important parish.

Dr. Keys was a man who was not only naturally genial and benevolent, but he was always deeply interested in religion. He was confirmed and became a communicant at an early age, and was always a regular attendant at the services of the Church. In spite of his engrossing professional duties, he was for years rarely absent from a single regular service. From the establishment of the weekly Communion in the parish until the removal of the Church to its present locality which made it less convenient for him to attend it, he was never absent from a single Sunday's celebration, and for two years he attended regularly the daily morning prayers in the Church. He was a most attentive listener to sermons, and he testified to the Rector that he had found more comfort and satisfaction in the present teachings of the parish than he had in any other doctrines he had ever heard. It gave him pleasure to represent the parish as he did in the Diocesan Convention, and he followed the life of the Church there and as he could in the Church papers with the deepest interest.

Into his own personal life and relationships and his private benevolence etc., we will not intrude, but from what all in the parish have seen and known of him, it is evident that such a man as he, is a loss to the Church to which he belonged and to the community in which he lived.

We can only pray that God will raise up others to take his place, and be as firmly and intelligently interested in the parish as he was. And for himself, now that the labor of his life is over, we can pray that he may rest in peace and that that light in which he humbly strove to walk while he was upon earth, may shine upon him perpetually in the new life into which he has now entered.

OUR NEW ASSISTANT.

We take pleasure in introducing to the congregation the Rev. H. L. Gamble, who has accepted the position of an assistant Minister in our parish. He comes to us very highly recommended from Lyons, Iowa, where he was Rector of Grace Church. We bespeak for him a hearty welcome. He expects to enter upon his duties with the first of this month.

The congregation will also be glad to learn that the Rev. Mr. Kittson, has been much benefitted by his rest during the summer and that he expects to return to work this month.

This will enable the Rector to take a holiday during September.

Record for June, July and August.

Baptisms, Adults	1
Infants	14
Marriages	2
Communion of the Sick	1
Burials	6
Communicants added—	
New	3
By removal	5
Died	3
Removed	1

Finances.

Receipts for Current Expenses during the three past months, were $835.69. This has about met the expenses for those months with the exception of the interest on the mortgage, for which the Accounting Warden was obliged to borrow $500.

Benevolent Offerings.

Of the Sunday School	3 81
For the Poor	58 70
" " Support of the Schools	7 10
" Improvements	350 00
" Organ Fund	107 37
" Freedmen Missions	4 00
" Diocesan Missions	1 64
" Altar	1 00
" Choir Excursion	5 00
" Debt	30 00

PARISH NOTES.

Our Mortgage.—The generous offer in regard to the reduction of our mortgage we published in the May issue of the News, we are sorry to say was not responded to. Some small subscriptions only being made to meet it. We are glad, however, to be able to announce that in extending the mortgage, we have secured the reduction of the rate of interest to five per cent., and also the very valuable privilege of paying off any amount of it over $500 at any time. As often, therefore, as we can secure $500 for that purpose, we can reduce our indebtedness to that extent.

Envelopes for the Poor—Of the 140 extra envelopes marked "For the Poor," sent out with the ordinary envelopes May 1st, only 22 have been returned during the quarter. These contained $24.67, which, together with a pledge of $1 a Sunday, which had been made before by a gentleman, is all that the Rector has so far to depend upon for the work among the poor for the coming year. We trust, however, that the other 118 envelopes will be returned sometime during the year. The object of the Vestry in assigning a separate quarter for each of the charitable collections, was to make it easier for the contributors, but if the year

sent in any time during the year their purpose will be answered. The envelopes for the present quarter are for the support of the schools of the parish. Heretofore all the expenses of the Sunday School have been borne by the offerings of the children themselves, and those of the Industrial School have been paid by the lady who had charge of it. This is not fair and cannot be continued, yet the Industrial School is too important a part of our church work to be given up. If each one of our regular contributors will give something in the envelopes they have received for this purpose, a sufficient sum will be obtained.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL recommences its sessions with the first Sunday of this month. We want to see all the teachers and scholars in their places, and we ask for more teachers, both men and women, those who are willing to undertake this work as a great duty and who will be regular and faithful in its discharge. We have a great opportunity for a large Sunday School, but we cannot have it unless we can get a sufficient number of faithful and competent teachers who will volunteer for this good work.

OUR RITUAL CATECHISM is concluded in this issue of the NEWS. We trust that it has been the means of instructing our people in many points of church order on which they wanted information. And we advise our people who have files of the NEWS to preserve them for reference, when they want to know the meaning of a church term or explanation of a ritual act. If we had the means we would be glad to publish the Catechism in pamphlet form for general distribution.

THE IMPROVEMENTS on the outside of the Church we spoke of in our last issue will be made this month. They will consist of setting stone steps to the two doors of the Church, repairing the pavement on Broad street and paving the entrance to the parish building, levelling and sodding the ground to the south of the Church, and running an iron railing along the entire Broad street front. This will give a very different effect to the church on the outside instead of its present very poor and shabby appearance.

THE SERMON preached by the Rector before the Society of the Sons of the Revolution, in Christ Church last April, has been printed by the Society. The Rector has a few copies for distribution if any members of the congregation would like to have them.

CHURCH NOTES.

LARGE DONATIONS.—A check was recently received towards the erection of the Church Mission House, in New York of $50,000, "from a member of Grace Church."

A MEMBER of the Church of the Holy Apostles is now erecting an addition to the large parish building they already possess, a substantial three-story building upon three lots, which he has purchased for the purpose, containing a gymnasium and rooms for Bible class and social purposes.

MRS. T. EMORY OWEN has given $10,000 towards the endowment of St. Paul's Church, Detroit.

THE large and commodious Parish House for S. Simeon's Mission, built by Mr. John E. Baird, at a cost of $25,000 has been completed and is now in use.

MRS. GAMMELL is building a new Church for the Parish of the Messiah, Providence, R. I., as a memorial to her son at a probable cost of $125,000, on condition of its being always free.

THE tower of the Church of the Advent, Boston, is to be completed by a lay member of the Parish, at a cost of $30,000.

What Many of us Go to Church For.

SOME go to Church just for a walk;
Some to stare and laugh and talk;
Some go there to meet a friend;
Some their idle time to spend;
Some for general observation;
Some for private speculation;
Some to seek or find a lover;
Some a courtship to discover;
Some go there to use their eyes,
And newest fashions criticize;
Some to show their own smart dress;
Some their neighbors to assess;
Some to scan a robe or bonnet;
Some to prize the trimming on it;
Some to learn the latest news,
That friends at home they may amuse;
Some to gossip false and true,
Safe hid within the sheltering pew;
Some go there to please the squire;
Some his daughters to admire;
Some the parson go to fawn;
Some to lounge, and some to yawn;
Some to claim the parish doles;
Some for bread, and some for coals;
Some because it's thought genteel;
Some to vaunt their pious zeal;
Some to show how sweet they sing;
Some how loud their voices ring;
Some the preacher go to hear,
His style and voice to praise or jeer;
Some forgiveness to implore;
Some their sins to varnish o'er;
Some to sit and drop a nod,
How few to kneel and worship God!

Bishop Paret's Counsels to Sunday School Teachers.

In committing to your charge in the Sunday school the class I have just assigned to you, I wish to have you distinctly understand the duties of the office, its work and its responsibilities; so only can you rightly discharge them.

You will please understand, then, that you really fill the office known in olden times in the Church as that of the "catechist." The children of your class are placed under your instruction and influence to accomplish a definite end and purpose. You are the rector's special assistant, and so far as they are concerned, to prepare them in due time for being confirmed and admitted to the Holy Communion. These things as definite results to be sought and expected in your work should be always in your thoughts. It will not only give earnestness and definiteness to your teaching in the class, but to your out-of-school influence and your prayers for them. You will, therefore, seek to be as well acquainted as may be with each scholar; to know the character of each; to find out what each one lacks in information, or in devout disposition and earnestness.

As the standard fixed by the Church, you will very carefully train them in the Church Catechism, in knowledge of its words and in understanding of its meaning. And in so doing, you will take occasion often to speak to them of Confirmation and of the Holy Communion as blessings which they are earnestly to desire.

You will be expected to train them by word and example to join reverently and earnestly in the worship; always to speak distinctly in the responses, and to sing when they are able; to kneel, really, during the prayers and to observe carefully all the reverent customs of the Church.

You will encourage them to regular attendance at Church services, and inquire often and carefully as to their regularity in this respect.

You will see that each scholar has a prayer book and a hymn book, and brings them regularly to school.

You will remind them of the Christian duty of giving to God; encourage them in the regular Sunday school offerings and especially to make each a willing contributor to the missionary fund of the school.

You will be expected always to pre-

pare the Sunday school lessons carefully before attempting to teach them. A teacher has no more right to come unprepared to his teachings than a clergyman has to come without study for preaching.

You will keep your class book very fully and clearly according to the appointed rules.

You will be expected to set your scholars an example of punctuality. A teacher habitually unpunctual ought to resign. If you do not love Sunday school work well enough to get to it a few minutes before the work begins, you do not love it well enough to be a teacher.

If at any time unavoidably absent it will be your duty either to provide as a substitute some communicant of the Church, or to give to the rector such timely notice that he can make provision. In this there should be no failure.

If your scholars become irregular you will be expected to search them out during the week and learn the reason. Your duties are not limited to the Sunday school room and Sunday school hours.

You will be expected to remember your scholars in your own private prayers, and seek in every way their growth in grace and knowledge.

You will be, of course, enthusiastic and zealous in the work.

And, last of all, when you find that your interest is failing: that your class, through your fault, is losing interest or becoming irregular; that you don't care enough for Sunday school to come every Sunday, and to come early; that you fail to learn the lessons, and go through the work as a mere routine: then you will either repent and renew your zeal or failing in that, will resign your class to the rector.

May our good Lord, by His grace, make you earnest and true in this true work for Him. Remember how he said: "Whoso receiveth one such little child in My name receiveth Me."

RITUAL CATECHISM.

CHAPTER XII.

CHURCH COUNCILS.

Ques. What is a Vestry?

Ans. In England it is a meeting of all adult male members of a parish, over which the Rector presides. It elects the Church Wardens, levies rates, etc. In the American Church it is a body composed of from six to twelve members of the parish elected by the communicants, pew renters or contributors, on each Easter Monday to serve for the ensuing year. They, with the Rector, have charge of the temporal affairs of the parish. The Vestry is often incorporated by the State and holds the legal title to the property. In some places in England there is a body corresponding to this, called a select Vestry.

Ques. What are the duties of the Vestry?

Ans. They elect the Rector and sometimes Assistant Clergymen, collect and disburse all the revenues of the parish, except those given for charitable purposes, have care of the fabric and its maintenance, provide what is needed for Divine service, appoint the Sexton, etc.

Ques. Has the Vestry any control of the use of the Church or its ecclesiastical affairs?

Ans. None at all, the entire responsibility is with the Rector, subject to the direction of the Bishop. But a Rector may very properly consult with his Vestry about such things and be largely guided by their opinions and wishes.

Ques. What is a Diocesan Council or Convention?

Ans. A body composed of the Clergy, or Clergy and representatives of the laity, of a Diocese, convened for the purpose of consultation with the Bishop. It cannot properly enact canons, and if it does so they gain their authority only from the Bishop's assent to them, and must be regarded as the constitutions he has set forth for the government of his Diocese.

Ques. What is a Standing Committee?

Ans. A select body of Clergymen or Clergymen and laymen elected by a Diocesan Convention to be its representative when it is not in session, and to act as a Council of Advice to the Bishop. It corresponds somewhat to the Chapter of a Cathedral.

Ques. What is a Provincial Synod?

Ans. It is a body composed of all the Bishops of the Province and of representatives of the Clergy, or Clergy and laity. It should deliberate in two houses, and the consent of each be necessary to the enacting of any measure. It can pass canons which are binding upon all the Dioceses in the Province.

Ques. What is a General Convention?

Ans. It is a term applied to the American Church to the council composed of all the Bishops and clerical and lay representatives from each Diocese, included in the national Church, which however, is still but a single Province. It will probably be eventually divided into several, when the General Convention will then meet at longer intervals and be composed of delegates from the several Provinces.

Ques. What is a General or Ecumenical Council?

Ans. A council representing the whole Catholic Church, to which all the Bishops of Christendom have been summoned. It alone has authority in questions of faith and morals.

Ques. Are all its decrees necessarily binding?

Ans. No, not unless they have been generally accepted throughout Christendom, as no General Council would be likely to contain even a majority of existing bishops. No General Council has been held for many centuries.

Ques. What is a Convocation?

Ans. It is a term applied in the American Church to assemblies of the clergy, and representatives of the laity of a portion of a Diocese. It corresponds to a conference of the members of an Archdeaconcy, or Rural Deanery in other places. In England it is the designation of the Provincial Synods of Canterbury and York.

Ques. What is the Pan-Anglican or Lambeth Conference?

Ans. It is an assembly of all the Bishops of the Anglican Communion, that is of the Church of England and of the churches which have decended from it and maintained its constitution and principles. It has been called from time to time of late years by the Archbishops of Canterbury at Lambeth, their London residence. Its purpose is for consultation in regard to the interest of the whole communion.

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VOL. III. PHILADELPHIA, PA., OCTOBER, 1890. No. 8

Church of the Ascension.

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ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANTS:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.
REV. H. L. GAMBLE.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
GEO. H. HAVERSTICK.

CHOIR MASTER:
J. SPENCER BROCK.

ORGANIST:
ROBERT B. SALTER, JR.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2029 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, 11.00 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Litany and Instruction, 4.00 P. M.
Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

DAILY:

Morning Prayer, 10.00 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5.00 P. M.

WEDNESDAYS:

Evening Prayer and Lecture, 7.45 P. M.

THURSDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 A. M.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoons.

KALENDAR.—OCTOBER.

3 Friday—Fast.
5 Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.
10 Friday—Fast.
12 Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.
17 Friday—Fast.
18 S. Luke, Evangelist.
19 Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.
24 Friday—Fast.
26 Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity.
28 S. S. Simon and Jude.
31 Friday—Fast.

GUILD MEETINGS.

6 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
9 8 P. M., Meeting of S. Andrew's Brotherhood.
14 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
28 11 A. M., Annual Meeting of the Women's Guild.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. Wm. Gilpin.
Ass't Superintendent, Mr. W. H. Montgomery.
Librarian, Mr. J. Lardner Howel.
Assistant Librarians, Mr. Langdon,
Mr. Carroll Hodge,

BIBLE CLASSES.

For Men, Sundays, 3.00 P.M.
Teacher, REV. HENRY KITTSON.

For Young Men, Sundays, 10.00 A.M.
Teacher, REV. H. L. GAMBLE.

For Ladies, Sundays, 3.00 P.M.
Teacher, MRS. HODGE.

The Ascension News.

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, 112 South Fourth Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The Rector wants, at the beginning of another season of Church work, to say a very serious word to the congregation in regard to the Sunday School.

The Sunday School is the work of the laity. It will be what they make it—and there is no department of Church work which is more important. Most men are made by their education, and as religion is the most important element in life, so there is nothing so essential as religious education. But under our public school system there is no religious instruction, and in very many families, even of those professing to be Christians, there is either the neglect, or the inability, to impart it. Unless therefore, the Church provides an effective system of religious training for the young, we shall have multitudes of young people growing up without this influence, which is so essential for their own welfare and the good of the community to which they belong.

That Sunday Schools are the best means of conveying religious instruction we are not prepared to maintain, but under the circumstances in which we are placed they are the best expedient we can command, and therefore we should make them as efficient as possible, and their efficiency will depend entirely upon the number and character of the teachers who take part in them. And our difficulty in this parish is to get teachers. The Church is admirably situated to reach a large class of pupils, and if we had a sufficient number of faithful and devoted teachers there would be no difficulty in obtaining and holding scholars. But our people seem to be singularly indifferent to their duty in this respect.

Why is it, that in the neighboring parish of the Holy Apostles there is a Sunday School of 1000 children and we have not more than 200? It is because one of the most active business men in this city has for years devoted himself to that school, being just as punctual in his attention to it summer and winter as he has been to his own business, and because he has been faithfully seconded, seven out of the twelve vestrymen of the parish being teachers in the school, whereas we can scarcely get a single male teacher, and not as many females as we need.

Undoubtedly there are many who have no vocation for this work at all, and there are others who would find it wearying and burdensome. But how many are there who could prepare themselves for the work if they would only try, and how many who would succeed in it even though they did not find it agreeable, just as men succeed in making their living in employments they do not personally fancy.

What all need to feel is their duty to do this most important work. If a call and opportunity comes to us to engage in a good work and we refuse to do it, surely we are responsible for the results. And what call could be more imperative than that to devote a little of our time and labor to the great, essential, work of training up the young in the fear of God, and teaching them those cardinal principles of morality and virtue which are so necessary to their welfare in this world and in the world to come.

Will not the lay people of our parish, both men and women, seriously consider this matter. The clergy will do all they can to discharge their duty towards this portion of their flock. Some 75 times in the year the children are publicly taught and catechised in the Church. But we need too the lay people to gather the children in classes and teach them personally, and instruct, and attach them to the Church, as can only be done in that way. In other parishes men of intelligence and capability can devote themselves to Sunday School work, how is it there are none in ours who are willing to do the same? If there are any who will make the effort and sacrifice it will involve, they would soon become interested in it, and feel fully rewarded by the good they were accomplishing. We trust both the men and women of the parish will seriously consider their duty in this respect.

Record for September.

Marriages	2
Communion of the sick	1
Communicants added—	
By removal	1
Died	1
Burials	1

Receipts.

Current expenses	$172.26
Support of the schools	3.00
The poor	12.24
Improvements	25.00
Organ fund	.25
Church debt	32.80
Diocesan Missions	1.00
	$246.55

PARISH NOTES.

MEMORIAL WINDOW. The order for another memorial window in the clere story has been given. It is to contain the figure of S. James, and is erected by a gentleman in memory of his mother who died in August, and who had been a regular attendant of the Church during the past winter. A design is also being made for the central window in the chancel so as to be ready in case any one should wish to put it in. The beauty of the chancel will be greatly increased when all its windows are filled with handsome glass.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—The donor of the new stalls has had made cushions covered with red velvet for each of the clergy stalls, for the Sedelia and Bishop's seat in the chancel and for the Litany desk.

SERVICES RESUMED.—The children's service will be resumed the first Sunday of this month at 2.30 P.M. The Wednesday evening service and lecture begins October 1st, at 7.45 P.M. The daily service is also resumed with this month, and we do trust it will be better attended than it has been heretofore.

ADDITIONAL COMMUNION.—As we have now three Priests in the Parish and each will want to have a weekly celebration, there will be hereafter an additional communion every Thursday at 7.30 A.M.

BIBLE CLASSES.—All the Bible Classes will resume their sessions on the first Sunday of this month, and we hope that all in the Parish, young and old, will avail themselves of these opportunities to gain information about the Bible and Prayer Book. It is lamentable how ignorant many professed church people are on these subjects, and it is because they do not study. The Young Men's Class this winter will be taught by the Rev. Mr. Gamble, and the Men's Class, for the present at least, by the Rev. Mr. Kittson. The Mothers' Meeting and Women's Club will not begin until November.

WOMEN'S GUILD.—The women of the Parish will remember that by its constitution all the female communicants of the Parish are members of the Women's Guild. Its anniversary is S.S. Simon and Jude's day, Oct. 28, when all the members are expected to be present at one of the celebrations of the Holy Communion, and to attend to the business meeting in the Guild room at 11 A.M. The Rector earnestly desires that all the female communicants of the Parish will be present at that time. Even those who have not been able to do any Guild work will be interested in hearing the report of what has been done, and may learn of some way in which they can help on the work of the Parish. Surely it is not too much for the Rector to ask that the communicant members of the Parish should take this much interest in the affairs of the Church to which they belong.

MEN'S GUILD.—The constitution of this Guild is the same as that of the women's, and its anniversary is All Saints Day, Nov. 1, the business meeting will be at 8 P.M. And while there are not as many things that men can do in the Church as there are for women, still there are a good many things they could do, and the object of this meeting is that the men may consult together as to what can be done to help on the work of the Parish. And if it did nothing else than to bring the men of the Parish together so that they would get to know each other, it would be most useful. Often men complain of their coming to the Church and yet not knowing any one in it, and the reason is that they will never attend any of these meetings to which they are thus invited. If you have any interest in your Church do all you can for it.

CHURCH DEBT.—Some two years ago we adopted the system of collection for the Church debt known as the A, B, C, system. A large number of the papers were taken, but few were returned. Those who did return their papers paid themselves the amount they called for, or made a donation towards it. One member of the Parish has, however, faithfully followed the thing out, and last month brought in over $32, the full amount the papers she took, represented. This shows what could have been done with them if each one who took them had been as persevering. We hope, however, all will collect or give to this fund as they can, that we may soon make the first $500 payment on it.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—Many of our subscribers to the NEWS have not paid their subscriptions for the current year. We beg them to do so at once, as we are considerabiy behind hand in our payments to the printer.

THE Rector spent one Sunday of his holiday in New York, where he attended five full services in as many different churches, besides examining into the methods of Sunday-School work at S. Augustine's Chapel, where he got many ideas by which he hopes to improve our own school, and in going over the new buildings of the General Theological Seminary and listening to the chiming of the tubular bells in its tower, the only chime of the kind either in New York or Philadelphia.

SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.—The special envelopes for this quarter are for the support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools, that is, to provide the paper, and pencils, and paints, and pictures, etc., needed for the Industrial School, together with the Easter Festival, and the class books, question books, rewards, etc., for the Sunday School. It is simply impossible to hope to carry on successful schools unless they are properly appointed with these things, and we ask each member of the congregation to contribute something towards this object.

CHOIR EXCURSION.

On Saturday, September 27th, the Choir Boys were taken out for an all-day excursion, accompanied by the Choirmaster and two other gentlemen. The tug-boat "George Schauble, Jr.," was chartered and a trip up the Delaware was made as far as Bordentown.

The weather proved rather unfortunate, but did not in any way interfere with the pleasure of the boys, who thoroughly enjoyed the fact that they were the sole occupants of the boat. They are now prepared to render a full report on the construction of a tug-boat from the top of the pilot house to the very stern of the boat, for no portion was left unexplored. Lunch was dispatched on the way up; much to enjoy was seen all along the shores; and on the arrival at Bordentown, all hands went on shore to witness the interesting process of bringing boats through the "locks" located there.

The return was made in good time, the party landing at Philadelphia at about 5.30 P.M. Much of the pleasure of the party is due to the genial captain of the tug-boat, and to his equally good-natured crew, who all seemed to enter thoroughly into the spirit of the occasion. The excursion was made possible through the liberality of several members of the Church, and it is the desire of the Choirmaster to make such excursions a more frequent occasion for the boys. They keenly appreciate them, and really deserve them for their faithful work in the choir.

S. ANDREW'S BROTHERHOOD.

The annual meeting of the whole Brotherhood in the United States is to take place in this city on the 16, 17, 18 and 19, of this month. As many members of the Parish will, we are sure, be interested in attending the various meetings in connection with it, we publish the hours, names of speakers, etc., as far as arranged. We hope especially that the *men* of the congregation will attend as many of these meetings as possible that they may learn what men can do to spread Christ's Kingdom upon earth.

There will be three special celebrations of the Holy Communion for the members of the Brotherhood in this Church on the 16th, 17th and 18th, at 7 A.M.

As delegates from the various Chapters all over the country are expected and it is desired to extend hospitality to as many as possible, the members of our various congregations are asked to entertain them. If there are any in our Parish who are willing to do so, will they kindly inform the Rector at once that he may send their names to the committee.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16.

10 A.M.—Opening Service, Holy Communion, Grace Church, 12th and Cherry Sts., the Rt. Rev. O. W. Whitaker, D.D., Bishop of Pennsylvania; Charge to the Brotherhood, the Rt. Rev. H. C. Potter, D.D., Bishop of New York; Organization of Convention.

1 P.M.—Lunch.

2 P.M.—Business: Council Report and other reports.

4 P.M.—General Conference. (*a*) "Conflict of Interests in a Young Man's Life," Henry A. Sill, St. Chrysostom's, New York: (*b*) "Sacrifice and Consecration," William C. Sturgis, Good Shepherd, Boston; general discussion under each topic.

8 P.M.—Public service, St. James' Church, 22d and Walnut Sts.; "The Brotherhood Idea;" (*a*) "Sons of One Father," the Rev. W. S. Rainsford, D.D., St. George's, New York; (*b*) "Citizens of One Kingdom," the Rev. G. R. Van De Water, D.D., St. Andrew's, New York; (*c*) "Brothers One of Another," James L. Houghteling, St. James', Chicago.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17.

7 A.M.—Holy Communion, Church of the Ascension, Broad and South Sts.

10 A.M.—General Conference: "Laymen in Community," the Rev. J. O. S. Huntington, O. H. C., and other appointed speakers, with general discussion.

12 M.—Business.

1 P.M.—Lunch. (Afternoon left free for sectional conferences or recreation.)

8 P.M.—Four public services in different parts of the city. A. "Christian Manhood," Holy Apostles', 21st and Christian Sts, (*a*) "In the Home," Geo. C. Thomas, Holy Apostles', Philadelphia; (*b*) "In the State," Hon. Seth Low, President of Columbia College, New York; (*c*) "In the Church," the Rev. R. A. Holland, D.D., St. George's, St. Louis.

B. "Power of Service," St. Luke's, Germantown: (*a*) "Loyalty," G. Harry Davis, St. Luke's, Germantown; (*b*) "Obedience," the Rev. W. H. Vibbert, D.D., St. Peter's, Philadelphia; (*c*) "Power from on High," the Rev. Lindsay Parker, D.D., St. Peter's, Brooklyn.

C. "The Work of the Brotherhood," Church of the Incarnation, Broad and Jefferson Sts.: (*a*) "The Need of the Work," W. R. Stirling, Grace Church, Chicago; (*b*) "The Call for Workers," Charles James Wills, St. George's, New York; (*c*) "Sympathy and Support," the Rev. T. N. Morrison, Epiphany, Chicago.

D. "Power of Service," St. Mary's West Philadelphia, 39th and Locust Sts.; (*a*) "Loyalty," Herbert Welsh, St. Michael's Germantown; (*b*) "Obedience," the Rev. A. C. A. Hall, S.S.J.E., St. John the Evangelist's, Boston; (*c*) "Power from on High," the Rev. Geo. H. Kinsolving, Epiphany, Philadelphia.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18 (ST. LUKE'S DAY).

7 A.M.—Holy Communion, Church of the Ascension.

10 A.M.—Sample Bible Class, James L. Houghteling.

11 A.M.—Sectional Conferences; (*a*) Bible Classes; (*b*) Work Among Boys; (*c*) Local Assemblies.

2 M.—Business. 1 P.M.—Lunch.

2 P.M.—Business. 4 P.M.—General Conference. "The Social Crisis, and the Church's Opportuntty." Addresses by the Rev. J. O. S. Huntington and others, with general discussion.

8 P.M.—Reception by Philadelphia Local Council to delegates and visitors.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19 (TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY).

10.30 A.M.—Anniversary Service, Holy Communion. St. Luke's Church, 13th St. below Spruce, Sermon by Rt. Rev. W. S. Rulison, D.D., Assist. Bishop of Cen. Pa.

3.30 P.M.—Special Meetings of Philadelphia Chapters, to be attended by visiting delegates, with short addresses and consultation concerning Brotherhood work.

8 P.M.—Final Service, Church of the Epiphany, 15th and Chestnut Sts. Four Addresses, by speakers to be selected.

Rules for Communicants.

1. Make your Communions at regular intervals and always after self-examination.

2. Take off at least the glove of your right hand and lift your veil before coming to the Altar rails.

3. Kneel straight upright at the rail with your head erect, and reserve acts of worship to the time before and after being at the Altar.

4. Receive the species of Bread in the palm of your right hand and never in your fingers, and be careful to receive every crumb.

5. When you receive the Chalice guide it by holding the base and take as little as possible.

6. Never wipe your mouth after receiving, either with your hand or with a handkerchief.

7. Never be in a hurry to receive, but wait till the species of wine touches your lips.

8. Remain on your knees while the others are receiving, remembering in whose Presence you are, and employ the time while others are receiving by offering special prayers and intercessions for yourself and others.

9. Never leave your place after the Service till the Priest has consumed what remains of the Blessed Sacrament and has gone to the Vestry.

GROWTH OF THE CHURCH.

The Rev. Dr. Schauffler, Presbyterian, calls attention to a feature of Christian growth in New York worthy of careful consideration. He says—"That the Protestant Episcopal Church in the City of New York is outstripping all other Protestant evangelical bodies in its accessions to the Church is an undeniable fact. As between them and the next largest body, viz., the Presbyterian, the figures are as follows: Episcopalians in 1882, 25,733; in 1887, 33,903; in 1890, 36,175; Presbyterians in 1882, 19,232; in 1887, 20,809; in 1890, 22,526. According to this the growth of the former has been over 11,000 members, while that of the latter has been only a little over 3,000 members Is there any reason for this? Many reasons have been assumed, some of them complimentary to the Episcopalians, and some of them the reverse. I will, however, call attention to one, to me, all-sufficient reason; There are in this city seventy-nine Episcopalian churches and chapels of all kinds, and they have to care for them 117 ordained men. On the other hand the Presbyterians have fifty-four churches and chapels of all kinds and just fifty-four ordained men to care for them. This one fact is in itself quite enough to account for the relative growth of the two bodies in this city. Not until the other evangelical bodies in this town copy after the Episcopalians and multiply their force of ordained workers will they be able to match themselves with that great body in the growth of their churches. Modern church life in large cities is so exhausting that one man can no longer do the work that a large congregation requires as well as two men could do it."

JAMES CAMPBELL,

Clothier

S. W. Cor. 6th AND MARKET STS.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

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1176 S. TENTH ST., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

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The Ascension News.

VOL. III. PHILADELPHIA, PA., NOVEMBER, 1890. No. 9

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

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DAILY:
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Evening Prayer, 5.00 P. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
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THURSDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 A. M.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoons.

KALENDAR.—NOVEMBER.

1 All Saints.
2 Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity.
7 Friday—Fast.
9 Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity.
14 Friday—Fast.
16 Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity.
21 Friday—Fast.
23 Sunday next before Advent.
28 Friday—Fast.
30 First Sunday in Advent. St. Andrew.

GUILD MEETINGS.

1 8 P. M., Annual Meeting of Men's Guild.
3 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
11 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
18 8 P. M., Meeting of S. Andrew's Brotherhood.
25 8 P. M. Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

The Industrial School, every Saturday at 10 A. M.
Mothers' Meeting every Friday at 7.30 P. M.
Ladies' Aid Society, every Thursday at 3 P.M.
Embroidery Class, every Thursday morning after Morning Prayer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. Wm. Gilpin.
Ass't Superintendent, Mr. W. H. Montgomery.
Librarian, Mr. J. Lardner Howel.
Assistant Librarians, Mr. Carroll Hodge,
Mr. Stuart Jackson.

BIBLE CLASSES.

For Men, Sundays, 3.00 P.M.
Teacher, REV. HENRY KITTSON.

For Young Men, Sundays, 10.00 A.M.
Teacher, REV. H. L. GAMBLE.

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MONEY.

The power and necessity of money in secular affairs is universally recognized. The proverbial phrase "the almighty dollar," if not absolutely true—for there are some things money cannot buy—yet expresses very forcibly the truth, that if a man has money he can command pretty much everything, and that if he has not he is pretty helpless. And this is true in regard to church, as well as secular, matters. At first sight it would seem as if it ought not to be so. The Gospel is to be preached freely and offered without money and without price. But as the Scripture saith, "how shall they hear except there be a preacher, and how shall they preach unless they be sent." If men are to give—as they must—their whole time to preaching, administering the sacraments and performing the offices of the Church, they must be supported. If churches are to be built, and if they are to be in any way worthy of the sublime purpose for which they are intended, it can only be done by a large expenditure of money. Then they have to be taken care of, lighted, heated, organs, choirs, etc., provided for them. And if the Church is to do anything but simply celebrate the divine offices, if it is to carry on, as it should, an educationary and missionary work, then these churches are to be built and maintained, not only where there are wealthy people who desire them, but in the poorest districts and in new and distant places. And parish and school-houses are to be built, and furnished with libraries and gymnasiums and other appliances to draw and instruct the young. Then there is an unlimited benevolent work for the Church ever to do; the poor, sick, orphans, widows, afflicted, to be sought out and cared for. And to do this requires buildings, supplies, officers, etc., all of which can only be provided by continual and large supplies of money.

Persons, therefore, who think that they can profess to be Christian people and yet be exempt from the duty and the call to give money for religious purposes, are very much mistaken. They neither can be, nor ought to be, so exempt. The work of the Church simply cannot be carried on without money. And it would not be good for Christians themselves if they were not called upon to give. The most beautiful and elevating characteristics of the human heart are those of generosity and compassion, and unless there were constant appeals to those qualities they would be lost, and the character would become selfish, luxurious and sordid. There must, therefore, always be a demand for money in the Church.

But the question is, how is money to be obtained for all these purposes of the Church?

One very generally adopted method has been the sale and renting of seats in churches. But this is fundamentally wrong in principle, because it makes a man's religious privileges depend upon the amount of money he is able to pay, turns what should be the Father's House for all His children into a private club house, brings social distinctions into the church, and creates the impression that religion is only a matter of money and so a luxury beyond a poor man's reach. Moreover, even if it were right to provide for the support of the Church by pew rents, there is still all the vast benevolent work of the Church to be carried on.

The only way in which the whole work of the Church can be fully and properly provided for, is by teaching people to give voluntarily on principle, teaching them that it is a bounden duty and necessary exemplification of the Christian life, that it is just as much an obligation upon a Christian man to support and carry on the work of the Church as it is to provide for his own family. And he should do the one precisely on the same principle that he does the other, from love. A rich man provides his family with all the luxuries that he can command, and the poor man gives his family all the comforts he can afford. So "he that hath much should give plentiously" to God's service, "and he that hath little should do his diligence gladly to give of that little." It should be a glad and willing offering. No one should ever resent being asked to give, he must ever expect to be asked, "the poor ye have always with you," as long as there is any sin or suffering upon earth there will be need of giving. And every man should be ready and glad to give according to his means. His religious privileges or position in Church should never be dependent upon the amount he gives, for God gives His spiritual gifts to all equally. What man gives to God should be an act of worship, a thank offering, should proceed from a loving heart, and be as bountiful as he can make it. A man should not give because he will gain praise or credit for it, or because it is expected of him, or because others do it. Nor should he refrain from giving because others do not give. Whether others do their duty or not, does not in the least excuse him. It is his duty, as it should be his joy, to give the due proportion of his income. He must answer for himself, others for themselves. But what one and all need to learn is to give, and be always giving, for there is always need of giving, "as the Lord hath prospered him." Not until Christians learn to use their money so, can the work of Christ be done upon earth.

A STATEMENT.

We are again confronted with the question, shall the publication of this paper be continued? The receipts from subscriptions and advertisements are not sufficient to meet our expenses. If all our subscriptions are paid up—and some thirty are now due—we shall

still need some $50 to pay the expenses of the paper up to the first of the year. To meet this sum we must ask for *donations* in addition to subscriptions. But if the paper is to be regularly continued more members of the congregation must subscribe for it, or obtain additional advertisements for it. Who will do this? Or do you want the paper given up? The reply to this will determine the question.

Record for October.

Baptisms,	5
Communicants added—	
New	1
By removal	7
Removed	2
Burials	1

Receipts.

For current expenses	$263.67
Of the Sunday School	7.93
For the poor	13.50
" " support of the Schools	13.00
" S. Andrew's Brotherhood	62.23
" General missions	1.00
" S. Mary's Guild	1.00
" Year Book	4.50
" salary of Assistant Minister	150.00
" theological education	100.00
" altar fund	2.00
" choir excursion	33.75
Total,	$652.58

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Five dozen kneeling hassooks, 30 kneeling benches were also made by the sexton during the summer, a set of castors and 2 silver salt spoons and mustard spoon, fine linen corporal, burse and pall for private communion service, five gallons of Port wine for Communion, one gallon of Catawba wine for Communion, a white brocade silk eucharistic stole embroidered, also an antique embroidered silk maniple turned into a choir stole.

ANNIVERSARY SERMON.—On the twenty-third of this month the Rev. Mr. Hodge completes the tenth year of his Rectorship of this parish. He proposes on the morning of that day to preach a sermon reviewing the history of the Church during that period.

BROAD STREET OMNIBUSES.—The congregation has been very much annoyed by the noise made by the Broad Street omnibuses, especially by their stoppage and the ringing of their bells just in front of the Church where the transfer to coaches going all the way down the street and to the South Street cars were made. But we are glad to say that the wardens having represented to the President of the line how great was the annoyance he has ordered the transfer to be changed to the north side of South Street. This is a great relief.

S. MARY'S GUILD RECEPTION.—A social reception for the young persons of the parish was given by S. Mary's Guild on their regular recreation evening last month, and proved a very pleasant occasion. Coffee and cake and ice cream were served during the evening, and Mr. Stanley Addicks, organist of S. Luke's Church, played on the piano. These occasions are very useful in bringing the young people of the parish together, and breaking up that distant feeling they are so apt to have if they see each other only in Church. S. Mary's Guild has done a very good work in this way.

GUILD ANNIVERSARIES.—In spite of the earnest appeal of the Rector to all the men and women of the parish to be present at the anniversaries of the two general guilds which were held in the last week in October, only about twenty women and twelve men appeared so hard is it to get our lay people to take any interest in the practical work of the parish. However, each year's report shows more and more effective work accomplished. And if every communicant would only realize his or her obligation to do *something* we should have a very live parish. Let the question for the coming season be not, who will work? but, who will refuse to work?

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Pennsylvania Branch of the Women's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions, will be held in this Church on Thursday, November 20th. The women of all the various parish missionary societies throughout the Diocese are invited to attend the early communion on the morning of that day at 7.30 A.M., and the morning prayers at 10 A.M. From 10.30 A.M. to 1 P.M., and again from 2.30 to 4.30 P.M., addresses will be delivered by Bishop Talbot, Archdeacon Moran, Dr. Langford, Rev. Mr. Graves, of China, Rev. Mr. Phillips, of this city, and others, on behalf of the different departments of missions.

GENERAL MISSIONS.—The special envelopes sent out this quarter are for the General Missions of the Church, that is, for the support of the great missions of the Church in the domestic and foreign field, to which every parish in the country is expected to contribute. We have now some fifteen missionary bishops and several hundred clergymen and lay workers, not only in the missionary jurisdictions, but in our western and southern dioceses, whose support is wholly derived from this fund. Without it, it would be impossible to carry the Church into the newer parts of our country or support it in places where it is weak. Every communicant should contribute something towards it.

CHANGES OF RESIDENCE.—The members of the parish who change their address would confer a great favor upon the clergy if they would always notify them when they do so, as they often have great difficulty in ascertaining where they have removed to. On one afternoon recently the Rector went to four houses at a considerable distance from the Church, and in each case found the parishioners he was looking for had removed without notifying him. And when any one removes to such a distance that it is no longer possible to attend the Church, a letter of transfer should always be taken to the parish with which they propose to connect themselves. It is impossible for the clergy to keep their registers correct or to know who are their parishioners unless this is attended to.

CLASSES RESUMED.—The Industrial School on Saturday morning, the Mother's Meeting on Friday evenings, the Ladies' Embroidery Class, and the Ladies' Aid Society meetings on Thursday, are resumed this month.

OUTSIDE IMPROVEMENTS.—The delay in completing our pavement, putting up the stone steps and iron railing has been due to the stone cutters, who have put off the work from day to day. We are glad to see, however, that some of the stone has at length arrived, and we are positively promised that the work will shortly be finished. But the congregation are again reminded that we still need contributions for this work and also for the completion of the payment on the organ.

PUNCH CARDS.—The method has been adopted of securing the regularity and punctuality of the children at the Sunday School, of providing each child with a card which is punched on every occasion the child comes to Sunday School and those who produce their cards at the end of the season with the requisite number of holes punched in it will be duly rewarded. And no card is punched after the children's service begins, at 2.30 P. M., on Sunday afternoons, so children who want to get prizes must be punctual as well as regular in their attendance.

WANTS.—Teachers in the Sunday School and for the Men's Bible Class, Mr. Kittson having taken the latter only temporarily.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions have been received since the June issue of the NEWS:

Miss Alice Spear, Miss Anderson, Mr. Jos. Hartshorne, Cash, Miss M. M. Menah, Miss Hewson, Mrs. Weaver, Dr. Wm. M. Menah, Rev. G. Woolsey Hodge, Mrs. G. Woolsey Hodge, Mr. Carroll Hodge, Miss Drinker, Mrs. Gundaker, Mrs. Miliken, Mrs. A. Jackson, Miss F. Jackson, Mr. S. Jackson.

Subscriptions due but unpaid, 30.

A CORRECTION.

In the editorial on the Sunday School in our last issue, the Rector made the statement, that seven out of the twelve vestrymen of the Church of the Holy Apostles taught in the Sunday School. In the course of the month he received the following letter from Mr. Thomas the superintendent of that school correcting this statement. We gladly publish it, as it only strengthens the argument, and gives as well Mr. Thomas' testimony in regard to his own experience of the work. It shows that the success of this department of Church work depends not upon the clergy, but upon the fidelity of the laity.

DREXEL & CO., BANKERS.

Philadelphia, Oct. 10, 1890.

Rev. George Woolsey Hodge,
No. 334 South 13th St., Phila.

My Dear Mr. Hodge:—A friend has sent me a copy of the ASCENSION NEWS for this month. In it I find a most excellent article from yourself with regard to the Sunday School, and in it some very kind remarks about myself which I very much appreciate. I only want to say that all that I have done there has more than repaid me a thousand fold. I want, however, to correct one statement. You say that seven out of the twelve vestrymen are teachers in the Sunday School. Of the present vestry ten are engaged in the Sunday School work, and one of the others has frequently acted as a substitute. The remaining one has never been engaged in Sunday School work. I owe my success to the admirable manner in which I have been helped by all who have been engaged in the work.

With kindest regards and best wishes for your success, I am

Very sincerely yours,

GEO. C. THOMAS.

S. ANDREW'S BROTHERHOOD.

The Annual Convention of S. Andrew's Brotherhood, which was held in this city, was a most gratifying success. It was a beautiful sight to see S. George's Hall almost entirely filled with men who had come from all parts of the country at no little expense and inconvenience simply for the purpose of taking council together how the Kingdom of Christ could be extended upon earth. We were particularly pleased with the attendance at the two celebrations of the Holy Communion for the members of the Brotherhood in this Church, 67 men being present the first day and 76 the second. For that number of young men to be present at that service at 7 o'clock in the morning on two consecutive days, when a late celebration had been provided for them the day before and another on the day following, proves that they were animated by real devotion. And that is the best guarantee of success in their work.

They tell of Spain's four-year-old King, that, on a recent Sunday, having been taken to the royal pew for mass, he paralyzed the preacher (who is said to have been unusually energetic in voice and gesture), by calling out, "See here, man, don't you know it is very wrong to go on in church like that?"

ALL SAINTS' DAY.

'Twas All Saints' Day in November,
I sat in my cushioned pew;
The church was a marvel of beauty,
And all things were fair to view.
For down through the costly windows
The sunlight, in mellow rays,
Fell softly o'er priests and people,
Assembled for prayer and praise.
The altar, with flowers radiant,
Crimson, and purple and gold,
Of service, loving and tender,
A beautiful story told.
And soon from the sweet-voiced singers,
What waves of harmony roll!
Chanting the grand Te Deum,
In strains that fill the soul
With visions of glory and beauty,
Of Jesus, the Crucified One,
Exalted, a Prince and a Saviour,
To sit on the great white throne,
With saints and apostles surrounding
And prophets a goodly array,
And "the noble army of martyrs"
Praising him night and day.

Then rose the priest at the altar,
Reading in tones subdued,
Of the "hundred and forty-four thousand,"
That white robed multitude
Which John in his mystical vision,
Saw standing before the throne,
The ransomed whom no man can number
Out of great tribulation gone.
As the priest went on with the story
Of matrons, mothers, and sires,
Of maidens, and old men hoary
Who "glorified God in the fires,"
Singing His praise in the dungeon,
Chanting His love at the stake;
Buried alive in blind fury,
Welcoming death for His sake,
I thought, as I sat and listened,
O, God! can such things be?
Have I the faith of the martyrs?
What have I suffered for thee?
Could I face the rage of lions,
Or go to the rack undismayed?
If tempted like them, could I suffer
For Him who my ransom paid?
My faith is so weak, dear Master,
Such test I could never bear;
The cross of the martyrs outweighs it,
Their crowns I shall never share.

Just then the clear voice of the reader
Rang out in exultant tone,
"My grace is sufficient for thee,"
Sufficient for every one,
To the feeblest who trust in his mercy,
I come with a message from heaven:
Look not with dismay to the future,
As thy day, so shall strength be given.
We sit in our "exiled houses,"
And worship our God at will;
The role of the ancient martyrs
Is not for us to fulfill.
We must *live* to His glory, brethren,
Be noble, unselfish, and true;
There's a cross for each one to carry,
And work for each one to do.
It may be that active service
To some feeble saint is denied,
For him there are lessons of patience,
And lusts to be crucified.
Let each in his sphere be faithful;
It may be in toil and sorrow,
Who bears the cross for his Lord to-day
Shall wear a crown on the morrow.

LONG SERVICES.

Sometimes we hear people complaining that our services are too long, but we attended recently an ordinary Sunday morning service in Trinity Church, New York, which was two hours and a quarter long, the Litany being omitted. And the next day at the consecration of the new All Angels' Church, 81st St. and 10th Av., which the Rev. Dr. Hoffman, brother of the former Rector of S. Mark's Church in this city, has just erected as a memorial to his father at a cost of upwards of $200,000, we stayed two hours and a half and the sermon was not over, the communion still to follow.

DREKA
FINE STATIONERY AND ENGRAVING HOUSE
1121 CHESTNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA

The Ascension News.

VOL. III. PHILADELPHIA, PA., DECEMBER, 1890. No. 10

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.
ASSISTANTS:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.
REV. H. L. GAMBLE.
RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.
ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
GEO. H. HAVERSTICK.
CHOIR MASTER:
J. SPENCER BROCK.
ORGANIST:
ROBERT B. SALTER, JR.
SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2029 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, 11.00 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Litany and Instruction, 4.00 P. M.
Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

DAILY:
Morning Prayer, 10.00 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5.00 P. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 7.45 P. M.

THURSDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 A. M.

CHRISTMAS DAY:
Holy Communion, 6.30, 7.30 and 11.00 A. M.
Morning Prayer, 10.30 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5.00 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoons.

KALENDAR.—DECEMBER.

5 Friday—Fast.
7 Second Sunday in Advent.
12 Friday—Fast.
14 Third Sunday in Advent.
17 Ember Day—Fast.
19 Friday—Ember Day—Fast.
20 Ember Day—Fast.
21 Fourth Sunday in Advent, S. Thomas.
25 Christmas Day.
26 S. Stephen—Fast.
27 S. John Evangelist.
28 Holy Innocents. Sunday after Christmas.

GUILD MEETINGS.

1 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
9 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
11 8 P. M., Meeting of S. Andrew's Brotherhood.
23 8 P. M. Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

The Industrial School, every Saturday at 10 A. M.
Mothers' Meeting every Friday at 7.30 P. M.
Ladies' Aid Society, every Thursday at 3 P.M.
Embroidery Class, every Thursday morning after Morning Prayer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3 00 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. Wm. B. Gilpin.
Ass't Superintendent, Mr. W. H. Montgomery.
Librarian, Mr. J. Lardner Howel.
Assistant Librarians, Mr. Carroll Hodge, Mr. Stuart Jackson.

BIBLE CLASSES.

For Men, Sundays, 3.00 P.M.
Teacher, MRS. MASON.
For Young Men, Sundays, 10.00 A.M.
Teacher, REV. H. L. GAMBLE.
For Ladies, Sundays, 3.00 P.M.
Teacher, MRS. HODGE.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, 112 South Fourth Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

TEN YEARS OF PARISH HISTORY.

On November 23d, the Rector completed the tenth year of his Rectorship of this parish. On the morning of that day he preached a sermon reviewing the history of the parish for that period. When he became Rector the property of the Church consisted of the plain, two-storied, dingy, unattractive Church building on Lombard Street, above Eleventh, a most disadvantageous situation. The Church had stood there nearly fifty years, leading a very precarious and struggling existence. At one time it had become so enfeebled that it gave up its independent life and became a mission chapel of S. Luke's Church. It afterward so revived under the administration of the Rev. Mr. Hare, now the Bishop of South Dakota, who took charge of it as an assistant minister of S. Luke's Church, that it again became a separate parish. But he, as all the preceding Rectors, saw the necessity of its removal to a different locality, and finally resigned because he could not induce his vestry to undertake it. After his resignation it again declined, until at last the vestry resolved to close it, feeling unable to carry it on any longer. This would have been done had it not been for the enterprise of a single vestryman, the late Dr. Keys, who undertook to keep it open at his own personal risk. This he did until the present Rector was called.

When he entered on the Rectorship he found only fifty-three names on the list of Communicants, the Church much out of repair, utterly lacking in any churchly adornments, and $800 in debt. Though the field was unpropitious and discouraging, with the assistance of some friends who came with him to the parish, and most of whom still belong to it, he was enabled to make some decided improvements in the Church edifice and to introduce some features into its services which led to a rapid increase in the congregation and revival of its parochial life. The Church was made free, a vested choir introduced, a weekly Eucharist and daily services instituted, Guilds and other parochial societies formed, etc.

For five years a good and increasing work was thus done. At the same time, from the very beginning, all engaged in it felt that no very large or permanent work could be carried on in that building, in that locality, and every opportunity was sought for the removal of the Church to a better position. In the Spring of 1885 such an opportunity presented itself. An offer for the sale of the building to a colored congregation was received and accepted, and the present property on Broad Street was obtained.

This involved a very difficult negotiation, but by the skill and energy of some members of the vestry it was accomplished. During the summer the parish building on the rear of the lot was erected, and by November was ready for occupancy for Church and school purposes. In the meantime subscriptions were solicited and the building of the Church itself was pushed on. By December 1886, the nave and aisles were completed, a temporary chancel being arranged at one end which served until the chancel proper was built a year ago. And it was only last spring that our organ was put in.

Thus the history of the parish for the last ten years has not been that of a completed and firmly established church, but of the resuscitation of a practically defunct parish, and of one passing through all the difficulties and disadvantages of a removal. During this period the work accomplished, so far as figures can show it, has been as follows: 1947 services have been held on Sundays, and 4651 on weekdays, the Holy Communion has been celebrated in public 1321 times, and in private 75 times; 20,976 Communions have been made. The children have been catechised on 702 occasions and 2235 sermons have been preached. To the 53 Communicants on the list in November, 1880, there have been added 595 names, of which number 387 still remain, 319 baptisms have been administered, 230 persons have been confirmed, 48 marriges been solemnized, and 159 burials. The total offerings for all purposes during this period have amounted to $64,722.12, of which $4812.44 was for benevolent objects. To show the increase in the receipts of the Church since its removal we may mention that during the five years in Lombard Street the receipts averaged $3222.38, and during the five years on Broad Street $9731.84. The size of the congregation, the attendance at the services, and the work accomplished, has been proportionately increased.

In looking back, therefore, over the past decade of our parochial life, we cannot but feel that God has blessed and prospered us, and that through many difficulties and obstacles we have been enabled to revive a practically extinct parish and put it in possession of an ample property in a location which must be always valuable and prominent, with a beautiful and attractive church and commodious school building, and thus made its future success and influence secure.

But we must not think that our work is done, or that there is no further need of effort or exertion. We have still a debt, involved in buying the property, to remove; the tower of the Church and a clergy house to build, many adornments to add to the Church, to say nothing of many other ways in which the strength and efficiency of the Church might be enlarged. But now that we are in the position which we have attained, and possess the plant we have, we believe that all this can be done, and that if the congregation is united and harmonious, and renders the Rector as

hearty and efficient support in the future as it has in the past, we shall see at the end of another decade, if we should be permitted to live through it, as great an advance and improvement in the condition of the parish over its present state, as we see to-day when we contrast it with what it was in November, 1880.

OUR INDEBTEDNESS.

We do not like to be always talking about money, and yet as any individual, as long as he has any debts or his income is not sufficient to meet his expenses, must be always thinking how he is going to pay his debts or make his ends meet, so as a parish, as long as we have a debt hanging over us or bills coming in we have not the money to pay, we ought to be thinking and planning how we are going to satisfy these claims. So we think we ought to keep our obligations constantly before our readers.

As to our mortgage debt, that is now in such a shape that the principal cannot be demanded for five years and in the meantime, whenever we we can get together $500 for the purpose we can pay that much on account, and thus reduce it little by little.

But in addition to this we still owe $1000 on our new organ, which we all enjoy so much and which adds so much to the completeness of the Church. We have still a year left in which to pay this, but we ought to be receiving constant donations for the purpose that we may be able to do so whenever the time comes. We have also now made the improvements outside the Church, which have taken away its very shabby appearance and made it look finished. This has cost some $800, towards which only $325 has been subscribed. The remainder ought to be paid at once, as part of the work was done at low figures with the understanding that there should be immediate payment. Are there not others in the congregation beside the four persons who have subscribed the $325, who are sufficiently pleased with the improvement to the Church to assist in paying for it? Put any amount you will give towards it in an envelope marked "Improvements" and drop it in the plate at any offertory. Let all help even though the contribution be small.

Record for October.

Baptisms,	2
Marriage	1
Communicants added	8
" removed	2

Receipts.

For current expenses	$509.93
" salary of Assistant Minister	150.00
" the poor	12.84
" " support of the Schools	4.15
" General missions	12.60
" the Episcopal Hospital	32.43
" " organ fund	.50
" Improvements	100.00
" Year Book	1.00
Of the Sunday School	8.65
Total,	$832.10

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Embroidered linen credence cover and maniple, linen pall for chalice, violet silk stole, embroidered, for the Rector; a white chalice veil and burse, and a linen corporal and purificator were presented to a colored mission in Illinois. Two tons of coal and a number of donations for Thanksgiving dinners for the poor, were also received.

SERVICES ON CHRISTMAS DAY.—As Christmas is a day on which there is so much going on at home, and yet is so high and great a festival that every one should wish to be present at the great Eucharistic celebration on that day, in order that the service may not be so prolonged as to make it difficult for any one to stay throughout it, it is proposed this year to have Morning Prayer said at 10.30 A. M. on that day, and to have the service at 11 A. M. begin with the Processional, followed by the Te Deum as the Introit, and then the Holy Communion. In this way no one will have any excuse for leaving the Church before the conclusion of the service, or of staying away altogether because they fear it will be too prolonged. And as in former years it has been noticed that the extra celebration we have had on Festivals at 8.30 A. M., has been attended by only a very few, it has been determined this year to try the experiment of having it earlier, before the 7.30 A. M. celebration, at 6.30 A. M. This will enable even those who have to prepare their breakfasts to get home in time to do so. The services therefore on Christmas day will be at 6.30, 7.30, 10.30, 11 A. M., and 5 P. M.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS.—The congregation will remember that we have to depend upon the Christmas offerings to meet the interest on the mortgage on our property which falls due this month. Every one is expected to give something on Christmas day in addition to his ordinary weekly offering through the envelopes. And let every one make it as large and generous as he can. He who can give gifts in his family at Christmas can certainly give a gift to his Church, and he can feel that what he gives is going to support and build up a work which will do good to the souls and bodies of many men through years to come.

Offerings for the Christmas decorations and for the Children's Festival may be placed in the alms chest in the vestibule which will be marked for that purpose, or given to the committee of the Sunday-school teachers having the Festival in charge.

A GOOD DEED.—The Rector was much gratified lately by being told by one of his parishioners that he had remembered the parish in his will. The Rector felt that a beginning, at least, was thus being made towards the accomplishment of his great desire of seeing the Church not only entirely freed from debt, but placed in such a condition that it will be safe from all contingencies in the future, and be a permanent blessing and benefit to the neighborhood in which it is placed. Are there not others who are interested in it now who want to continue their benefactions to it after they are called hence? In the old country, generation after generation has been educated and spiritually nourished by the gifts which their ancestors left to the church. Thus the good a man can do is extended indefinitely beyond the period of his own life.

ILLNESS OF MRS. KITTSON.—Those who are not already aware of it, will be sorry to hear of the severe illness of Mrs. Kittson, which has necessitated not only the giving up of her work in the parish, but the removal of herself and husband to the South for the winter. They are now in Asheville, North Carolina, and it is hoped that the sojourn in that mild climate may be of great service to her. Mrs. Kittson's place in charge of the Mother's Meeting, will be supplied by Mrs. Clay and Mrs. Jordan and other ladies who have assisted in the work. But her illness is doubly unfortunate, as it deprives us at the same time, of the services of Mr. Kittson. He, however, retains his position in the parish and we trust that

in the spring his wife's health will be such as to permit his returning to work.

PAROCHIAL WORK.—All our parochial work is now well under way for the winter. The ladies of the Missionary Chapter of the Women's Guild are now engaged in making up a missionary box for a clergyman in Alabama. Donations of money and material will be thankfully received for the box, and ladies willing to assist in cutting out or sewing, are invited to meet on Wednesday mornings after Morning Prayers, for that purpose.

The ladies in charge of the work among the poor meet in the school building every Tuesday morning to cut out and sew for that purpose. The Embroidery Class of the Altar Chapter meets on Thursday mornings, and the Ladies' Aid on Thursday afternoons at 3 o'clock. Surely there is something in one or another of these departments which each one can find to do.

OUR KINDERGARTEN.—During the last month we have inaugurated a daily kindergarten in our school building, for children between four and seven years of age. The sessions will last from 9 to 11.30 A. M., and a charge of 10 cents a week is made for each scholar. The lady in charge, Miss Neidhard, has had experience in teaching, both in S. Peter's and S. Stephen's parishes. But she thinks our church is in a better locality for such a purpose than either of those churches, and prefers to work here. We trust she will succeed in having a large school, and we are sure it will be an advantage to those children whose parents are able to send them.

ADVENT SERVICES.—The usual changes in the service will be made during Advent. The Benedicite being said in place of the Te Deum, the whole of the Benedictus being used, and the last verses of the Dies Irae in place of the Gloria in Excelsis in the Communion office.

THE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL opened with a very good attendance last month. But we miss very much in it, the presence of Miss Hewson, who has so long had charge of it. Her health, however, would not permit her taking it up this winter. The Assistant Minister has taken the general charge of it and we have been reinforced by some five new teachers.

THE YEAR BOOK for 1889-90 is now published; copies can be had from the Sexton. It gives the report of the Church for the past ecclesiastical year.

ANOTHER MEMORIAL WINDOW.—We are glad to announce that the order for the first of our chancel windows has been given. It will be made in England by the same firm that put in the windows in the aisles, thus securing the harmony of all the glass. It will be the central window over the altar, and the subject will be "the Ascension," the fact, to the commemoration of which the Church is dedicated, being thus given the most prominent position in the Church.

THE WOMEN'S AUXILIARY MEETING in the Church on November 20th, was well attended, though not as largely as we had been led to expect. One would suppose that all the members of the Auxiliary from the different parishes would be present at this annual meeting, but when the roll was called some parishes were not represented at all, and others by only one or two members. We are sorry to say that out of our *eight* delegates only *three* responded when our parish was called. The meetings were very interesting, though one of the appointed speakers failed to appear.

The occasion was useful to the parish, as it brought many here who had never seen the Church before. It was greatly admired.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS.—We are glad to acknowledge the receipt of the following subscriptions and donations for the NEWS during the past month, but we still need more to meet our expenses up to the first of the year:

Mr. W. H. Tevis, Mrs. W. H. Tevis, Mr. Wm. Platt Pepper, Miss E. Whelen, Miss Lea, Miss Pemberton, Mrs. J. B. Read, Mrs. H. M. Bond, Miss Bond, Mr. J. H. Botwright, Miss E. Kerr, Miss Rousseau, Mrs. Isaac Starr, Dr. G. Bonnet, Mrs. K. G. Whelen, Miss Vogdes, Mrs. Wm. Waterall, Mrs. Benners, Miss Isabel Schell, Mrs. C. Collins, Miss E. Montgomery, Mr. C. J. Yost. Donations, $5.

WORKINGMEN'S CLUB.

There has been connected for a number of years with S. Mark's Church, a very successful Workingmen's Club. Recently the vestry of that parish has offered to extend the benefits of the Club to members of other parishes in this portion of the city. The name of the Club has been changed to the United Workingmen's Club, and it is hereafter to be governed by a Board of Managers composed of two persons appointed by the Rectors of each of the several parishes taking part in it, and two elected from among the members of the Club for each of the parishes. The appointed members from this parish are Mr. William P. Pepper and Mr. Thomas Robb, and the elected members, Mr. Chas. L. S. Taylor, and Mr. S. G. Lynch.

The Club building is situated at 17th and Kater Streets, and contains library, assembly, billiard and other rooms.

A circular is being prepared setting forth the purposes, etc., of the Club, which we hope to be able to publish in our next issue. But we trust that without waiting for that the men of the parish will avail themselves of the privileges thus extended to them.

Canon Liddon and Free Churches.

The following resolution with reference to the death of Canon Liddon was passed at a meeting of the Council of the Free and Open Church Association of England:

That this Council desires to place on record their sense of the great loss sustained by the death of Canon Liddon, for many years a Vice-President of the Association, and a consistent and unswerving supporter of the right of freedom of worship. During the twenty years that he was connected with St. Paul's Cathedral, Cannon Liddon had the liveliest satisfaction in seeing the people not only availing themselves, in ever-increasing numbers, of the free and unrestricted use of the Cathedral at all public services, but also daily using the church for private meditation and prayer, so that in these, as in other respects, St. Paul's has become at once the expression and pattern of what a Cathedral church should be.

BISHOP COXE of Western New York, says in a recent address to his convention: "I rejoice in frequent celebrations of the great commemorative sacrifice of the Christian altar. Oh! that I might see the time when in every Church in my diocese the Lord's Supper should be part of the worship of every Lord's Day; and the very best part of it; celebrated and received by devout souls, early in the morning, and (where not forbidden by the requisites of health) before other necessary food."

DREKA
FINE STATIONERY AND ENGRAVING HOUSE
1121 CHESTNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA

The Ascension News.

VOL. IV. PHILADELPHIA, PA., JANUARY, 1891. No. 1.

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANTS:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.
REV. H. L. GAMBLE.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
GEO. H. HAVERSTICK.

CHOIR MASTER:
J. SPENCER BROCK.

ORGANIST:
ROBERT B. SALTER, JR.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2029 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:
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Morning Prayer, 11.00 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Litany and Instruction, 4.00 P. M.
Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
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DAILY:
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Evening Prayer, 5.00 P. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 7.45 P. M.

THURSDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 A. M.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoons.

KALENDAR.—JANUARY.

1 Circumcision.
2 Friday—Fast.
4 Second Sunday after Christmas.
6 The Epiphany.
9 Friday—Fast.
11 First Sunday after Epiphany.
16 Friday—Fast.
18 Second Sunday after Epiphany.
23 Friday—Fast.
25 Septuagesima—Conversion of S. Paul.
30 Friday—Fast.

GUILD MEETINGS.

5 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
8 8 P. M., Meeting of S. Andrew's Brotherhood.
13 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
27 8 P. M. Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

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Mothers' Meeting every Friday at 7.30 P. M.
Ladies' Aid Society, every Thursday at 3 P.M.
Embroidery Class, every Thursday morning after Morning Prayer.

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Ass't Superintendent, Mr. W. H. Montgomery.
Librarian, Mr. J. Lardner Howel.
Assistant Librarians, Mr. Carroll Hodge, Mr. Stuart Jackson.

BIBLE CLASSES.

For Men, Sundays, 3.00 P.M.
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For Young Men, Sundays, 10.00 A.M.
Teacher, REV. H. L. GAMBLE.

For Ladies, Sundays, 3.00 P.M.
Teacher, MRS. HODGE.

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A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

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Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

A NEW YEAR.

With this issue the ASCENSION NEWS enters upon its fourth year, and in doing so presents its greetings to its subscribers and the members of the parish generally. We think it has fully justified its publication, and we know that it has been of great use to the parish in many ways. Though the chief burden of its preparation has fallen upon the Rector, all of its editorials but three having been written by him, as well as the vast majority of the Parish News and other items, yet he has not begrudged the time and labor spent upon it, as he has felt that he was reaching a larger number of persons and was enabled to speak upon a greater variety of topics than he could from the pulpit. By it he can speak to the absentees as well as those in church, and explain and talk about a great many things, and keep every one informed about all that is going on in the parish, as he could in no other way.

We speak of this at the beginning of another year because we want all the parishioners to appreciate this, and become regular yearly subscribers, so that the paper can be certainly and easily carried on without the necessity of making especial appeals to make up a deficit at the end of each year. Through the generosity of a few members we are glad to say that all our expenses are now paid up to date, and we hope during the coming year to secure enough *new* subscribers and advertisements to give us an income sufficient to meet our requirements in the future.

A paper of this kind is a very important aid in such a work as we have here, which is that of completing and building up a parish. A church that has been built and is out of debt, and where all the pews are rented and a regular routine of parish life is going on, may not require such aid, though even there we should think there would be much in which the parishioners might be interested and new work that might be undertaken, but in a parish like ours, where there is so much yet to do, it is invaluable.

The work of building up a church is not an easy one. It is not something that can be done at once, or even very rapidly, unless a church has great resources at its command, or is in very exceptional circumstances. It is not like many other kinds of work where every gain that is made is a permanency. In church work there are certain disintegrating forces which are always active and against which headway has to be made, sickness, deaths, removals, disaffections, loss of interest, weariness, desire for change and novelty, factions, differences of judgment or taste, worldly and other interests and duties, bad

weather, these and other things are so many forces which weaken and destroy whatever is built up, to say nothing of the great and inherent difficulty of all church work involved in runing counter to the natural tastes and tendencies of men. Every one who has any familiarity in church work knows that our parishes are really made over again every few years, old faces disappear and new ones take their place. This is what makes church work so difficult and discouraging. As fast as it is built up it is pulled down. To one who only goes to church of a Sunday and sees everything going on apparently well ordered, the full choir filing in and taking their places, and the services well and duly rendered, we suppose it must seem as if the carrying on of a church was a very easy and agreeable work. They don't realize what is required to make things always move on smoothly and successfully, the difficulty of securing good and satisfactory helpers, and of filling all the different departments of work with faithful and efficient workers, of securing money for all the various needs of a parish, of reconciling a vast variety of tastes and interests, and getting people of very different characteristics to work together harmoniously, and of keeping up the ever flagging interest in church matters. If those who complain when things do not always work to their satisfaction in a parish, could only try their hands at running such an establishment they would soon realize how difficult such an undertaking is.

But we must have our churches and they should be worked so as to do the greatest amount of good, and so we must all try to work on year by year and do the best we can. And we have great faith that if one tries to do one's duty to the best of his ability, and has in doing so a single eye to God's glory, he will succeed. But every one must do his share. No one must ever think he is not wanted in a parish, or that there is no work for him to do, or refuse to do any work or take any interest in it unless it can be done just to his liking. As in a family, each has his place and should contribute his quota, but all should be generous and accommodating to each other, else we never shall get on. Now it is the object of this paper to act as the medium of communication between the different members of this parochial family, and set before all our common interests and aims, and we believe it can be thus of great use in promoting the welfare of our church. So we trust each will subscribe to it, and regularly take and read it, and may all be more earnest and interested this year than ever before.

THE NEWS.

The business manager of this paper is glad to announce that through the kindness of a number of members of the parish, the entire deficit on the NEWS has been paid, and we, therefore, start upon the new year with entirely clean books. Now, that we are in this most satisfactory condition, we desire to keep so, and this can be easily accomplished if all will help. We want more subscriptions, more advertisements, and

above all, a more general interest taken in the NEWS. We feel that we ought to have additional subscribers among our parishioners, and we are sure that advertisements can be had if you will only make the effort to get them. Several good friends of the NEWS have secured them in the past, others can do as well if they will try. We specially thank all who have helped us, and ask others to give us their co-operation, that this very important adjunct to our parish work may be successfully continued.

Record for December.

Baptism	1
Marriage	1
Communicants added	
New	2
By Removal	7
Removed	2
Burials	3

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$718.47
" Organ Fund	10.50
" Improvements	214.00
" General Missions	4.15
" the Poor	9.15
" Church debt	10.00
" Children's Festival	64.50
" Christmas Decorations	10.76
" Year Book	2.50
Of the Sunday School	6.89
Total,	$1050.92

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH. – A gallon of Catawba wine, a glass and bronze ink-stand for the Rector's table, two and a half tons of coal were secured for the poor, and a number of donations made for Christmas dinners for members of the Mother's Meeting and for the Sunday School Festival. With the proceeds of the last Parish Tea there have been provided a large music closet for the choir room, and curtains to hang in front of the cassocks and cottas. The Rector received at Christmas a number of very gratifying remembrances from different members of the congregation.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES.—The arrangement of our services on Christmas day certainly seems to have proved acceptable, as the attendance at the 6.30 A.M. was much larger than at the 8.30 A.M. Celebration we had last year, and the congregation at 11 o'clock also was much larger. At 6.30 A.M. there were some 50 communicants, at 7.30 A.M. 80, and at 11 A.M. there were about 200 persons present, of whom 93 received, and most of the others remained throughout the service. There were in all 50 communicants more than there was last Christmas. The arrangement of the 11 o'clock service evidently gave satisfaction. Certainly on festivals when the services are necessarily so prolonged, it is better to shorten them by having Morning Prayer said at an earlier hour.

The appearance of the church was much admired, though we should have liked to have seen more flowers about the altar, and had the contributions in the box marked for decorations been more liberal, they would have been provided. But we suppose our people are so intent upon paying off our indebtedness that they did not care to spend more money at present in ornamentation. The violin solo by Mr. Louis Gaertner, which was introduced during the Offertory, was very beautiful and made a most effective addition to the music. The report of the offerings of the day will be found in our financial statement.

CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL. An unusually bountiful festival for the Sunday-school children was, through the liberality of the teachers and some members of the congregation, provided on the Monday evening after Christmas. Each child was given a mock orange containing a surprise within it, a real orange, a box of candy, and a present besides. Our venerable Kris Kingle, who has favored us for several years, reappeared accompanied this time with a real live dog drawing a sled with the bag of presents on it. Some very good recitations and songs were given by several of the scholars, and the singing of the carols in the church was unusually good. There were about as many children with their parents in the school room as it could well hold.

PAROCHIAL VISITS.—The Rector is afraid that some members of the congregation will think that he has forgotten them. But they must remember that it takes him a long while to get round the whole congregation even once during the winter, living as so many of them do, at great distances from the church. He has paid since October 1st over 150 parochial visits, and in addition has gone to some 70 houses, some of them very far away, where he did not find the people at home or found they had removed. Sometimes he has gone two and three times without finding any one in. He mentions this to show how much of his work has to be done over and how much time it consumes. There are still a great many families whom he has not called on as yet this winter, but he hopes to get to them all gradually.

OUR KINDERGARTEN.—There are now some twenty children in our daily kindergarten, which is as many as the teacher thinks she can do justice to. If there was any one who was willing to act as her assistant, we might have then a school of double the size.

THE MISSIONARY BOX has not yet been sent off. We hope that now that Christmas is over the ladies will be able to give more time to it, and soon complete it. Work for it is given out every Wednesday after morning prayers.

MRS. KITTSON.—The congregation will be glad to hear that letters have been received from Mr. and Mrs. Kittson, and that the reports about the latter seem to be encouraging. Mr. Kittson is making himself useful in church work.

MR. WETHERILL.—Many have doubtless noticed the absence from church for some time of the well-known member of our vestry, Mr. Samuel Wetherill. We regret to say that the cause of his absence has been the necessity of his undergoing an operation for cataract of the eye. The operation was successfully performed, and he is now recovering, though for a time he suffered a great deal of pain.

ENTERTAINMENT.—S. Mary's Guild is contemplating giving a public entertainment on their regular recreation meeting night for the benefit of the Organ fund. Due notice of it will be given when the details are arranged.

YEAR BOOK.—Any who have not had copy of the last Year Book can get one from the sexton.

BRING your friends to church with you. We want to see every seat filled.

ADDRESSES WANTED.—The Rector would be glad if any persons could give him the present addresses of the following members of the parish who have removed since last spring without informing him: Mrs. MacCollum, from 1336 S. Broad St.; Mrs. Hulburt and son, from 2422 Lombard St.; Mrs. Norton and son, from 614 S. 11th St.; Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Wadlow, from 2137 Bainbridge St.; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Beaty, from 340 Lombard St.; Miss Boyd, from 1318 Pine St.; Mr. and Mrs. George Campbell and Miss Annette Smith, from 1309 Catharine St.; Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Muns, from 113 Freedland St.; Miss Parkhurst, from 1407 Locust St.; Miss Fanny Scott, from 511 S. Broad St.; Mrs. Hayward and sister, from 1637 S. 15th St.; Mr. Geo. H. Taylor, from 1017 Sergeant St. and Miss Martha Calder.

MEN'S BIBLE CLASS.—The Rector has had a great deal of trouble in finding any one to take charge of the

Men's Bible Class since Mr. Kittson went away. He has finally succeeded in securing the services of Mrs. Thomas H. Neilson who formerly belonged to our parish, but now goes to S. Stephen's. We trust this appointment will be a permanency, and that the members of the class will try and bring others to fill the class up. Why is it that men are not as ready to avail themselves of opportunities to study the Bible as women are? The class meets in the first Bible class room in the parish building, every Sunday at 3 P.M.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions have been received during December: Mrs. Thomas B. Allen, Mrs. C. Grimball, Miss A. S. Sherrett, Miss A. M. Fosque, Mrs. H. C. Pollock, Miss Jennie Davis, Miss Davis, Miss Wurts, Mr. John B. Haslett, Mrs. Henry Lehman, Miss L. F. Carter, Miss F. C. Cooper, Miss E. Colley. A large number of subscriptions are now due. Will all who are notified in this issue of the expiration of subscriptions, *please renew promptly*.

CIRCULAR.

The following is the circular of the Club we called attention to last month. We hope all the young men in the parish will join it.

THE UNITED CLUB AND INSTITUTE.

Seventeenth and Kater Streets, below South Street.

This Institution, having been in active life under the name of St. Mark's Workingmen's Club and Institute for more than twenty years, having in that time become nearly self-supporting, and being in possession of a good building and equipment, has recently been reorganized on a basis which will secure an enlargement of the scope of its work and very great extension of its influence and usefulness. All the parishes of the Protestant Episcopal Church south of Market Street and east of the Schuylkill River have been invited, and nine of them have thus far consented, to unite in the work under the new name and a common management. The parishes thus co-operating are Holy Trinity, St. James, Epiphany, St. Mark's, Holy Apostles, St. Luke's, Ascension, All Saints, and Christ Church Chapel.

The object of this circular is to make known this new and important movement, and to call attention to the advantages here to be found for supplying facilities for rest, amusement and instruction, under the most agreeable conditions and at the least possible expense. It is addressed to those who are already members, in the hope that it will cause them to make known these advantages to their friends, and thereby largely increase the membership; and it is addressed also to those who are not members, to convey to them a cordial invitation to come and see the Club and Institute for themselves, and join in the good and healthful work it is doing. The location is very central and convenient; the rooms are large and cheerful; the Reading Room has upon its tables all the best current literature of the day, so arranged that a large number of persons can conveniently read; the Circulating Library, which is the only good one in the Southern part of the city, contains over 3000 standard books in all departments of literature, and is being constantly replenished by the best of new books, the Recreation Room contains six first-rate billiard and pool tables, and ample facilities for other games; the Lectures and Entertainments in the large Hall (seating four hundred persons), supply instruction, amusement and recreation to the members and their families; the Coal Club enables members to obtain coal at a very low price, the saving on which alone is more than enough to pay the member's dues to the Club; the Beneficial Society makes provision for family expenses in case of sickness causing incapacity for work, and the Building Association, one of the best managed and strongest in the city, affords an opportunity to save money and buy a comfortable home instead of paying rent. These are some of the advantages of the United Club and Institute, and many others will follow from an enlarged membership. An active and efficient board of managers is now in charge of the affairs of the Club and Institute and they are determined to do everything in their power to extend its usefulness. A generous and hearty response to this circular will greatly encourage them in this effort, and will enable them soon to add new and attractive features.

Any one over eighteen years of age may become a member. There is no religious qualification for admission; all religious denominations are represented in the membership. The dues are twenty-five cents a month; subscribing members, three dollars per annum, life membership, twenty-five dollars.

WM. H. THOMPSON, *Chairman*,
No. 1949 Locust Street.
GEORGE HALL, JR., *Treasurer*,
No. 251 South Fourth Street.

HOSPITAL IN IDAHO.

The Rector has received the following appeal. Perhaps some one may like to respond to it.

THE FRANCES HOLLAND HOSPITAL.

WALLACE, IDAHO, December 6, 1890.

DEAR BRO. HODGE:—I write you this letter in the hope that you will read it to your good people and Sunday School, and I feel sure that some will be found willing to help.

While in Minnesota I built six churches, one rectory and the Wilder Farm College. The said college has now 190 students and 12 officers and teachers, and the trustees are enlarging to accommodate 85 more students.

I came here October 31, 1890, as general missionary of Idaho, under Bishop Talbot. Since that time I have built Holy Trinity Church, the rectory and hospital. I have failed to raise means up to this time to furnish the hospital, and this is the reason of this letter to you.

With "home-made" beds and benches we have cared for as many as 21 in one day. We need 214 single beds, furnished, also 50 chairs, and $100 worth of medicine.

Wallace has 60 saloons, one school, one teacher, one church, one preacher. Ours is the only church in all this region (of any kind). Wallace has nearly 2000 people, and within 15 miles there are from 2000 to 3000 miners and railroad men.

I earnestly hope you will be able to furnish a room—cost $25.

Your friend and brother,
D. GRIFFIN GUNN, *Supt.*

MISSIONARY MEETINGS.

A children's missionary meeting will be held in the parish building of the Church of the Holy Trinity, 19th and Walnut Sts., on Saturday afternoon, January 17, at half-past two o'clock. Miss Carter will make an address. All children are cordially invited to come. Miss Carter will make an address to women at the same place, on Monday, January 19, at twelve o'clock. A large attendance is hoped for.

STEADFASTNESS.

Courage, brother! do not stumble,
Though thy path be dark as night;
There's a star to guide the humble;
Trust in God, and do the right!

Let the road be long and dreary,
And its ending—out of sight,
Foot it bravely, never weary;
Trust God, and do the right!

Perish policy and cunning;
Perish all that fears the light:
Whether losing, whether winning,
Trust in God, and do the right!

Some will hate thee, some will love thee,
Some will flatter, some will slight;
Cease from man and look above thee;
Trust in God, and do the right!

Simple rule and safest guiding,
Inward peace and inward light:
Star upon our path abiding—
Trust in God, and do the right!

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HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoons.

DURING LENT:
5 P. M. Fridays, Lecture after Evening Prayer.
Confirmation Instructions, Mondays 4 P. M. and Fridays 8 P. M. in Guild Room.

KALENDAR.—FEBRUARY.

1 Sexagesima.
2 Purification B. V. M.
6 Friday—Fast.
8 Quinquagesima.
11 Ash Wednesday.
15 First Sunday in Lent.
18 Ember Day.
20 Ember Day.
21 Ember Day.
22 Second Sunday in Lent.
24 S. Matthias.
All days in Lent except Sundays are Fasts.

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2 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
10 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
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For Ladies, Sundays, 3.00 P.M.
Teacher, MRS. HODGE.

KINDERGARTEN.

Daily, except Saturdays, 9 A. M.

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THE EARLY COMMUNION.

We have in this parish two celebrations of the Holy Communion every Sunday and Holy Day. Why is this? First, because we believe that by the teaching of Scriptures, and of the Prayer Book and from the use of the vast majority of Christians of all time, the Holy Communion is the chief, most distinguishing and most important act of Christian worship and the most valuable means of grace, and therefore ought to be celebrated in all Christian churches at least upon each Sunday and Holy Day, the obligatory times of worship. And we have two celebrations on all of those days in order that every member of the parish may have the opportunity of attending that service, for some might be able to come at one hour and not at another.

There are some whose avocations or duties at home might never allow them to come in the middle of the day if that was the only celebration. And in a household it is often impossible for every member to be absent at the same hour, so, if there is only one celebration in a church of a Sunday, many might not be able to attend except at rare intervals. Those too, who are not strong or well find it impossible to remain through the long musical service in the middle of the day. For these reasons it is well, if not necessary, to have another celebration early in the morning, when almost any one can make it convenient to get off, and when, the Communion being by itself and without any music, the service is much shorter and less fatiguing.

In addition to this, it has been a custom almost of the universal Church to receive the Holy Communion fasting. It is certainly more consonant with one's ideas of propriety, that that sacred food should be the first received in the day. And fasting will tend to our abstraction and devotion, rather than coming to so high and solemn an act after we have feasted and sated ourselves with feeding on the good things of this world. And eating tends to make one slothful and sleepy, not the frame in which we should be when we engage in highest worship. At the same time to fast until the middle of the day is too great a strain upon most people. There should be, therefore, an early celebration for those who desire to receive fasting. Moreover, the quiet, fresh morning hour, before the world is yet astir, and before we have had anything to distract or disturb us, and the quiet, simply said service, where only the devout are gathered and there is nothing to distract our attention, are better fitted for the solemn act of Communion, than to leave it until the day is half past, and many other thoughts and interests have intruded themselves upon our attention, and we are more or less fatigued by a long service. Again the effort and self sacrifice required to rise and go out early will be a far better preparation for Communion than the sloth and self-indulgence begotten of late rising and leisurely attendance at a mid-day service.

On all these accounts, therefore, we think that there should be not only two celebrations of the Holy Communion in a day each Sunday, but that one of them should be an early service. So ever since we have been able to have two ministers in this parish, we have had these two celebrations. But while we are glad to see the attendance at the early service has been gradually increasing, its advantages are not yet appreciated as they ought to be.

We hope that all our people will think over what we have said about the early service, and that we shall see more and more coming to it. Those who have made a practice of always going to the early Communion will all testify that they much prefer it to any other service, and they would consider themselves deprived of a great privilege if they were denied it. Will not others try and see if their experience is not the same?

CHANGE IN ASSISTANTSHIP.

The Rev. Mr. Gamble, having accepted a position in New York, has resigned the assistantship in this parish. The Rector had appointed the Rev. Joseph C. Cator in his place. He spent the last Sunday in January with us, preaching at the evening service, and he was to have entered permanently on his duties the first of this month. But unfortunately a few days before he received a cablegram saying that his father, who is the Vicar of an English parish, was dangerously ill, and he was obliged to sail at once for England. The Rector hopes, however, soon to find some one in his place.

GIFT OF TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS.

It gives us great pleasure to announce that the Church has received a gift of two thousand dollars towards the extinguishment of its indebtedness. This, together with some other subscriptions which had been promised, and the proceeds of the entertainment of S. Mary's Guild, enables us to complete the payment for the organ and the improvements on the outside of the Church, etc., leaving us no debt but the original mortgage on which we took the property, and towards the extinguishment of which we can now devote all our energies. We hope soon to be able to report that that too has been substantially reduced. And we must not rest until it is wiped out, and the amount of money we are now paying out in interest is set free to meet the current expenses of the Church.

We are devoutly thankful for the handsome donation which has so unexpectedly come to us, and we trust that other friends will be raised up to help us roll away the remaining burden of debt, and add what we still need for the completion of our Church.

Record for January.

Baptism,	1
Communicants added	
New	1
By Removal	3
Removed	2
Burials	2

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$264.24
" the Poor	4.76
" Missionary Box	67.17
" General Missions	1.40
" Organ Fund	61.10
Ascension News	51.72
Church debt	2000.00
Of the Sunday School	6.47
Total,	$2456.86

PARISH NOTES.

A Bell.—Shortly before Christmas a gentleman very kindly offered to present the Church with a bell, and steps were immediately taken to place it in the fleche which crowns our chancel. But when the measurements were taken, it was found that there was not sufficient space in it even to hang a tubular bell which would occupy less room than any other. This was a great dissapointment, as a bell would be of great use in arresting the attention of passers, and proclaiming throughout the neighborhood our frequent services. But we fear we must forego this advantage until we can erect our tower.

Diocesan Missions.—The extra envelope this quarter will be for Diocesan Missions. And for this object the parish has been assessed $100. This must be raised through these envelopes. So we trust each one will give as large an amount as he can, remembering that the object is to carry on missions in our own Diocese, and that we have whole classes of people and sections of the Diocese which are too poor and too indifferent to religion to support churches for themselves, though terribly in need of the saving and elevating influences which only the Church can exert. The envelopes may be returned at any time during the quarter.

Change of Mothers' Meeting.—The Mothers' Meeting has been changed from Friday evening to Wednesday after the evening service. The hour of the evening service has been made half past seven, so as to allow time for the women to sew after they have attended service in the church.

Wants of Mothers' Meeting.—The ladies in charge of the Mothers' Meeting would be very glad if some one would present a piece of muslin for sheeting and pillow cases, as the women frequently ask for it, but our funds do not permit our supplying it. They would be glad also if persons wanting work done, such as washing, cleaning or sewing, would apply to them, as they could recommend women anxious to get employment. They can be found at the church every Tuesday after ten o'clock prayers, or Wednesday evening after service.

Teachers Wanted.—More teachers are wanted both in the Sunday and Industrial Schools, the classes, especially in the latter, being too large for one person to attend to. Who will volunteer at once?

Gifts to the Church.—Twenty-eight book racks for pews, 2 white and gold plates and 2 cups and saucers for Guild closet, 200 oranges for Sunday School Festival, and a number of dolls, use of costume for Santa Claus, 2 net lace ends for fair linen cloth for altar, 2 linen chalice palls, and 2 linen maniples embroidered for missionary.

Confirmation.—The Bishop will administer Confirmation in the church on the evening of April 15th. Instructions preparatory to Confirmation will be given every Monday at 4 P. M., and every Friday at 8 P. M. during Lent in the Guild room. All persons in the parish who have not been confirmed are invited to attend.

Lenten Lectures.—As the season of Lent is a time for the special study of character of our Divine Lord and of our relations and duty towards Him, the Rector has selected as the subjects for his course of Friday afternoon lectures this year the following: February 13th, Belief in Christ; February 20th, Obedience to Christ; February 27th, Worship of Christ; March 6th, Work for Christ; March 13, Love for Christ; March 20th, Imitation of Christ.

Flowers.—Persons who subscribed to the Altar Committee through Mrs. Kittson a regular sum weekly or monthly for providing flowers for the Altar, the care of the vestments, etc., are requested to make their payments to Mrs. Hewson, who is acting as Treasurer.

The Missionary Box was completed and sent off early this month. It was valued at $200 and was one of the largest and best we have ever sent, some very handsome donations having been made towards it. It was sent to a clergyman in the Diocese of Alabama.

Lenten Sewing.—The members of the Ladies' Aid Society will be engaged during Lent in making new cassocks for the choir, which are very much needed. Are there not some ladies in the congregation who would like to assist in this work? The Aid meets in the parish building every Thursday at 3 P. M. and any who are willing to help the church in this way are invited to come any Thursday at that time.

Subscriptions.—The following subscriptions have been received during January:

Mr. Thomas Robb,	Mr. F. S. Keese,
Miss E. H. King,	Cash,
Mrs. C. Tingley,	Mr. R. Armstrong,
Mr. C. L. S. Tingley,	Mrs. Jno. Alexander,
Miss M. G. Harper,	Mrs. Kirk,
Miss M. W. Harper,	Miss Dickerson,
Mr. H. G. Gray,	Mr. Jas L. Good,
Miss Hoy,	Cash,
Miss E. Willing,	Miss Barrington,
Miss W. H. White,	Mr. W. F. Roberts,
Mrs. Jno. Barton,	Mr. Jos. W. Price,
Miss Zantzinger,	Miss Williamson,
Miss Parmelee,	Mrs. J. P. Eyre,
Mr. B. Johnson,	Mrs. M. L. Volmer,
Mr. H. C. Atkinson,	Miss A. Macartney,
Mrs. H. G. Batterson,	Mr. G. H. Haverstick,
Mr. F. R. Stevenson,	Miss Mary C. Smith,
Miss Stokes,	Mr. C. W. Smith,
Mr. C. A. Nicholson,	Miss C. Steman,
Mrs. C. A. Nicholson,	Mrs. C. L. Leiper,
Miss Wagner,	Miss A. H. Chamberlain
Miss B. F. Patten,	Mrs. F. A. Lucas,
Mrs. James Sayres,	Miss Snyder.

With the January issue of the News 49 subscribers were notified of the expiration of their subscription. Only 24 of these have renewed the same. The others will be again notified with the current issue. May we ask from them a prompt response?

New Subscriptions and Advertisements.—Since the issue of the January News, appeals have been sent to quite a number of the parishoners to become subscribers to the News. Some have responded and their names have been added to the subscription list, for which we desire to thank them at this time. Many of those appealed to have not replied, and we urge upon them the necessity for an early and favorable answer. The amount, 50 cts per year, is not large, and we really must have more subscribers. Subscriptions, giving name and address, may be placed in an envelope and dropped in one of the alms chests in the vestibule of the Church at any time, and they will get to the business manager.

We also want new advertisements. Some of the larger ones we have had are about to expire. Cannot others be obtained to take their place? Will you try to get one before February 20th?

Guild Entertainment—The public entertainment for the benefit of our organ fund given by S. Mary's Guild in Kater St. Hall on the evening of January 29th was a great success. The hall was filled, many of the people being from outside of the parish. The programme consisted first of a Japanese Wedding, in which the following members of the Guild took part: Misses Miles, Alice Spear, Edith Spear, Jeannette Haslett, Sarah Wilson, Katie Hiller, Sadie Millikin, Bella Anderson, Louise Carter,

Alice Pearson, Annie Liscure, Katie Storey, Martha Moitz. This was followed by "An Artist's Dream." The artist was Mr. E. L. Buckley, Jr., and the ladies who took part were Misses Watmough, Grubb, Butler, Bowie, Low, Jackson, Clay, Collins, and Mrs. Harmer.

The Entertainment concluded with a Comedy called "Forfeits," in which Misses Gilpin, Barker, and Larzalere, and Messrs F. Johns and W. Gilpin appeared.

Quiet Day and Conference for Church Women.

A quiet day for women will be held in St. Mary's Church, Locust Street above 39th, West Philadelphia, on the Second Thursday in Lent (19th February, 1891). Services from 9.30 A. M. to 1 P. M., and from 2.30 P. M. to 4.30 P. M. To be conducted by the Rev. Jas. O. S. Huntingdon, of N. Y.

A conference of church women of the Diocese of Pennsylvania will be held in the lecture room of the church of the Holy Trinity, Walnut Street above 19th, on the second Friday in Lent (20th February, 1891). Morning session from 10 A. M. to 12.30 P. M. Topics: Deaconesses Papers by Mrs. A. T. Twing of New York, and Mrs. Jennisson of Detroit; Sisterhoods, by one of the Order of All Saints and others. Afternoon session from 2.30 P. M. Topic, The Training of the Young in the Church. Papers by Miss Mary E. Beach of Hartford, Conn., and Miss Chapin of Pomfret, Conn.

On Thursday a simple luncheon may be had of a caterer on 40th Street near the church.

Report of S. Andrew's Brotherhood for 1890.

The following report should have appeared in our last issue. It will be read with interest as showing what some of the men of the church are trying to do to build up our parish. If others would join it and keep the object always in mind we are sure a great deal could be done.

Philada., St. Andrew's Day, 1890.

To the officers and brethren of Ascension Chapter No. 124. Your Secretary begs leave to submit the following report. The average attendance at the chapter meetings for the year just closed was eleven, the smallest seven, the largest eighteen, the membership on St. Andrew's Day, 1889 was sixteen; fourteen new members have been admitted, one member has resigned and one has been dropped, present number twenty-eight, net increase of twelve. The work has been carried on without any intermission during the summer, the regular meeting being held during the summer months for the first time since the organization of the chapter. The work has been the distribution of cards of invitation to the services of the church and of the evening service leaflet, ushering and welcoming strangers, visiting of men at the direction of the Rector, and mission work under the City Mission, one of the members being regularly engaged at the City Hospital as a lay reader, and another assisting there in the choir.

C. L. S. TINGLEY, *Secretary.*

A COMPARISON.

The year books of St. George's Church, and Grace Church, New York City, show total expenditures for the year of the former $97,000, and $107,112.23 for the latter. These are large figures, and show what some of the parishes in our sister city are doing. And it is a very good showing for the working of the free church system about which so many persons are incredulous, that the free S. George's Church, which has so recently been raised from an almost dead condition can so nearly equal in its receipts a church so much more fashionable and attractive as the pewed Grace Church. The number of communicants at S. George's is 2,400. And each church is served by a Rector and six assistants.

THE SLAUGHTER-HOUSE.

Say, Paddy!
D'you mind the ould grog-shop that stood on the corner, down the Ninth avenue,
Kep' by Tim Hoggarty, back in the time whin the business—bad cess to it!—
Didn't make headway up in our parish, thanks to the Fathers
Fightin' an' praichin' an' prayin' an' workin' an' writin' agin it?
Tim's was the place to get dhrunk like a baste for a dime, if you had one;
"Hell's ouldest whisky"—that was the name of it, so mortial hot an' strong;
Dhrinkin' it giv' min the horrors so turrible hard they soon died of it.
Sure 'twas no wondher the widows that suffered—poor crathurs!—should christen it—
"Hoggarty's slaughter-house,"

Say, Paddy!
D'you mind poor Barney McSwiligan—fine, dacint man he was whin he was sober—
Wint there one night—more than twinty years past now; but who can forget it?—
Lavin' his wife an' the childer cowld at home, cryin' with hunger,
Spindin' his last cint at Hoggarty's dhrinkin' his skin full;
Thin fallin' dead on the door-step with niver a priest to prepare him;
An' Hoggarty sindin' his dead corpse home to the wife on a hand cart;
Sure, wasn't that a rale slaughter-house?

Say, Paddy!
D'you mind Mickey Bralligan's wife—Biddy Doolan that was till she married—
Ravin' an' tearin' an' howlin' like mad forninst Hoggarty's she'd been;
Scraimin': "Come out, come out from the slaughter-house, Mickey, I tell you!
Don't dhrink the stuff that'll knock the life out o' yer innocent body,
An' sind yer dear sowl unprepared down to hell in a jiffy foriver.
Mickey, come out, come out from the slaughter-house!"

Say, Paddy!
D'you mind the great sarmon we heard in the church the very next Sunday,
Praiched by one of the Fathers right from the althar, after the Gospel,
Givin' agin the grog-sellers one of their regular "sand-blasts"?
Och! how me blood run cowld to the very tips of me fingers,
Lavin' me pale as a ghost all shiverin' an' thrimblin' and spacheless;
Whin, of a suddint, out come his riverence thund'rin' and shoutin'
The very same words we heard Mrs. Bralligan scraim at Tim Hoggarty's:
"Come out, come out from the slaughter-house!"

Say, Paddy!
D'you mind how you an' Mickey an' me wint up that same evenin',
Thin an' there tuk the pledge for the rest of our lives and foriver?
Blessed be God! from that day to this not one of us broke it.
An' what's more, we won't aither; eh, Paddy? Dhrink is a poor man's destruction.
Aye! an' the rich man's too, as ye'll read ivery day in the papers.
Raison's agin it, an' so is the Faith, an' our wives an' our childher.
Many's the long happy day, praises be to the Lord! that we've had since we stopped it;
With many more yet, by His blessin', to come if we're thrue and desarve it
Sure the whole parish, youngest an' ouldest, all knows an' respects us!
'Twon't be your wife, nor Mickey's, nor mine, that'll wondher what's kep' us,
An' cryin' along with the childher, breakin' their hearts—the poor crathurs!
Thin, gittin' desp'rate, flying down the sthreet bareheaded an' ragged,
Poundin' the door of some divilish grog-shop, like to ould Hoggarty's,
Shoutin' an' Scraimin'—disgracin' our name, an' our faith, an' our nation—
"Come out, come out from the slaughter-house!"—*The Catholic World for October.*

JAMES L. GOOD,
SUCCESSOR TO J. REX ALLEN,
Stonemasons', Bricklayers' & Plasterers' SUPPLIES,
Nos. 1317 & 1319 Washington Ave.
Telephone No. 3625¼.

ESTABLISHED 1862.
KINDIG BROTHERS,
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ROLLER KING SWIFT SURE
MONITOR CREAM

The Ascension News.

VOL. IV. PHILADELPHIA, PA., MARCH, 1891. No. 3

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
GEO. H. HAVERSTICK.

CHOIR MASTER:
J. SPENCER BROCK.

ORGANIST:
ROBERT B. SALTER, JR.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2029 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, 11.00 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Litany and Instruction, 4.00 P. M.
Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

DAILY:

Morning Prayer, 10.00 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5.00 P. M.

WEDNESDAYS:

Evening Prayer and Lecture, 7.45 P. M.

THURSDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 A. M.

DURING LENT:

Fridays, Lecture after Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

Confirmation Instructions, Fridays, 8 P. M. in Guild Room.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoons.

KALENDAR—MARCH.

1 Third Sunday in Lent.
8 Fourth Sunday in Lent.
15 Passion Sunday.
22 Palm Sunday.
23 Monday before Easter.
24 Tuesday before Easter.
25 Wednesday before Easter, Annunciation B. V. M.
26 Maunday Thursday.
27 Good Friday.
28 Easter Even.
29 Easter Day.
30 Monday in Easter Week.
31 Tuesday in Easter Week.

All days in Lent except Sundays are Fasts.

GUILD MEETINGS.

2 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
10 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
19 8 P. M., Meeting of S. Andrew's Brotherhood.

OTHER MEETINGS.

The Industrial School, every Saturday at 10 A. M. Except Easter Even.
Mothers'Meeting and Teacher's Meeting every Wednesday at 8.30 P. M.
Ladies' Aid Society, every Thursday at 3 P.M.
Embroidery Class, every Thursday morning after Morning Prayer.

BIBLE CLASSES.

For Men, Sundays, 3.00 P.M.
Teacher, MRS. THOMAS H. NEILSON.
For Young Men, Sundays, 10.00 A.M.
For Ladies, Sundays, 3.00 P.M.
Teacher, MRS. HODGE.

SERVICES IN HOLY WEEK.

7½ A. M., daily, Holy Communion.
10 A. M., daily, (except Good Friday) Morning Prayer and Holy Communion.
5 P. M., daily, Evening Prayer.
8 P. M., daily, Sermon on the Passion.

GOOD FRIDAY.

11 A. M., Morning Prayer, Litany and Singing of the Reproaches.
12 to 3 P. M., Preaching of the Cross.

NOTE.—Copies of the words of the Reproaches will be distributed to the congregation at the service. Persons who may not be able to remain during all of the service and preaching on Good Friday, can come or leave the Church at any time during the singing of the hymns with which the preaching will be varied.

Confirmation, April 8th, 8 P. M.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, 112 South Fourth Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

SELF-DENIAL.

Lent is a time for self-denial. But why should we deny ourselves? For several reasons, chiefly in order that we may learn to govern ourselves, and gain the strength to do it. We have two distinct natures, a higher and a lower one, a spiritual and an earthly nature; and the higher should govern the lower, the spirit the body. But if we never deny ourselves, if we gratify our bodily tastes and appetites just as far as we have the opportunity of doing so, then they will govern our spirits, and we will become slaves of passion and self-indulgence. The spirit should govern in all things. It should have the body and all its passions and appetites so under control that we should never be led into doing or saying any thing we ought not, any thing that is contrary to God's laws or our own highest good. But this power cannot be gained at once, it can only come from discipline and exercise. Hence the value and necessity of the old fashioned receipt of fasting and abstinence from even allowable things at certain times for the purpose of cultivating this power of self-control and self-government in all things. If the men and women of the Church would only follow and comply, as they should, with these requirements of the Church, we would not see the luxury and self-indulgence, and slavery to vice and intemperance and passion and the indifference to the wants of others that is so common.

For another great purpose of self-denial is that we may be able to minister to and relieve the needs of others less fortunate than ourselves. The world is full of sin and suffering. There are always hundreds of objects appealing to our sympathies and asking for our aid. And few of us have such an abundance that we can give to these objects unless we deny ourselves in order that we may do so. But is there any more beautiful, noble, or Godlike action that we can perform than to deliberately to do without something we would like to have in order to give to some person or object that needs our help. In this way it is in the power of every one to be charitable, and thus we can at the same time benefit our fellow-men and elevate and ennoble ourselves.

In every life then, there should be self-sacrifice. No life is a truly Christian one that is not capable of it. And Lent is a time when we should look into ourselves and see how far we are capable of it, and for the purpose of exercising ourselves in it. Let each Christian see that he is denying himself in some way this Lent, and if he can do it in such a way that he can benefit his fellow men thereby, all the better. There are plenty of ways open by which we

can do good, the trouble is to find the means to do one millionth part of the good that could and should be done. Christian, what good are you doing in the world? Are you living merely a life of ease and self-indulgence, or are you gaining that grandest and most needed power a man can have of self-control, and are you trying to make the world better in some way for your being in it? If you practice some self-denial during Lent it will help you to do it always.

And that it may have a permanent beneficial effect upon your life, make your self-denial *systematic*. We are governed far too much by impulse and emotion both in our self-discipline and in our charities.

Practice self-denial always. Make every Friday, as the Church directs, a lesser Lent. If you do once a week, what you do during Lent, you will find it will strengthen you greatly, and help you to be systematic in what you give. Let it be in proportion to your income, and in order to do the good you know you might do, not in accordance with the appeals that are made to you. This is the great advantage of the envelope system we use in this Parish, and we trust every one will comply with it, as it forces one to be systematic in giving. And we should give as regularly to the various benevolent agencies of the Church as well as to the support of the Church itself. And if we are willing to *deny* ourselves for this purpose, we will be able to do so. Do it during Lent, and you can do it always.

EASTER

As Easter occurs this month, we should be already turning our eyes towards it. We will have the same solemn services preceding it as we have had with so much profit for several years in this parish, viz., the preaching of the Passion every night during the Holy Week and the Three Hours' service on Good Friday in addition to the ordinary services. On the afternoon of Easter Even there will be the usual adult baptism. On Easter day the services will be arranged as on Christmas, viz: early celebrations of the Holy Communion at 6.30 and 7.30 A. M. Morning Prayer said at 10.30 A.M. and at 11 A.M. the Procession, followed by the Te Deum as the Introit and the Choral Celebration, the Children's Easter Service in the afternoon, and the usual service at night. The Children's Service will be held at 3.30 P. M. in place of the usual service at 2.30 P. M. and it will take the place of the four o'clock service.

We trust all the members of the Parish will remember the obligation of making their Communion at Easter, either on the day itself, or at one of the Celebrations during the week preceding or following it, and we trust they will make a due preparation for it. We hope also they will remember to pay their "Easter Dues," that is, to make a special offering to the church in addition to the amount they contribute Sunday by Sunday through the envelopes, as it is only by the special large offerings at Christmas and Easter that we are enabled to meet our

expenses for the year. Let each one give as God has blessed him.

Record for February.

Baptisms, Adult,	1
" Infants,	2
Communicants added	4
" Removed	3
Burials	2

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$399.56
" the Poor	11.94
" Support of Schools	.90
" General Missions	1.65
" Diocesan "	12.92
" Salary of Assistant Minisrer	31.25
" Improvements	107.00
" Debt	10.00
" Organ Fund	60.00
Special	5.00
Of the Sunday Schools	7.37
Total,	$647.59
Proceeds of Entertainment	40.00

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Since our last issue there has been placed over the Bishop's seat in the chancel, a mitre, beautifully carved in stone. It fills up a vacant space and adds much to the appearance of the sanctuary. It was given by one of our parishioners in memory of a deceased child. We have also received a closet, especially made by a parishioner, to hold our banners. It was much needed as we had no proper place to hold them and they were getting injured. A lady gave the Rector five dollars to use for any "special" purpose he saw fit. Out of it he was enabled to replace one of the glass altar cruets which had been broken. Another parishioner has had printed 1000 cards of notice of our services, to be distributed in the neighborhood. In response to our appeal for muslin for sheeting, etc., for the Mothers' Meeting, two pieces have been received, which will prove most acceptable. A violet silk stole was made and embroidered by a member of the embroidery class for our former Assistant, the Rev. Mr. Thorn, who has lately removed to the Diocese of New Jersey.

S. MARY'S GUILD meets every Tuesday during Lent at 8 P. M., to sew for a charitable purpose. It will have no entertainment this month.

OUR ASSISTANT.—We are sure the congregation will welcome back with much pleasure our Assistant, Mr. Kittson, and will rejoice that his wife's health permits him to be with us for a while at least. Owing to our disappointment in regard to Mr. Cator, the Rector was left without any assistance during February except what occasional help he could get on Sundays. This has thrown back the work of the parish in many ways.

CONFIRMATION.—The Bishop has changed the date he appointed for Confirmation in this parish, from April 15th to April 8th; and in order to lessen the work of the Rector, confirmation instructions will be given only on Friday evenings, instead of Mondays and Fridays as announced. We are glad to say quite a large class is attending the instructions.

THE MISSIONARY BOX sent last month reached its destination safely, and seems to have given much satisfaction. The wife of the missionary writes: "We all send sincerest thanks to the members of your society for their kindness in our behalf. You would have felt in a small measure repaid, could you have seen the pleasure given to young and old. There are very many things that will prove most useful in a large family, to say nothing of the nice outfit. suits, shirts, socks, etc. . . . I hope you will understand how much we appreciate your kindness and how grateful we are to you for the time and thought you have given to our comfort."

In addition to the above the ladies have sent by mail two packages of very warm underclothing to the Bishop of North Dakota for use in his jurisdiction.

CASSOCKS.—As we announced last month, the Ladies' Aid Society are engaged in making some new cassocks for the choir. They would be glad if more ladies in the congregation would meet with them on Thursday afternoons and assist them in this work. They want, also, contributions for the purchase of material for this purpose, as the funds they have on hand are not sufficient.

S. ANDREW'S BROTHERHOOD.—We are requested to announce that on Sundays, March 8th and 15th, sermons for men only will be preached by the Rev. Father Huntington, O. H. C., in the Church of the Holy Comforter, 19th and Wharton Streets, during a mission he is to hold in that church. Also, on Thursday, March 12th, a special Brotherhood service will be held in Grace Church, corner 12th and Cherry Sts., when a sermon will be preached by the Rev. Dr. Van de Water, of New York. On account of this service our regular chapter meeting will be postponed to March 19th.

THE EXTRA ENVELOPES.—Very few of the envelopes for Diocesan Missions have been returned as yet, and we have to give a hundred dollars to this purpose. The parish has also been assessed $26.86 for the Sustentation Fund of the Diocese. How is this to be paid? No matter how much missionary work we are doing ourselves as a free church, we must remember the claims of others, and do our duty towards the Diocese as well as to ourselves. We trust the amount received this quarter through the envelopes for Diocesan Missions will be sufficient to cover both of these sums, viz., $126.86.

PEW RENTS.—The payment of $1, required by our charter to qualify persons to vote for Vestrymen, is due this month.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.—In response to the appeal in the February issue for new advertisements, we have received several for which we desire to express our thanks. We especially wish to refer to three large size ones obtained by *one* member of the parish. This shows what can be done if the effort is made. Will some others follow this lead? Will *you* make the effort?

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions to the NEWS have been received.

Miss F. E. Smith.	Miss L. Jackson,
Miss A. Haynes,	Mr. S. S. Peniston,
Mr. Charles E. Allen,	Mrs. L. Dietrick,
Mr Franklin Lloyd,	Miss L. Smith,
Mrs. Dr. Butcher,	Mrs. W. H. Webb,
Mr. David Rea,	Mrs. Wm. H. Cope,
Mrs. W. S. Jansen,	Miss C. Thwaites,
Mrs. Jackson,	Mrs. Hiller,
Miss Goodman,	Miss C.H. Darlington,
Mrs. T. H. Helsby,	Mr. Wm. H. Cope,
Miss R. McElhinney,	Mr. Sam'l Wetherill,
Mr. W. Platt Pepper,	Mrs. Sam'l Wetherill.
Mrs. J. E. Carpenter,	

NEW SUBSCRIBERS.—Some few have been obtained during the past month, but not as many as we hoped for, and we again ask all members of the parish, not on the subscription list, to hand in their names at an early day. The price is 50 cents per year. All subscribers will receive the NEWS by post.

FREE LECTURES.

On Tuesday evening, March 10th, there will be given in the Hall of the United Club and Institute, at 17th and Kater Sts., the first of a course of popular lectures. The lecture will be on Germany, by C. John Hexamer, Ph.D. and will be handsomely illustrated. On March 31st Mr. Andrew M. Spangler will lecture on the Yellowstone Park, (illustrated) and on April 14th, Mr. George B. Wood will give a lantern exhibition of "Artistic Photography." The course will include two other entertainments, the dates and subjects will be announced later.

Admission to this course will be free by card, which can be had at the Club, any evening from 7.30 till 10.

ENTERTAINMENT BY ST. MARY'S GUILD.

On Wednesday evening. February 4, St. Mary's Guild gave an entertainment at Christ Church Hospital, 48th and Belmont Avenue.

The larger part of the company left Broad Street at 6.25, for Bala, where they found a "bus" in waiting, kindly sent by the ladies of the Hospital.

Upon arriving, they were set down to a very good and bountiful supper.

Later on, the entertainment was given in the large dining room. First came "Mrs. Jarley's Wax-Works", which seemed to amuse the audience; the Wax-Works themselves being almost fatally amused by the graceful "Mrs. Jarley," her irrepressible porters, "Pat" and "Tim" and the frequent falls of the "Fat Boy."

After the exhibition, there was some music, and a recitation, which were also well received, but as it was then late, the remaining part of the programme had to be omitted. It is to be hoped that the ladies at the Hospital had as much pleasure from the entertainment as those who took part.

St. Mary's Guild owes an expression of thanks to those who assisted in this, especially to the gentleman who kindly acted as "Mrs. Jarley."

This is the second time some members of the Guild have given an entertainment at the Hospital.

THE TEARS OF JESUS.

BY THE REV. H. G. BATTERSON, D.D.

"And when He was come near, He beheld the city, and wept over it."—*St. Luke xix, 41.*

The tears of Jesus! What the secret woe
Which caused the Son of GOD to weep, as erst
His eyes looked on the radiant beauty of
The City of His love, all glorious with
Its glittering pinnacles of light?
JERUSALEM! The vision bright of Peace;
The hill of Zion, from whence comes all good
To man! "Salvation cometh of the Jews."

Like a fair bride in festal splendor robed,
Her streets are decked with garlands for the feast;
The waving Palms—the sign of victory;
The loud acclaim, "Hosanna!" yet again
"Hosanna!" and the surging crowd pours forth
With shout triumphal, while "Hosanna!" still
Rings through the air in welcome to a King!
No sound of brazen trumpet racks the ear;
No pomp, no grandeur of an earthly pride;

But meek and lowly—eyes bedewed with tears,
The rightful Monarch comes to claim His own!
The dark, deep green of Kedron's sunny vale;
The plains of Jerico, in broad expanse
Beyond the Mount of Olives lay; and far,
Far in the distance, stood the purple hills
Of Moab, whence the blessing came from one
Who would have cursed, but GOD withheld the voice,
And thrice into a blessing turned his words.

The city, basking in the glory of
That Eastern sky, uplifted proud and high
Its stately palaces and gleaming walls,
As if in welcome to the gath'ring tribes
Fast coming up to keep within its gates
The Passover of GOD.

* * * * * * *

And Jesus wept! 'Tis said He never smiled
In all the years He wandered here, to bind
The hearts so broken, cleanse the sou s so foul,
And heal the sick, sad-hearted, weary ones
Who gladly sought His healing touch of love.
Rebellious children of the Most High GOD
Flaunted their foul corruption in the face
Of heaven, and made GOD's dwelling place a den
Of robbers!

It was this that made him weep
Those tears of love and pity, as He went
To plead yet once again, with those He came
To save, ere time should come (now drawing near),
Which brought its scourge of desolation.

Once
Again He cried, "Jerusalem! O thou
"Who stoned and killed the Prophets in thy rage,
"I would have gathered thee as doth the hen
"Her tender brood, and made thee all My Own.
"Ye would not hear My Voice, and now behold
"The curse of desolation on thee rests!
"All, all this goodly pile shall be thrown down,
"Nor stone shall be upon another left!
"The flower of thine offspring shall go forth
"With bye-word, and with hissing, and with curse!"

He wept because he saw that ruin lay
In wait, until the time should come wherein
All prophecy should be fulfilled, and tears
Would take the place of laughing pride and joy
With which the city rang in careless glee.
And not for these alone. He saw beyond,
Far down the track of time, how gathering sin
Of generations then unborn, would swell
The mighty torrent of the world's full crime,
And wash the earth with blood!

He wept!
He wept for sins which then were all unknown;
The woeful sins whose rushing flood poured in
Upon his heart, until it burst for grief
On that dread Cross, whereon His outstretched Arms
Would fain have blessed the world, as from a Throne!
He wept for us! And shall our eyes be dry
While yet the faithful voice within us, calls
To our remembrance all the slighted love
Of that great Heart, Who poured in streams of blood
A ransom for our souls?

O Earth! Earth! Earth!
Why go ye whirling on in mad carouse!
The Mighty Hand, the bleeding Form upon
The dripping Cross—High Watch-Tower of the World!—
But waits that from this murky vale of death
One sign of penitential grief may come
To ask the life which He alone can give.
O Earth! turn from the revel dark and wild,
While yet the day of grace is found!

Thy tears
Shall win from Him who shed His tears for thee,
A Benediction of ETERNAL PEACE!

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EXCLUSIVELY TO DRY GOODS.

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Market, Eighth & Filbert Streets.

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Custom work woven to order on the best cotton or woolen chain, at the lowest prices. Carpet balls called for and carpet delivered free of charge. Estimates given for carpets for homes and institutions. All orders by mail will receive prompt attention.

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ROLLER KING SWIFT SURE
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The Ascension News.

VOL. IV. PHILADELPHIA, PA., APRIL, 1891. No. 4.

Church of the Ascension.

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ALL SEATS FREE.

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REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
GEO. H. HAVERSTICK.

CHOIR MASTER:
J. SPENCER BROCK.

ORGANIST:
ROBERT B. SALTER, JR.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2029 Evergreen St.

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Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Litany and Instruction, 4.00 P. M.
Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
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DAILY:
Morning Prayer, 10.00 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5.00 P. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 7.45 P. M.

THURSDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 A. M.

Confirmation, April 8th, 8 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoons.

KALENDAR—APRIL.

3 Friday—Fast.
5 Low Sunday.
10 Friday—Fast.
12 Second Sunday after Easter.
17 Friday—Fast.
19 Third Sunday after Easter.
24 Friday—Fast.
25 S. Mark Evangelist.
26 Fourth Sunday after Easter.

GUILD MEETINGS.

6 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
9 8 P. M., Meeting of S. Andrew's Brotherhood.
13 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
28 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

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For Young Men, Sundays, 10.00 A.M.
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Ass't Superintendent, Mr. W. H. Montgomery.
Librarian, Mr. J. Lardner Howel.
Assistant Librarians, Mr. Carroll Hodge, Mr. Stuart Jackson.

KINDERGARTEN.

Daily, except Saturdays, 9 A. M.

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SUPPORT OF THE CLERGY.

We want to say a very serious word to the congregation in regard to the support of the clergy. We doubt if it is generally known in the congregation what salaries our clergy have been receiving. Until last October the Rector was receiving only $1000 a year, and the Assistant $600, and the latter was paid entirely by the personal contributions of two members of the Vestry. Since October the salary of the Rector has been raised to $1500. But no permanent provision has yet been made for the salary of the Assistant or for its increase. And yet it is perfectly evident that if the Church is to be carried on as it has been, with its multiplicity of services and organizations designed to reach all classes of people, an Assistant Minister is absolutely necessary. No one man could long stand the physical and mental strain of such an amount of work alone. It seems to us, therefore, that the congregation ought to understand, first what salaries our clergy have been receiving and ask whether they are adequate or not. For though the two gentlemen who have been serving the church for some years as Rector and Assistant may have been willing to do so, for personal reasons, for the amount paid, yet is it right that they should receive no more, if the congregation is able to give more? The laborer is worthy of his hire, and the Lord hath ordained that they who preach the Gospel should live of the Gospel; if therefore, the congregation can give their clergy sufficient salaries and do not do so, they are keeping back from them what is their due. Moreover, the congregation should consider whether, if for any reason one or other of our clergy should leave the parish, it would be possible to fill his place with such a person as would be acceptable for the same sum as is now given. There is a great demand for clergymen, and if men of culture and ability can obtain a fair support in one parish, why should they not go there rather than to another which will not support them? When our Assistant went away this winter, the Rector tried in vain to get some one who would be acceptable in his place, though he offered $800 salary.

If therefore the work of our parish is to be permanently carried on, on the lines on which it has been carried, and to increase, is it not essential that some other provision should be made for the support of the clergy? Should not the vestry itself assume the payment of the salary of an Assistant, and should it not be fixed at a larger figure than heretofore? But to enable the vestry to do this the congregation must increase their offerings. Every one attending the church should make a regular pledge towards the support of the church through the envelopes. And those who have already done so, should ask themselves whether they might not increase their contributions. Is each one doing all they really can and should do? Might not those now giving ten, twenty-five, or fifty cents a week, increase the amount to a higher denomination? Does one member of the family now merely make a pledge for what perhaps would be the equivalent of a single sitting in a pewed church, or does each member of the family make, as they should, a separate pledge? Is any one coming to the church simply to take advantage of its being free to escape the making of any payment? If so, it is not honest. They are robbing God, and his servants. They are doing precisely what they would be doing, if they employed a physician and did not remunerate him for his services. It is a question of right and wrong, and one on which the prosperity and work of the parish depends.

If our people would consider these things we are sure that there are many coming to the church who now contribute little or nothing to its support who would give liberally and systematically, and others who are giving now, who would increase their gifts. As the church is situated, and as it is conducted, it has the opportunity of doing a great work, but it must have resources to enable it to do so. Will not those who are interested in it and who are benefiting by its services, see that it is fully and thoroughly equipped? And let us say in this connection, that the surest and best way of permanently increasing the current receipts of the church is to pay off its debt. Every $500 that is contributed for this purpose can be paid on account of that much of the debt at any time, and thus release $25 a year which now goes out in interest, and which could then go towards meeting our current expenses. As, therefore, we pay our debt we can increase the salaries of the clergy.

FATHER IGNATIUS.

We suppose most of our readers have heard of Father Ignatius, the celebrated English Monk who has been preaching lately in New York and Boston, but as some may not know about him and as he expects to preach in this city during the first week of this month, we will describe just who and what he is. He is a clergyman of the Church of England, who, about thirty years ago, conceived the idea of reviving the ancient order of Benedictine monks. Saint Benedict, who lived towards the close of the sixth century, was really the author and organizer of western monasticism. A man of extraordinary character and austerity, he imposed upon all the monasteries he founded, a most severe rule of life; and this discipline was gradually adopted by other orders, so that his rule became the prevailing form of nearly all monasteries throughout the west of Europe, and remained so until the general breaking up of monastic institutions. This order Father Ignatius has attempted to revive. He has begun the building of a monastery at Llan-

thony in Wales, where he and his associates observe the ancient discipline in all its severity. It consists largely of enforced silence and entire exclusion from the world, the time of the brethren being divided between prayer, reading and labor. They wear the coarse Benedictine garb, even going without shoes, using only sandals, though we believe Father Ignatius is compelled by his physician to wear stockings on account of his health. Hundreds of men, we understand, have been attracted to and entered this monastery as probationers or novices, but on account of the great severity of the discipline very few have been professed as Brothers. From his monastery Father Ignatius has gone forth throughout England, preaching and holding missions. And that is what he is doing in this country, though he came here chiefly, we believe, to gain rest. He is certainly a most eloquent and effective preacher, and the effects of his preaching are said to be marvellous.

As in old times there was always a great deal of friction between the Monasteries and the ordinary Episcopal government of the Church owing to the claim of the monks to be exempt from Episcopal jurisdiction, so it is now. Father Ignatius is unwilling to submit to the Bishop of St. David's in whose Diocese his abbey is situated, so the Bishop does not recognize him as one of his clergy and will not give him consequently the usual letter of commendation which clergymen travelling in foreign countries carry with them from their Bishops. Hence it is that some of our Bishops have refused to allow him to preach or officiate in their dioceses. But others have taken the ground of allowing him to do so, as he is a clergyman in English Orders, against whose moral character and fitness there is no accusation and who is a wonderful preacher of the Gospel. We had expected him to preach in this church, but our Bishop is not willing to license him as he has not the letter above referred to.

He is, however, going to hold a mission while he is in this city, extending from Sunday, April 5th, to Sunday, April 12th, inclusive, on Sundays in the Musical Fund Hall, on Locust St. below Ninth, and on weekdays in Industrial Hall on Broad St. above Vine. There will be three services each Sunday and two each day during the intervening week. We believe a charge will be made for admission to these services, for the purpose of getting money for the completion of the abbey at Llanthony.

Record for March.

Baptisms, Adult,	7
" Infants,	9
Marriage	1
Communicants added, new	2
" by removal	4
" removed	5
Burial	1

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$1040.33
" the Poor	21.03
" Flowers	17.50
" Assistant's Salary	150.00
" Diocesan Missions	24.70
" Domestic "	10.25
" Sustentation Fund	2.00
Of the Sunday Schools	6.23
Easter Offering of Sunday Schools	28.07
Total,	$1300.11

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—We used on Easter day for the first time, a new beautiful white brocade silk altar, cloth which our ladies' embroidery class has been engaged in for over a year. It is exceeding rich and handsome and our ladies deserve great credit for it. And it gives us, what we have needed for a great while, an altar cloth corresponding in richness to those we have of other colors. It is valued at least at $200. The Rector received a handsome new cassock, and a new linen surplice embroidered. Seventeen palms for use on Palm Sunday, a pair of large candles and a new altar service book with gold cross let into the cover, and a number of flowers for Easter, were given to the church.

CHOIR CASSOCKS.—As we announced in our last issue, the Ladies' Aid have been engaged in making a new set of cassocks for the choir. They have now made fourteen. And in addition, some ladies collected the money and purchased a new tailor-made cassock for the choir master. The ladies propose to continue their work until they have made twenty-five cassocks in all, which are needed, if the members of the congregation will contribute the material, but their money is now exhausted and they have no more material to work with. Contributions may be handed to Mrs. Gundaker, who has charge of the Aid.

GIFTS TO OTHER CHURCHES.—In addition to the work done for ourselves our ladies have made and embroidered during Lent a white silk chalice veil and burse for the Rev. Mr. Thorn, our former assistant, and another white silk chalice veil and burse for S. Thomas' Colored Church in this city, the material in each case having been provided.

A set of partly-worn linen eucharistic vestments, with girdle and maniple, were sent to the Church of the Good Shepherd, Kensington, and a linen pall, corporal and maniple to S. Thomas' Church.

DISCOURAGEMENTS IN CHURCH WORK.—To show what discouragements church workers have to contend with we publish the following report made by the lady who has lately taken charge of the Men's Bible Class. Out of fifty names furnished her by the Rector, and whom she went to see, she succeeded in finding all but eight, two of whom were out of the city. Of the remaining 42, she reports that 11 refused to attend the class, 3 were sick, 5 worked on Sundays, 1 was engaged in other church work, 5 she thought not likely to come, 10 she thinks may come later on, 2 came once, leaving only *five* who have been regular attendants.

All honor to those who will continue to try gratuitously to benefit others in spite of such discouragement. But how strange it is that those who have the opportunity thus offered them, of learning something about that which can be of more benefit to them than anything else, should be so indifferent about availing themselves of their advantages.

VESTRY ELECTION.—At the annual election for Vestrymen to serve during the ensuing year, held on Easter Monday, the following gentlemen were duly elected: Samuel Wetherill, J. Edward Carpenter, Thomas Sinnickson, Geo. H. Haverstick, Francis S. Keese, William H. Cope, Thomas Robb, Thomas R. Neilson, M. D., Charles E. Bonnet, William H. Tevis, Wm. Platt Pepper, Chas. L. S. Tingley.

THE EASTER OFFERING this year amounted to $626.99, being some $9 more than last year. While we are thankful that we have kept up as well, still we would like to see a larger increase from year to year. And there is one thing about this offering we especially notice, and that is that there were in it but three offerings over $10. These three amounted to $225, leaving

almost $400 made up of small offerings. While this is a very good showing for the great mass of the congregation, still we think that there are more than three persons in it, who could have given more than $10, as an offering on Easter Day.

RETURN OF A FORMER VESTRYMAN.—We are very glad to welcome back to the congregation a former member of our Vestry, Mr. John D. Henderson, who has been residing for the last five years in New York, but has returned to this city to live, and again makes his spiritual home with us. He finds that we have made great advances since he left us.

S. MARY'S GUILD ENTERTAINMENT.—On the recreation night of the Guild this month it is proposed to have a supper in the Parish building, to which each member of the Guild shall be entitled to invite a friend.

The Guild made up quite a nice package of clothing during Lent, which was sent to the Bethesda Home for Poor Children at Chestuut Hill.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions to the NEWS have been received during march: Mrs. Geo. W. Biddle, Mrs. R H. Larzelere, Dr. Thos. R. Neilson, Mrs. W. P. Chandler, Mr. W. M. Newnam, Miss A. J. Stewart, Mr. E. L. Teakle, Mrs. John G. Johnson, Mrs. Wm. Waterall, Mr. Jas. Lescure, Miss Alice Spear, Miss B. McClenaghen.

ADVANTAGES OF THE ENVELOPE SYSTEM.

The advantages of this system are that while it secures the freedom of the seats in the church [1] it provides a stated and regular revenue upon which the church officers can depend, and upon which they can base their expenditures. [2] It does not make the income dependent upon the attendance at a particular service or season of the year, the pledges running over the whole year. [3] It teaches people to fix upon a definite sum which they ought to give. [4] It secures the amount thus determined on being paid at one time, if not at another. [5] It does not make the position one occupies in church, or his reception of its benefits, proportioned to his financial ability, but makes the amount he gives dependent solely upon the size of his income and his willingness to devote it to religious purposes, so that the one who can give only a little is precisely in the same position in the church as the person who can give largely. [6] It enables the offering to be made secretly, that which the poor and the rich give looking exactly alike if enclosed in envelopes. [7] It saves the self-respect of the poor and those in moderate circumstances by making them feel that they are not receiving their religious privileges for nothing, but share in the support of the church, even though the amount they contribute be small. [8] It gives every one attending the church—not only the rich, or the heads of families, but each one—a sense of responsibility of bearing a share in its support. [9] It cultivates the habit of systematic giving, and teaches the supreme duty of setting aside a fixed, definite proportion of one's income for religious purposes. [10] It makes giving dependent, not upon impulse or emotion, or upon receiving a *quid pro quo* for the amount given, but upon intelligent, conscientious and business principles. [11] It puts what one gives to the church in the light of an offering and act of worship, the token and pledge of the reality of his convictions and earnestness of his religious life, and not simply as the payment of an obligation for a convenience received. [12] It makes it easier to give in small sums than it would be to give a large sum at one time.—*Magazine of Christian Literature for January.*

EASTWARD.

BY THE LORD BISHOP OF LICHFIELD.

Eastward rolls the earth rejoicing,
Ever onward into light;
To a daily resurrection
Rising from the grave of night;
Moving on in expectation
Through the boundless realm of space,
Looking for the coming glory
Of the sons of Adam's race.

Eastward stands the Christian soldier,
Feet on earth and heart above,
Telling out in creed triumphant
All his faith and hope and love.

Eastward lies the lifeless body,
Waiting for the dawning day;
When with life and glory gifted,
It shall wing its upward way.

Lord! amidst the sin and darkness
Of the world's departing night,
Keep us ever looking eastward
Watching for the morning light;
Looking for the Sun of Glory,
With His healing, quickening ray,
And the lifting of the portals
Of the Everlasting Day.

—Amen.

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Pulpits, Lecterns, Book-rests, Font Covers, Chancel Railings, Prayer Desks, Crosses, Candlesticks, Altar Vases.
MEMORIAL BRASSES.
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Holy Communion, 7.30 A. M.

DEDICATION FESTIVAL.

ASCENSION DAY, MAY 7TH

7½ A. M., Holy Communion.
11 A. M., Choral Morning Prayer and Holy Communion.
5 P. M., Evening Prayer.
8 P. M., Choral Shortened Evening Prayer and Anniversary Sermon by the Rector.
May 8th. 8 P. M., Parish Tea for Parishioners and others, in the School Room.
May 9th. 8 P. M., Anniversary of Guilds. Procession of Guilds with Service and Sermon by Rev. W. H. Vibbert, D. D.

KALENDAR—MAY.

1 SS. Philip and James.
3 Rogation Sunday.
4 Rogation Day—Fast.
5 Rogation Day—Fast.
6 Rogation Day—Fast.
7 Ascension Day.
8 Friday—Fast.
10 Expectation Sunday.
15 Friday—Fast.
17 Whitsun Day.
18 Whitsun Monday.
19 Whitsun Tuesday.
20 Ember Day—Fast.
22 Ember Day—Fast.
23 Ember Day—Fast.
24 Trinity Sunday.
29 Friday—Fast.
31 First Sunday after Trinity.

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Ass't Superintendent, Mr. W. H. Montgomery.
Librarian, Mr. J. Lardner Howel.
Assistant Librarians, Mr. Carroll Hodge,
Mr. Stuart Jackson.

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AMENDMENT OF OUR CHARTER.

For ten years this parish has been conducted as a free church on a pew rent charter. When the present Rector was elected he stipulated with the vestry that the church should be made a free church. But the charter, which was granted in 1845, provided that the vestry should be elected by those who had paid pew rent for two successive years, and as it required time and trouble to alter this charter, a by-law was enacted providing that the pew rents should be reduced to the nominal sum of $1 a sitting, and that no particular seat should be assigned to any one. Under this arrangement we have proceeded ever since, the church depending for its support on the voluntary offerings of the attendants, but any person desiring to qualify himself to vote for Vestrymen was obliged to pay to the warden annually at least $1 as pew rent, and obtain his receipt for the same. This was certainly anomalous to have to pay pew rent in a free church, to have notice given out in church that pew rents were due, and to report them in the Journal of the Convention. And it has been very difficult to make our people understand it, consequently very few ever paid it, so few that out of over 350 communicants we now have in the parish only 23 persons were entitled to vote at our last election. This involved a great wrong and a great danger. It was wrong that the whole control of the church should be in the hands of so few, and it was dangerous because at any election those few, or a majority of them, had it in their power to turn out the entire Vestry and elect any twelve persons they chose in their place, who might entirely change the whole character of the church against the wishes of the vast majority of the congregation. And though it might be said that this could only happen through the neglect of the others to qualify themselves to act as voters, and so no one would be to blame but themselves, still as ten years experience has shown that this neglect is so general, there always would be this danger.

The Vestry have therefore determined that it was high time that the charter of the church should be made to correspond to the system on which it is conducted, and they took steps at their last meeting to have the charter amended.

In doing this the question arose what would be the best qualification to exact for voters, for there is no fixed rule in regard to it. In some free churches any one who is "a member of the church and contributes to its support," may vote. But it is a question whether a member means a communicant or one only who is baptized, and how is it to be ascertained whether he is a contributor? In some churches it must be a "regular worshipper and one recognized by the warden as contributing." But who is to determine what is a *regular* worshipper, and how can the warden know every one who may contribute through the offertory. So that there may be no uncertainty in regard to our charter, the Vestry has determined to amend it so as to prescribe that those shall be entitled to vote who are "communicant members of the parish and who appear by the Vestry books to have been contributing towards its support for one year." Thus there will be documentary evidence to appeal to in each case. The Rector is required to keep a register of the communicant members of the parish, that is of those who having been confirmed in the parish, have been admitted to communion here and still retain their membership, and of others who have been received by letters of transfer from other parishes. And as the Vestry has adopted the envelope system as the method by which the church shall be supported, the warden has a list of all those who thus contribute. If any one does not choose to contribute through this system, he will be depriving himself of his right to vote. The communicants too, being those who have the interest of the church most at heart, are those who alone should have the right to vote. And as the largest proportion of the contributors give through the envelopes, they also should have the right of control.

As this change is to be made the Vestry have embraced the opportunity of making one or two others which are very desirable. One is to prescribe that the Vestry shall be elected in sections, only four each year to serve for three years, thus preventing the possibility of a sudden unexpected change of the whole Vestry. Another is the power of filling vacancies in the Vestry without waiting for the next annual election.

In order to secure these amendments it is necessary that they should first be approved by the Diocesan Convention, and then by the Civil Courts. And we have explained what the purpose of them is here, so that if our members read in the reports of the Convention or of the Courts, that the charter of the Church of the Ascension is to be amended, they will know what it means.

Record for April.

Baptisms, Adult,	1
" Infants,	4
Confirmed	31
Marriages	2
Communions of the sick	4
Communicants added, new	2
" by removal	3
" removed	3
Burials	4

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$357.83
" Assistant Minister	50.00
" General Missions	.65
" Diocesan "	2.28
" Indian "	41.00
" Foreign "	7.00
" Industrial School	3.80
" the Poor	13.94
Of the Sunday Schools	6.53
Total,	$483.03

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—During the last month our Church has been enriched by the erection of three additional stained glass windows. Two are in the chancel, the centre one representing the Ascension, this subject being given the most prominent position in the church owing to its name. The window next to it represents the Resurrection of our Lord, thus following the sequence of events in our Lord's Life, adopted for the whole Church. These windows are memorials to Rear Admiral Glisson and his wife, both of whom died within the past year. They are erected by their sons, who are now attendants of our Church. The other window is in the clere-story and represents Saint James, and is placed next to the figure of Saint Peter. It is in memory of Mrs. Yost, a former attendant of the Church, erected by her son. These windows are all made in England by the same firm that put in the rest of our glass, and add greatly to the enrichment of the Church. We are glad to say, too, that we have the promise of another window for the chancel, a design for which is being prepared. We have also received the gift of thirty new books for the Sunday School library, a large quantity of magazines for the reading room, and nine plush covered kneeling hassocks, besides several bundles of clothing for the poor.

OUR DEDICATION FESTIVAL.—Ascension Day, Thursday, May 7th, we shall observe this year, as we have for a number of years past, with the usual celebrations of the Holy Communion in the morning, and a special Anniversary service and sermon at night. We hope all the parishioners will make a point of attending this service, as the Rector then reviews the work and progress of the parish during the year past, and lays out his plans and calls the attention of the people to what he thinks is needed for the time to come. On Friday evening we shall have the Parish Tea. Tickets will be issued for this at 25 cts. a piece and may be had from the sexton only. And it must be understood that only adults are to be admitted, as it is not intended for children, but is for the purpose of bringing the grown people of the parish together. Supper will be provided for the choir boys and members of S. John's Guild after the Guild's Service on Saturday evening. All the members of S. Mary's Guild, S. Andrew's Brotherhood and S. John's Guild will be expected to assemble on that evening in the Parish Building and enter the Church in procession. The Rev. Dr. Vibbert, Rector of S. Peter's Church, will be the preacher on that occasion. All the ladies of the congregation are invited to meet in the Guild room on Monday, May 4th, after Morning Prayers to make arrangements for the Parish Tea.

CHANGE OF CHOIR MASTER.—The time of the contract of the parish with Mr. Brock as Choir Master having expired, Mr. Frederick B. Neilson has been appointed in his place as both Choir Master and Organist. Mr. Neilson was formerly organist of the Church of the Annunciation, and is leader of the University Glee Club, and organizer of what is known as the "Masks and Wigs." We feel very confident, therefore, of his ability to give us, what we all very much desire, a first rate choir for our Church. Nevertheless it is with great regret that we part with Mr. Brock, as we feel that he has faithfully discharged his duties while with us and given us very good music for the amount of money the Vestry were able to appropriate for the purpose. We understand he has taken the position of Choir Master at Christ Church Chapel.

WHITSUNDAY.—Being a day of general Communion there will be an additional Celebration on the morning of that day at 6.30 A. M., and Morning Prayer will be said as it was at Christmas and Easter, at 10.30 A. M.

CLOTHING FOR THE ITALIAN MISSION.—One of our Sunday School classes made during Lent a very nice box of clothing for the children of the Italian Mission in this city. It contained 32 pieces of children's clothing, 19 pairs of stockings, 12 handkerchiefs 12 papers of pins, 12 papers of needles and 4 cakes of soap. The Rev. Mr. Zara, the minister in charge, writes to return his thanks and also to let the class "know how many hearts of little Italian girls they have made happy. They were so pleased with their little dresses, but especially with the nice little handkerchiefs. All of them came in church so clean and neat, it was really a pleasure to see them."

THE FESTIVAL OF THE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL was held on Saturday, April 4th, and was thoroughly enjoyed by the children. Nearly 200 were present, who after the giving out of the prizes and Easter eggs and cards in the church were entertained in the schoolroom with ice cream and cakes, and a "fish pond," each child receiving a toy. Some of the work done during the winter, especially some of the painting and wood carving of the boys, was very creditable.

S. MARY'S GUILD ENTERTAINMENT.—The members of S. Mary's Guild, enjoyed a very pleasant evening on their recreation night last month. Each member of the Guild was entitled to invite a friend. Between sixty and seventy persons in all were present, and after a pleasant time in the school room where tea and coffee were served, all adjourned to the Guild rooms where a sumptuous spread was provided, consisting of oysters and salad, ice cream and strawberries.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions to the NEWS have been received: Miss A. M. Holbrook, Mr. J. M. Stewart, Mrs. C. F. Leaming, Miss E. H. Cooke, Miss A. D. Butler, Mr. Thos. Sinnickson, Mrs. M. S. Atwood, Mrs. Minshall.

THE SALARY OF THE ASSISTANT MINISTER.

The Vestry of the Church of the Ascension has assumed on behalf of the congregation to pay the salary of an Assistant Minister one thousand dollars per annum. This step has been taken by the Vestry because it is absolutely essential for the prosperity of the Parish.

Heretofore the salary of the Assistant Minister has been contributed by two members of the congregation, but this arrangement could no longer be continued, and the Vestry was therefore confronted with a question which required an immediate answer, which was: shall the services of an Assistant Minister be dispensed with altogether, and many of the church services and much church work in the Parish be discontinued, or will the Vestry on behalf of the congregation, take the bold step of pledging the Parish to the payment of an additional one thousand dollars for this purpose?

The Vestry has unanimously decided to take the latter course, and depending upon the loyal support of the congregation has engaged to assume this responsibility, and has directed the Finance Committee to bring the subject to the notice of the congregation.

In compliance with the duty imposed upon it, the committee addresses this communication to the members of the Parish, and those interested in its work; and particularly and earnestly requests every individual to increase his or her offering through the envelopes.

Remember, a free church cannot live without support! And remember, that your generosity is appealed to, when no pew rents are charged, and you are left to settle with your own conscience the measure of support which you shall individually contribute to your church. A free church is not free in the sense that you are to give nothing or next to nothing to support it, but it is free in the sense that its pews are not rented, and any one may sit where he chooses, and it is open to all.

Let us then exhibit our enthusiasm. We are proud of our church; proud of what we have already accomplished, proud of our Rector, proud of our Assistant Minister, and with God's help, we will continue each of us to do our share as God has prospered us to extend its good work.

J. Edward Carpenter
Francis S. Keese
Thomas Robb
Committee.

LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS.

The following is the list of the present contributors to the support of the church through the envelope system as adopted by the Vestry. The names of those over six months in arrears are omitted. This list should be largely increased, any one attending the church whose name is not on it, should ask the Sexton for a blank form, and fill it up and send it to the Warden. An additional envelope for a charitable purpose is sent with each quarter's envelopes. The envelopes for the two quarters embracing the summer months are sent out together, the additional envelopes being for the poor and the support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools.

Alexander, Ellen
Anderson, Helen
Armstrong, Robert
Barton, John
" Mrs. John
Beath, Janet
Bonnet, Chas. E.
" G. E.
Botewright, J. H.
" Mrs. J. H.
Boyd, Alice C.
Bowers, Mrs. T. J.
Bryson, Rebecca
Butler, Amy D.
Campbell, Mrs. A. D.
Carpenter, Harriett O.
" Helen Dalton
" J. E.
" Lloyd Preston
" Willy Dorr
Carmen, M. E.
" Louisa H.
Carter, Louise F.
Chamberlaine, A. H.
" M. A.
Colley, Eliza D.
Cooper, F. C.
Cope, Lizzie S.
" Robert Harper
" W. H.
Davis, Emily A.
Dickerson, Hettie C.
Dieterich, Louisa
Drinker, Frances
Dudgeon, G.
" M. W.
" Samuel
Eayre, Fannie
Eyre, J. R.
Gilpin, Mrs. R. A.
Gray, H. G.
" Mrs. H. G.
Green, A. M.
Grier, Annie
Grundaker, S. E.
Hance, Kate
Harper, Martha W.
" Tillie G.
Hartley, Wm. L.
Hartshorne, Joseph
Haverstick, Geo. H.
Helsby, Thos. B.
Hewson, Jane B.
Hickman, K. A.
Hodge, Carroll
" Harry B.

Hodge, Louisa B.
" Mary De V.
" Mildred A.
Holbrook, Anna M.
" Lizzie H.
" L. Prudence
Hoy, Mary J.
Jackson, Mary T.
Janson, M. L.
Keese, Francis S.
" Mrs. Francis S.
Kerr, Eliza
King, Eliza H.
Leaming, C. F.
Leiper, Mrs. Chas. L.
" Katharine
Lloyd, Franklin
Lockaie, Isabella
Lynch, Chas. M.
" Mrs. Chas. M.
" Louisa
" Samuel J.
McCracken, David
Martin, David
Mason, Mary Blight
Metcalfe, A. M.
Miles, Jennie B.
" Lizzie B.
Milliken, M.
Minshall, John
" Rebecca
Moitz, Martha A.
Molony, Helen G.
Morgan, Matilda
Neilson, M. A.
" Thomas R.
Parker, Katharine
Parmelee, E. C.
Patton, Blanche
Pepper, Alice Lyman
" Alice Marion
" Emily
" William Platt
Pollock, May Farr
Pollock, R. F.
Price, Jos. N. Jr.,
" Mary C.
Rea, David
Roberts, Emily S.
" Millard F.
Robb, Eagleson
" Mr. & Mrs. Thos.
" Rita
" Thomas, Jr.
Saunders, Emily
Schell, Isabella
Senn, Anna E.
Sinnickson, Mary H.
" Thomas
Smith, Elizabeth
" Florence E.
" Lavinia
" Mary C.
Snyder, Margaret
Speidel, Tillie
Steman, Christie
Stevenson, A. Ella
" Frank R.
Stewart, Anna J.
Stockton, Katharine
Thomas, William
Tingley, Charles L. S.
Vodges, Sarah
Weaver, Mary F.
Wetherill, Samuel
White, Mary H.
Williamson, Clara
" Ella C.
Wilson, Misses A. & L.
Woodward, B. F.
Wurts, Matilda
Yost. C. J.

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The Ascension News.

VOL. IV. PHILADELPHIA, PA., JUNE, 1891. No. 6.

Church of the Ascension.

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ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.
424 So. Broad St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
GEO. H. HAVERSTICK.

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2029 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon, 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 3.00 P. M.
Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.00 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS:
Morning Prayer and Litany.

THURSDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 A. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR.—JUNE.

5 Friday—Fast.
7 Second Sunday after Trinity.
11 S. Barnabas.
12 Friday—Fast.
14 Third Sunday after Trinity.
19 Friday—Fast.
21 Fourth Sunday after Trinity.
24 S. John Baptist.
26 Friday—Fast.
28 Fifth Sunday after Trinity.
29 S. Peter.

GUILD MEETINGS.

1 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
8 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
11 8 P. M., Meeting of S. Andrew's Brotherhood.
23 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

BIBLE CLASSES.

For Young Men, Sundays, 3.00 P. M.
Teacher, MR. WM. B. GILPIN.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. Wm. B. Gilpin.
Ass't Superintendent, Mr. W. H. Montgomery.
Librarian, Mr. J. Lardner Howel.
Assistant Librarians, Mr. Carroll Hodge, Mr. Stuart Jackson.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services during the Summer.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, 112 South Fourth Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

CHANGES IN OUR SERVICES

On Whitsunday quite an important change was inaugurated in our Sunday services, which will be continued during the summer months, and if it proves acceptable will become our permanent arrangement.

The Rector has long felt that eleven o'clock for the midday service was too late to suit the majority of our people. We have many persons attending the Church who live in boarding houses, and others, whose dinner hour is one o'clock, and many who live at a great distance from the Church, who have found it impossible to get home in time for dinner. And it was especially inconvenient for those who taught in the Sunday School, to get home and get back again by half past two o'clock. Many persons have complained that they have not been able to remain through the Communion service on this account. It would seem more desirable, therefore, to have the morning service begin at half past ten o'clock, which is the usual hour in most of the churches in the city.

Then, too, the Litany service which we have had for the last two winters at 4 P. M. has not been well attended, the congregations seldom being more than forty or fifty people, and it is doubtful whether the Litany used thus by itself would ever become a popular service. And the Rector has thought that the full choral evening service we have been having at night has been too long and too musical to suit the majority of the people attending it. So his plan another winter is to have full choral evening prayer without any sermon at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and then a shorter and plainer service with sermon at night, which we think will be more popular. This throws the Litany back into the Morning Service, and as it would make it too long to have Morning Prayer, the Litany and Holy Communion together, all sung, the two former are said, only the hymns and canticles being sung. This does not make the Morning Service any longer than it was when Morning Prayer and the Holy Communion were both choral, and we think it will be more acceptable to many people.

The Holy Communion is rendered as formerly, fully choral, and in order to break up the habit, which is not sanctioned by the rubrics and which is a great interruption to the service and annoyance to the worshippers, of persons going out after the Prayer for Christ's Church Militant, the sermon is preached immediately after the Litany, and persons not intending to remain throughout the Communion service are asked

to withdraw after the sermon, a space being allowed in which for them to do so. And in order to receive the offerings of those who do not stay until the ordinary offertory, a collection is made immediately before the sermon, which is afterwards presented with the other alms.

This arrangement of services it is thought will suit a great many different people. Those who like a musical service, can come as they have been doing before 11 A. M. and have the sermon and choral celebration, and the choral even-song at 4 P. M. Those who like a plainer service can come to the early Communion and the 10.30 A. M. and 7.45 P. M. services. And those who have missed the Litany from the morning service will get it back again. And above all it will put the midday celebration of the Holy Communion at an hour and give it a prominence which we trust will result in its being more largely attended and appreciated as being the grandest and most glorious act of worship the Christian can offer unto God, and in doing which each Christian should feel he ought on every Sunday to assist.

And we shall thus be carrying out better than we heretofore have done, what is the great aim of this Church, to reach and accomodate all classes of people, by thus having services not only at different hours throughout the day, but of different kinds.

The afternoon service will not begin until October; in the meantime we shall have our children's service at 3 P. M., and during June, July and August our twilight service at 7 P. M.

A BEQUEST TO THE CHURCH.

Since our last issue a member of our parish has died, Mr. Benjamin Johnson. He was in the church on Whitsunday and at his office on the succeeding Monday and Tuesday, after which he was taken sick with erysipelas and died the following Saturday. He had been baptised and confirmed in the Church of the Ascension during the rectorship of Bishop Hare in 1868, and although subsequently connected with other churches and always interested in visiting other churches, he never lost his attachment to our parish. He contributed towards the building fund of the new church and put in the first of the figured clerestory windows and now by his last will he makes the church a very handsome bequest. His will is quite the model of a Christian Testament and begins: "In the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." The second section reads, "2. I reverently commend my soul to my Creator, in the Communion of the Catholic Church, in the confidence of a certain faith, and in the comfort of a reasonable religious and holy hope, looking for the resurrection of the body and the life of the world to come."

The third section gives directions in regard to his funeral, specifying that his body is to be buried "with feet towards the

east," desiring that the Episcopal office for the burial of the dead be read and stating that he was confirmed in the Church of the Ascension, Phila., March 31st, 1868. The ninth section is as follows:

9. "I give and bequeath the sum of ten thousand dollars to the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Ascension, Broad St. below South St.,—the principal not to be used or expended, but to be kept invested, and the net income arising therefrom to be used and expended, first in obtaining a suitable metal lamp, to be suspended over or in front of the Altar, in which shall be kept an artificial light, burning perpetually, day and night, and the remainder of said income to be used towards the general expenses of the Church, other than the Rector's salary and any funded debt."

God be praised that He put it in the heart of His servant thus to lay the foundation of that work the present Rector has so ardently longed to see accomplished, namely, the endowment of this free church for all classes of people in this central portion of the city. May others of our parishioners be moved to follow his example and complete what he has thus nobly begun.

And the lamp which he directs to be hung and kept burning in the Chancel will be the perpetual and, as it were, ever-living memorial of this benefactor of our Parish. May he rest in peace and may light perpetual shine upon him.

Record for May.

Baptisms	2
Communicants added, new	3
" by removal	2
" died	2
Burials	3

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$588.39
" the Poor	10.75
" Parish Tea	3.00
" Memorials	735.34
" Sunday and Industrial Schools	60
" General Missions	1.00
At discretion of the Rector	5.00
Of the Sunday Schools	6.66
Of the Bible Classes	12.54
Total,	$1363.28

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—During May, a polished brass and jeweled Altar Cross to match our candlesticks, a hand-made linen girdle, piece of damask for private communion service, silver plated coffee and tea pot, 3 framed pictures and 3 framed illuminated texts, 15 bound volumes of the *Church Times*, 4 do. *Illustrated London News*, 2 do. *Newbury House Magazine*, 3 do. *Scribner's*, number of unbound illustrated papers and magazines, crate of strawberries, 250 tea buns, cream, tea, coffee, sugar, large number of cakes, etc., for Parish Tea, 2 doz. cups and saucers, and 2 doz. plates, quantity of old clothing for the poor; the Female Bible Class presented a carved oak shelf for the Baptistry; the Altar Chapter of the Women's Guild made up and embroidered a set of eucharistic vestments for S. Thomas' Church, to which also was presented a white silk eucharistic stole. We have received an order for another window for the chancel, and have partial promises of two others for the chancel and one for the clerestory.

OUR DEDICATION FESTIVAL was observed this year with an equal interest with previous years, but still not with the universal interest on the part of every member of the parish we would like to see. The congregations on the morning of Ascension Day were not such as that great festival should in itself call out apart from the fact of its being our special Parish festival, and the attendance at night was by no means what it ought to have been, though we were glad to see more of our Vestrymen present than we have seen on previous occasions. The arrangement of the Parish Tea was decidedly superior to that of former years, there being none of the noise and unseemly devouring of the provisions by the children we have had before. There was ample of everything, and enough left over to afford a supper for the choir and S. John's Guild members the next evening. And whether it was on account of the supper or not we don't know, but certainly, the members of this Guild made a much better showing at the Guild service than they did a year ago.

Certainly altogether these observances in connection with our annual festival ought to tend to strengthen the interest and attachment of every one to the Parish.

SERVICES FOR THE SUMMER.—The daily service and Wednesday evening service are discontinued during June, July, August and September, and the Sunday evening service changed to 7 o'clock until September. The Thursday Communion will be continued until July. The children's service will be at 3 P. M., followed by the Sunday School. The Men's and Ladies' Bible Classes will be discontinued until October, and the Young Men's Bible Class will meet on Sunday afternoons.

CHANGES IN THE CHARTER spoken of in our editorial last month were duly presented at the meeting of the Diocesan Convention and referred to the Committee on Charters, by whom they were favorable reported and then approved by the Convention. It only remains now for them to receive the sanction of the Civil Courts.

THE NEWS will not be issued during July and August.

CHOIR VESTMENTS.—We do not know whether our people appreciate what has been done in regard to our choir vestments during the past year. Not only has a complete set of new cottas been made, but the cassocks which were in a very torn and dilapidated condition, have been entirely made over. The ladies who have done this work, especially Mrs. Gundaker and Mrs. Nicholson, who have had it in charge, deserve great credit for what they have accomplished with very little means. We trust that in the Autumn they will be given the material for what is still needed—some more cassocks for the men.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions to the NEWS have been received: Mr. J. E. Carpenter, Mr. Edward Carpenter, Miss Anderson, Mrs. Isaac Starr, Mrs. Thos. H. Bowers, Mrs. Henry Selby, Miss Rousseau, Mr. Chas. E. Bonnet, Dr. G. Bonnet, Miss M. Gilpin.

REPORT.

The following is the report of the Parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop:

Baptisms.—Adults 10, Infants 45, Total 55; Confirmed 31; Marriages 9; Burials 21; Families connected with the parish 265.

Communicants Added.—New 20; by removal 42; died 5; removed 34; present number 387.

Services.—Sundays 233, other days 512, total 815; average attendance, Sundays, 356; children catechised 75 times.

Sunday School.—Officers and teachers 26; scholars 173.

Bible Classes.—Teachers 3; members 30.

Other Parish Agencies.—Mother's Meeting, members 30; Industrial School, teachers 18, scholars 193; Men's Guild, Women's Guild, Young Men's Guild, Young Women's Guild, Chapter of S. Andrew's Brotherhood.

Money Receipts from all sources.—Pew rents $49.00; offertory $8641.86 Donation $2000; interest $26.71; other sources $69.68; total $10,787.25.

Money Expenditures and Appropriations.—Current expenses, (including salaries of ministers, for music, fuel and lighting, care of church building and grounds, and ordinary repairs of same) $4467.73; interest on mortgage $1375.00; improvements $5178,70; Episcopal and convention funds $75.42; support of schools $201.43, for the poor 172.35; Episcopal Hospital $32.43; Missions, Foreign $19.00; Domestic $128.87; Colored people $18.50; Indians $43.00; Diocesan $57.00; Tract Prayer Book Society $21.00; S. Andrew's Brotherhood $62, 23; Church Building $11.00; Theological Education $100.00; Miscellaneous $363.87: total $12,267.43.

Financial Condition.—Estimated value of property $70,000; encumbrance, mortgage $25,000; other indebtedness none.

CONTRIBUTORS.

We print again this month the list of our contributors in order that every one in the parish may see if his or her name is there, and if not, why? The following additional pledges have been received during the month.

Cope, Marian Blandy
Glisson, O. S.
" J. Hoffner
Patchell, James
" Jane
Potts, Rosa Cambridge
Potts, Rosa Virginia
Selby, Eliza
Sharp, Katie
Snyder, Mary C.
Watson, James
" Mary
Whaley, Annie C.

The following is a statement of the amount of the pledges which were standing at the beginning of last month.

11	pledges of	5c.	each	per Sunday.
25	"	10c.	"	"
10	"	15c.	"	"
6	"	20c.	"	"
49	"	25c.	"	"
1	"	30c.	"	"
16	"	50c.	"	"
14	"	$1	"	"
2	"	$2	"	"
1	"	$5	"	"
1	"	$1	every fourth Sunday	
1	"	$1	monthly	
1	"	$10	every six months	
1	"	$10.50	per annum	
1	"	$30	"	"

140 making a total of $2648.10, a year, or something over $50 a week. This is not sufficient to meet our expenses. We need more contributors. No one should be deterred from making a pledge from the idea that he is binding himself to do what he may not be able to preform, as the pledge is for no definite time, but only "until notice is given to the contary," which may be done at any time, the envelope system possessing this great advantage over the pew system which involves a legal obligation extending over a year or six months at least.

Persons going out of town for the summer should put in the offertory *before they go*, the amount due for the number of Sundays they propose to be away.

Alexander, Ellen
Anderson, Helen
Armstrong, Robert
Barton, John
" Mrs. John
Beath, Janet
Bonnet, Chas. E.
" G. E.
Botewright, J. H.
" Mrs. J. H.
Boyd, Alice C.
Bowers, Mrs. T. J.
Bryson, Rebecca
Butler, Amy D.
Campbell, Mrs. A. D.
Carpenter, Harriett O.
" Helen Dalton
Carpenter, J. E.
" Lloyd Preston
" Willy Dorr
Carmen, M. E.
" Louisa H.
Carter, Louise F.
Chamberlaine, A. H.
" M. A.
Colley, Eliza D.
Cooper, F. C.
Cope, Lizzie S.
" Robert Harper
" W. H.
Davis, Emily A.
Dickerson, Hettie C.
Dieterich, Louisa
Drinker, Frances

Dudgeon, G.
" M. W.
" Samuel
Eayre, Fannie
Eyre, J. R.
Gilpin, Mrs. R. A.
Gray, H. G.
" Mrs. H. G.
Green, A. M.
Grier, Annie
Grundaker S. E.
Hance, Kate
Harper, Martha W.
" Tillie G.
Hartley, Wm. L.
Hartshorne, Joseph
Haverstick, Geo. H.
Helsby, Thos. B.
Hewson, Jane B.
Hickman, K. A.
Hodge, Carroll
" Harry B.
" Louisa B.
" Mary De V.
" Mildred A.
Holbrook, Anna M.
Holbrook, Lizzie H.
" L. Prudence
Hoy, Mary J.
Jackson, Mary T.
Janson, M. L.
Keese, Francis S.
" Mrs. Francis S.
Kerr, Eliza
King, Eliza H.
Leaming, C. F.
Leiper, Mrs. Chas. L.
" Katharine
Lloyd, Franklin
Lockade, Isabella
Lynch, Chas. M.
" Mrs. Chas. M.
" Louisa
" Samuel J.
McCracken, David
Martin, David
Mason, Mary Blight
Metcalfe, A. M.
Miles, Jennie B.
" Lizzie B.
Milliken, M.
Minshall, John
Minshall, Rebecca
Moitz, Martha A.
Molony, Helen G.
Morgan, Matilda
Neilson, M. A.
" Thomas R.
Parker, Katharine
Parmelee, E. C.
Patton, Blanche
Pepper, Alice Lyman
" Alice Marion
" Emily
" William Platt
Pollock, May Farr
Pollock, R. F.
Price, Jos. N. Jr.,
" Mary C.
Rea, David
Roberts, Emily S.
" Millard F.
Robb, Eagleson
" Mr. & Mrs. Thos.
" Rita
" Thomas, Jr.
Saunders, Emily
Schell, Isabella
Senn, Anna E.
Sinnickson, Mary H.
" Thomas
Smith, Elizabeth
" Florence E.
" Lavinia
" Mary C.
Snyder, Margaret
Speidel, Tillie
Steman, Christie
Stevenson, A. Ella
" Frank R.
Stewart, Anna J.
Stockton, Katharine
Thomas, William
Tingley, Charles L. S.
Vodges, Sarah
Weaver, Mary F.
Wetherill, Samuel
White, Mary H.
Williamson, Clara
" Ella C.
Wilson, Misses A. & L.
Woodward, B. F.
Wurts, Matilda
Yost. C. J.

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Large stock of goods always on hand at moderate prices.
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MONITOR CREAM

The Ascension News.

VOL. IV. PHILADELPHIA, PA., SEPTEMBER, 1891. No. 7.

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.
317 So. Broad St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
GEO. H. HAVERSTICK.

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2029 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon, 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 3.00 P. M.
Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.00 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS:

Morning Prayer and Litany.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR—SEPTEMBER.

4 Friday—Fast.
6 Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity.
11 Friday—Fast.
13 Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity.
16, 18, 19 Ember Days—Fast.
20 Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity.
21 S. Matthew, Evangelist.
25 Friday—Fast.
27 Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.
29 S. Michael and All Angels.

GUILD MEETINGS.

7 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.

8 and 22 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

10 8 P. M., Meeting of S. Andrew's Brotherhood.

BIBLE CLASSES.

For Young Men, Sundays, 3.00 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. Wm. B. Gilpin.
Ass't Superintendent, Mr. W. H. Montgomery.
Librarian, Mr. J. Lardner Howel.
Assistant Librarians, Mr. Carroll Hodge, Mr. Stuart Jackson.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish. is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, 112 South Fourth Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

OUR AIM.

As we enter upon another season of church work we are anxious to set before our parishioners exactly what is our aim in this parish, and to try and elicit the earnest, active interest of each member of the congregation in carrying it out.

Most of our churches in this city (we say it without meaning disrespect) are one-horse concerns. That is, they are manned by a single clergyman, have only two or three services a week, rent their pews, and professedly minister to only a comparatively small number of persons who have clubbed together for the purpose of supporting them for their own personal benefit, and make but little effort to draw in persons of different classes or conditions.

Now that is very far from our ideal of what a church should be and the work it should accomplish. Our model has always been one of those London churches, and we have some such in New York now, which are served by six or seven clergymen, whose seats are all free, where there are services at all hours and of different kinds, to suit different classes and characters of people, and which are supplied with al the appliances needed to carry on various missionary and charitable works. Our church is just in the position to do such a work as this. But it needs two absolutely necessary things, means and workers, though if we had sufficient of the one we could secure the other. With our two clergymen and volunteer workers we have done, we think, a pretty good work—five services on Sunday, and two or more daily during most of the year being maintained, with a fair amount of school and guild work beside. And we flatter ourselves that there are not many parishes of similar means that reach as many different kinds of people and accomplish as much. But we want to see a great deal more done.

The changes in our services which we make this year, we trust will be the means of extending the work of the church and making it more popular with more people. But to do all we want to do, we must have the active interest of every one now in the congregation. Do not let any one be satisfied with simply enjoying the services of the Church, and with giving just as little as they feel they can, respectably. If anyone really cares for anything, he is willing to work for it, and expend on it all the money he can. So if our people really love the Church, and feel that it is the great instrument in the hands of God for accomplishing the most blessed and needy work of winning men to righteousness and building them up in God's faith and fear, they will want to make the church to which they belong just as efficient for this purpose as it can be made, and it will be a real pleasure to them to have a personal hand and share in this work.

Now, how many of our people are doing all they can in, and giving all they can to, our Church? Are there not many who could join in some department or other of our church work who never do so? Are there not many who do not give anything like as much as they would be forced to give if they went to a pewed church? Are there not many who never think of their church from one weeks' end to another, never have a thought or care as to how it is getting on, never think of it in any other light than as a convenient and pleasant place to go to of a Sunday?

We call on all to rise to an appreciation of their duty to the Church of God; every one who belongs to it is a priest consecrated to God's service and so is bound to do priestly work, the work of seeking and saving and ministering to human souls. To fail to do this is sin. In the picture of the last judgment our Lord has given us, it is not those who have committed great crimes who are punished, but those who have failed to do good, to minister to the sick and afflicted and needy, the least of Christ's brethren.

Let all be up and active then in the best cause that can enlist human effort. Let each strive to do his or her full share to make this parish all it might be made. Give all you can, do some personal work in the Church; there is work each one can do. And remember the Church always, remember it in your prayers, keep it in your thoughts, tell others about it, try to bring to it those who go nowhere, are connected with no parish, or belong to some other denomination.

If our people would all thus work with a will and give to the full extent of their ability, we shall soon have here a church second to but few in the land in the amount of good it would accomplish.

Record for June, July and August.

Baptisms	3
Marriage	1
Communicants added, new	1
" by removal	2
" died	1
" removed	2
Burials	6

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$648.71
" the Poor	32.95
" Support of Schools	7.10
" Ladies' Aid Society	18.50
" Diocesan Missions	3.35
" Church Building	6.00
" Ascension News	1.02
Of the Sunday School	3.31
Total,	$720.94

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH since our last issue: book for record of services, a dozen palm leaf fans, 119 books for Parish and Sunday School library, quantity of magazines, papers and clothing for the poor. Out of some money placed at his disposal the Rector has ordered head stones for two graves in the church lot in Mt. Moriah Cemetery, that our dead may not lie unmarked. He first had made two crosses of solid oak for this purpose, but finding that the rules of the ceme-

tery did not allow any perishable material used, these have been thrown on his hands. He would be glad to dispose of them to any one who has unmarked graves in a church-yard or cemetery where they could be used.

IMPROVEMENTS.—We have not done very much in the way of improvements this summer. But we have had the old shabby fence at the back of our lot replaced by a new one, and the iron fence along Broad Street painted. The sexton has been trying very hard with the aid of a hose and lawn-mower to cultivate the grass on the side and end of the church. We have also had placed another sign on the south end of the church, and a notice board in the vestibule containing the names of the contributors to the church. Let every one attending the church see that his or her name is there.

ACKNOWLEDGING GIFTS.—We find that some persons object to having gifts which they make to the church acknowledged in the NEWS. We are sorry for this, as it prevents our record of what is done in the Parish being a complete one, and we think, too, that nothing so encourages people to give as the seeing and noticing what others do. Still we must of course respect the feelings of donors, and if they wish not only to conceal their names, but not even to have attention called to what they have done, we will abstain from mentioning it. If, therefore, persons notice from time to time things given to the church which are not mentioned in the NEWS they will understand that it is not negligence or inappreciation on our part, but it is in compliance with the wishes of those who have given them.

TAKE ENVELOPES FOR YOUR CHILDREN.—We think it is very important that heads of families should not only take envelopes in which to make their own offerings for the support of the church and its charities, but should take them for their children as well, in order to teach them the duty of giving and bringing them up in the habit of doing it systematically. If you can't give any more than you are giving now, it would be better to divide up the sum you are giving among your children, so that each would have his or her envelope to put in every Sunday.

ARRANGEMENT OF SERVICES.—The change made in the arrangement of our services has worked very satisfactorily. Almost every one whom we have heard speak about it has been pleased. The service is no longer than it used to be, and yet we get out an half hour sooner. It certainly has largely increased the attendance at the Holy Communion, and it is much more orderly for the few who cannot remain to go out during the interval that is allowed, than interrupting the service as they did before by going out in the midst of it. The twilight service will continue throughout September, and on and after the first Sunday in October there will be at 4 P. M. Choral Evensong without a sermon, and shortened evening service and sermon at 7.45 P. M.

THE VACATION.—The summer has made the usual change in our congregation, so many being away from town. Sometimes we have not had a single vestryman present to take up the collection. Still we have had pretty good congregations, there being rarely less than 100 persons present at any of the principal Sunday services. The twilight service has been more popular than ever this year.

The Rector has been with his family as usual near the city, at Jenkintown, whence he has come in to the services and to answer such calls as have been made upon him. During June the Assistant took most of the duty, and will do the same during September. During July and August he was away in Canada, part of the time on a camping-out expedition. We are glad to say his wife is reported as much better.

The Choir Master was away for three Sundays, and various members of the choir have had holidays from time to time. We must compliment the choir on the proficiency it has attained, and we look for great things from it during the coming winter.

DEATH OF MRS. WEAVER.—We regret to announce the death last month of Mrs. James B. Weaver, a member of our Parish. Although living at a great distance from the church she attended it, preferring its services to those of any church in her neighborhood, and was as regular as her health, which for a long time has been in a very precarious state, would allow her to be. She took an active part in our missionary work, for some years having done all the purchasing and superintending the cutting out and making of the articles for our annual missionary box.—*R. I P.*

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL reopens with this month, and we hope all the teachers and scholars will be in their places, and that the former will determine by their interest and devotion to the work to make this most important branch of our church work especially successful this coming year. New teachers, male and female, are needed. Who will volunteer? The School will begin with the children's service in the church at 3 P. M. during this month, and after October 1st at 2.30 P. M.

PARISH REPORT.—Some persons have not understood our annual report of the Parish published last month. They have supposed from the fact of our receipts being reported as $10,787.25, and our expenditures $12,267.43 that we were therefore nearly $1500 behind hand. But this is not so, as the previous year we made and reported the collections which paid for the improvements, &c., we made during the past year. There is no place in the blank form of Diocesan parish reports for a balance on hand, nor is it desired that such should be reported, so no attempt is made to balance the two sides of the report.

As a matter of fact we have no indebtedness now whatever beyond our mortgage, except that our expenditures for current expenses last year exceeded our receipts for the same by about $300. This we must not only make up this year, but we must sustain an increased rate of expenditure, for we are going forward and we don't mean to go backward. The congregation must remember, too, that the bequest made us by the late Mr. Johnson will not be paid until a year from his death, so that we will derive no benefit from it during the current year.

CHURCH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—We have this summer noticed a large number of gifts made to various churches. The Cathedral of Long Island received $500,000 from Judge Hilton; S. George's Church, New York, $200,000 from a gentleman who witholds his name for the purpose of extending its work among the poor; another church in New York received $100,000 from a lady; Grace Church, Elizabeth, N. J., $50,000; S. Stephen's, Pittsfield, Mass., $40,000, etc.

When will some one come forward to help our church in some such large way? How can we expect to do any extended work while we are hidden behind an apothecary's shop and are crippled with a $25,000 debt? If the means were given us we have the place here to do a large work, but we need greater prominence and a bigger and better appointed workshop and more money to secure workers.

CONSECRATION OF BISHOPS.—Dr. Phillips Brooks is to be consecrated

Bishop of Massachusetts, in Trinity Church, Boston, on Wednesday, October 14th, and Dr. Nicholson, Bishop of Milwaukee, in S. Mark's Church in this city, on SS. Simon and Judes' day, October 28th.

THE CATHEDRAL IN NEW YORK.—This great enterprise is making evident progress, as after a long and careful competition between various architects. those to whom the building is to be entrusted, have at last been decided upon. A number of gifts for it, too, have lately been made, including some magnificent tapestries, valued at $75,000.

When will a movement begin for a cathedral for this Diocese? The Bishop has not a building which he can call his own, in which he can perform his episcopal acts. Nor is there in this great city a single building, which, by its proportions and richness, sets forth the supreme dignity and importance of religion, or which is large enough for great functions on such occasions as meetings of conventions, consecration of bishops, choral festivals, etc.

We can conceive of no more necessary thing or greater power to the church than that of a grand cathedral in every Diocese. What better use could a rich man do with his money than giving or leaving it for such a purpose?

Prayer for the Parish.

Antiphon.—I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground. I will pour My Spirit upon thy seed, and My blessing upon thine offspring.

Versicle—Turn Thee again, Thou God of Hosts.

Response.—Look down from Heaven, behold, and visit this vine.

Almighty and Everlasting God, Who dost govern all things in Heaven and earth, mercifully hear the supplications of us Thy servants, and grant unto our Parish all things that are needful for its spiritual welfare; more Ministers to labor in Thy vineyard; Schools wherein to bring up the young in Thy faith and fear; Endowments for the necessary purposes of religion; Bless and encourage the Clergy; Strengthen and increase the faithful; Visit and relieve the sick; Turn and soften the wicked; Arouse the careless; Recover the fallen; Restore the penitent; Remove all hindrances to the advancement of Thy Truth; Bring all to be of one heart and mind within the fold of Thy Holy Church, to the honor and Glory of Thy Holy Name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bowing at the Sacred Name and at other times.

An English canon* enjoins that "when in time of Divine Service the Holy Name of Jesus is mentioned, due and lowly reverence shall be done by all persons present, as hath been accustomed." This custom no doubt is based in part on the Scripture declaration that "at the Name of Jesus every knee shall bow, and every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (*Phil.* ii, 9.)

It is also a reverent practice to incline the head at the ascription of *Glory be the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,*" even as the Angels veil their faces as they worship the Thrice Holy (*Isaiah* vi, *Rev.* iv); and to bow the head or knee when in the Nicene Creed we acknowldge the ineffable condescension of the Son of God from the words "Who for us men and for our salvation came down from Heaven, and *was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made Man,*" to "the third day He rose again."

*Canon xviii. 18 3.

THE Church, as being the House of God and the common home of the faithful, should be ENTIRELY free for all nations and for all classes. "All equal are within the Church's gate."

The Pew system is at once most dishonoring to God and most mischievous in its effects. It is a fundamental rule of our Parish that all the sittings should be always free. The principle of a free church, it should be remembered, is violated when persons pretend any *claim* to a particular place and seem to appropriate it.

"Have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ with respect of persons." (See St. James ii, 1-5.) When this scriptural rule is observed, another must also be remembered: "Upon the first day of the week let every one lay by him, in store, as God hath prospered him." (1 Cor. xvi, 2.) The weekly offertory should be regarded as a distinct act of worship, the offering of our substance to God. "All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee." (1 Chron. xxix, 14.)

None should stay away from church because they have nothing to give, but none who have should withhold from God His due, for the support of His Ministers, the maintenance of Divine Service, and the work of His Church. "If there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not." (2 Cor. viii, 12.)

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2029 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon, 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8.00 P. M.

THURSDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 A. M.

DAILY: Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR—OCTOBER.

2 Friday—Fast.
4 Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.
9 Friday—Fast.
11 Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.
16 Friday—Fast.
18 S. Luke's, Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity.
23 Friday—Fast.
25 Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity.
28 SS. Simon and Jude.
30 Friday—Fast.

GUILD MEETINGS.

5 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
8 8 P. M., Meeting of S. Andrew's Brotherhood.
13 Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
27 11 A. M. Anniversary of Women's Guild.
27 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

BIBLE CLASSES.

For Young Men,
For Women,
For Girls' } Sundays, 3.00 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. W. H. Montgomery.
Librarian, Mr. J. Lardner Howel.
Assistant Librarians, Mr. Carroll Hodge,
Mr. Stuart Jackson.
Mr. Robert B. Lewis.

TEACHERS' MEETING.

Wednesdays, 7.00 P. M.

LADIES' AID.

Thursdays, 3.00 P. M.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, 112 South Fourth Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

PARISH VISITING.

The object of parish visiting is that the Clergy may become acquainted with their parishioners, may come to know their characters and needs, so as to be able to be spiritual helps to them, and also to interest them in parish matters. The office the clergy should discharge is more than that of administering the sacraments and preaching. They should bear a personal relationship to each member of their parishes. They should be pastors, *i. e.*, those who watch over and care for souls. Each soul should be an individual study and care to them, and it should be a constant object of solicitude and effort to guard each soul from evil, to train and develop it in spiritual things, and to comfort and support it when tempted and harassed. But to do this it is absolutely necessary that the clergy should know their people. To do this they go to see them. Parish visiting is not social visiting, or the payment of a compliment; it has a distinct, high spiritual purpose. It involves an intimate acquaintance, and confidential intercourse and friendship between the pastor and his people. If the pastor is what he ought to be, his friendship will be worth having, and should be a great help and comfort.

But how is he to become intimate with his people? To those who don't think much about it, it may seem a very easy thing. But consider the difficulties in the way. In the first place, we have in this parish some 500 people who consider themselves as belonging to it, and these people are scattered from Second St. to Forty-ninth St., and from below Mifflin St. to above York Ave., and some come in even from places in the country. Then there are only eight months in the year that can be practically used for visiting, and out of those all the Sundays and festival days must be taken, for on them the clergy have enough to do in the church. Then there are people who can only be seen at certain times, men and work people only at night, and often when the clergy call even at those times, they are not at home. Then there are cases of sickness, when the clergy have to call very frequently, and there are funerals and other clerical engagements which take up a great deal of time, and Guild meetings and services in the church which often leave even few evenings in the week free. So when all these things are put together it is evident that it is hard for the clergy in a parish such as ours, to get round to see all the people in their houses much more than once a year. Their aim has been, heretofore, to visit more frequently, and in order to do it, the clergy have divided the parish between them, the Rector calling on some families, and the Assistant on others. But a different system will be followed this year. It is desirable that the people should know both of the clergy; so they will both try during this coming year, to call on each member of the congregation. One will begin at one end of the parish, and one at the other, so that while the Rector is visiting part of the people, the others will not be left until he can get all the way round, but the Assistant will be seeing them. Thus the clergy will try to do all they can to become acquainted with their people and be of service to them.

But why should the people wait for the clergy to come to them? Why will they not come to the clergy? One of them can be found in the church every day, morning and evening, and after the service would be glad to see any one who will come to them. And the church is a much more appropriate place and a much easier place to meet a clergyman about religious matters than amid the distractions and interruptions of a home, or wherever a clergyman can happen to get hold of his people.

The clergy want to be of service to any one who needs their services, and by their training and education they are fitted to advise and assist people in spiritual matters. And there are constantly arising in every one's life, questions and experiences in which spiritual guidance is needed. Why will you not go to your priest in such moments as you go to your physician when you are sick? The clergy will come after you as well as they can, but it would be better and easier if you came to them.

AFTERNOON SERVICE.

We begin this month for the first time a regular Sunday afternoon service. Heretofore we have always had the evening service at night, because it was believed that a larger congregation would attend at that hour. But now we think the time has come when we should have both an afternoon and evening service, for there are some persons who only care to go to church in the afternoon and some only at night, and our parish is large enough now to contain a sufficient number of both classes to make it worth while to have the two services. We had, indeed, formerly the Litany service in the afternoon, but the regular choir was not present, and it was hardly regarded as taking the place of the evening service. Now we shall have full Choral Evensong at 4 P.M., without any sermon, but with an anthem after the third collect, as provided for by the new rubrics. And then at 7.45 P.M. we shall have shortened Evening Prayer with a sermon, the choir again being present. We earnestly hope that this arrangement will enable every person in the parish to attend *two* services each Sunday, as we think they should. For while we admit that a man has fulfilled his actual moral obligation if he has attended one service

on a Sunday, still it is the evident intention of the Church, and should be his natural desire, to go to a vesper service as well as to the great oblation of the morning. The one is the thanksgiving for the other, and sanctifies the whole day. It is a very careless and slovenly way for Christians to get into, to go to church only in the morning, unless there is great cause for their doing so.

And by the arrangement of our services we have taken away all the objections which are sometimes made to the second service, such as that it is just the same as the morning, and that there is no object in going through it again. As it will be arranged, there will be absolutely nothing in the evening service that there was in the morning, except the Lord's Prayer, Glorias, Creed, and Versicles, which should always occur in every service. And there will be no sermon, as one sermon a day, certainly from the same preacher, is quite as much as any one can digest. There will be a sermon at the night service because many persons attend church at night who go at no other time. We trust that the congregation at that service will not be diminished, but that we shall have in addition a congregation in the afternoon composed of those who have not been going to church a second time at all heretofore, or going to other churches. And we hope that, if our choir render this service as we are confident they will, it will become so popular as to be attended largely by people outside of our parish, as well as by our own people.

Record for September.

Baptisms,	1
Marriages	2
Communicants added, new	1
Burials	2

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$171.36
Of the Sunday School	4.52
Total,	$175.88

PARISH NOTES.

WINTER SEVICES.—The daily service, Thursday Communion and Wednesday night service begin this month. The latter will take place at 8 o'clock, and will be preceded by a Teachers' Meeting and the Mother's Meeting at 7 o'clock. But the latter will not begin until November.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.—Mr. William B. Gilpin, our Sunday School Superintendent, having gone to New York to enter the General Theological Seminary, the Assistant Superintendent, Mr. W. H. Montgomery, will succeed him as Superintendent of the School. Beginning with this month the children's service will be at 2.30 P. M., and the Sunday School from 3 to 4 P. M.

BIBLE CLASSES.—As the hour of morning service on Sundays has been altered to 10.30 A. M., it has been thought best to discontinue the Young Men's Bible Class which has been held heretofore on Sunday mornings, and have it meet instead on Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock, immediately after the children's service. The Rector's Bible Class, mentioned below, will take the place of the Men's Bible Class. There will be also a Young Women's Bible Class which will be held in the choir room.

BIBLE AND QUESTION CLASS.—Beginning with *next* month the Rector will himself conduct an adult Bible and question class on Friday evenings in the Guild room for the general study of the Bible and discussion of any church questions on which the members may desire information. Any person attending the class may ask any question in regard to Biblical or Church matters, and the discussion will be of the most informal character. It is hoped that many of the Confirmed members of the Church will avail themselves of this opportunity of informing themselves in regard to ecclesiastical subjects, and that those looking forward to Confirmation will also join it, that their preparation therefor may not be as hurried as it often is.

S. MARY'S GUILD.—The monthly business meetings of S. Mary's Guild will be resumed on the second Tuesday of this month. A full attendance is requested.

LADIES' AID.—The meetings of the ladies will be resumed on the second Thursday in this month. The work to be taken up at once is the providing some more new cassocks for the choir, which are very much needed. The ladies of the congregation are invited to aid in this work. The meetings are held every Thursday in the parish building at 3 P.M.

THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE WOMEN'S GUILD, which should take place on SS. Simon and Jude's day will be held this year on the day before, Tuesday, October 27th, as the consecration of Dr. Nicholson as Bishop of Milwaukee occurs on the 28th, and the Rector and doubtless many members of the congregation will want to attend that service. The Rector particularly requests that *all* the female communicants of the parish who can possible do so, will be present at this meeting, when the reports of what the various Women's Committees have done during the past church year will be read, and work for the coming year be mapped out. Even those who cannot take any personal part in our church work are asked to be present to show their interest in the work and learn about what is being done. There will be a special celebration of the Holy Communion for the Guild after 10 A. M. Prayers and the business meeting will be held in the Guild room after the church service. Let every female member of the parish come.

MEMORIAL WINDOWS.—The two new memorial windows, one for the apse and the other for the clerestory of the church, which were ordered last summer, have arrived from England, and as soon as they can be passed through the Custom House, will be put in their places. One represents the Crucifixion, and the other contains the figure of S. John.

SPECIAL ENVELOPES.—Many of the special envelopes sent out the last two quarters, for the Poor and for the Schools of the Parish, have not yet been returned. The congregation must remember that the carrying on of the Sunday and Industrial Schools and Mother's Meeting and aiding the poor of the parish depends upon the offerings made through these envelopes. And it is just as necessary to contribute to these purposes as it is to the support of the Church. The general envelopes take the place of pew rents in a church where the pews are rented, and the special envelopes of the charitable collections, which in such churches are made in addition to the pew rents.

SPECIAL SERVICE.—The Society of the Sons of S. George will attend the Sunday night service, S. Luke's day, Oct. 18th, in this church. The seats in the middle aisle will be reserved for them. This has been arranged by our Chapter of S. Andrew's Brotherhood, and we hope during the winter to have other societies come to our services in the same way.

PUBLICATION OF MARRIAGE BANS.—We had quite an unusual experience last month in having bans of marriage

published for three Sundays in our church. It was the case of a gentleman who is going to marry a Canadian lady, and according to the law in Canada the bans must be published in the parishes in which both the parties reside. The publication, therefore, had to be made here in order to comply with that law. We only wish it was the law in this country as well. Marriage is too solemn and important a thing, too intimately affecting the welfare of the whole community to be entered into clandestinely, as it is so easily and so often done with us. If publication of the bans was always and everywhere required, it would do away with much of the misery and trouble that follow now from the contraction of hasty and improper marriages.

HISTORICAL SERMONS.—The Rector proposes to preach a course of historical sermons on some epoch of Church history on one Sunday evening—probably the fourth—of each month during this winter. Sermons of this kind have proved very popular in times past, and it is hoped that this series will prove both popular and instructive. The subject of the sermon on the fourth Sunday evening of this month will be "The Apostolic Church."

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions to the NEWS have been received: Miss Trucks, Miss M. Marks, Mrs. Walter Cox, Mr. Harry R. Carson, Mr. Henry C. Kerr. A number of subscribers are in arrears, and are notified this month. Will they be good enough to make payment promptly?

PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD.

THE following opinion, given at the close of 1882, by the late Archbishop of York, Doctor Magee, then Bishop of Peterborough, to a Leicester memorial on the subject of prayers for the dead, is of interest:—"Prayers for the dead are not necessarily a Roman rite, nor does their use necessarily imply belief in any Roman doctrine. There is a doctrine respecting the state of departed souls, and there are prayers for these founded on that doctrine which are distinctly Roman—namely, the doctrine that the souls of the faithful departed pass through the cleansing fires of purgatory, and that remission of these pains may be obtained for them by Masses and prayers offered on their behalf by the faithful on earth. This our Church distinctly condemns in her Articles. On the other hand, there is a doctrine as to the state of the faithful departed, and there are prayers for them founded upon that doctrine, which are not Roman but primitive, and which our Church has never condemned. The belief was undoubtedly general in the early Church, that the souls of the faithful, though free from suffering, were capable, while awaiting all their final consummation and bliss, of a progress in holiness and happiness; and that prayer for such progress might therefore lawfully be made on their behalf by the Church on earth. Accordingly prayers for the rest and refreshment of the departed abound in the early liturgies of the Church, and especially in connection with the celebration of the Holy Communion. To say that such prayers imply a belief in Roman doctrine is not only unjust and uncharitable, but also, in regard to our controversy with Rome, extremely rash and unwise."

NEW PARISH BUILDING.

To be Erected for the Memorial Chapel of the Holy Communion.

THE September number of the "Parish Intelligence of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Holy Apostles" states that on the Sunday preceding his departure for the Pacific coast, Mr. George C. Thomas visited the Memorial Chapel of the Holy Communion, and in an address to the scholars said: "I wish to tell you something which I know will interest all of you, and I preferred to do this myself, rather than that you should hear it from any one else. After considerable thought and consultation Mrs. Thomas and I have decided jointly to put up, at the corner of Twenty-seventh and Wharton streets, a building, which may be used for all purposes in connection with the Memorial Chapel work. It will contain ample accommodations for the Sunday school and Bible classes, and also gymnasium, kitchen, guild rooms; &c., and thus fully meet the requirements for the future and better provide for that which is now so rapidly and satisfactorily growing. The erection will be begun as soon as possible, and it is hoped that it may be completed by Easter. The new building will also be a memorial, and in affectionate remembrance of Mr. J. Barlow Moorhead and Mr. John W. Thomas, the loved and most respected fathers of my wife and myself." Thus one wealthy, generous layman equips a church which he does not himself attend, with all that is necessary to carry on its beneficent work for generations, and in a way in which it could not possibly have provided for itself.

TWO-THIRDS of the church members in this country are *women*; 43,000 of the 45,000 convicts in the State prisons of the United States are *men*.

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The Ascension News.

VOL. IV. PHILADELPHIA, PA., NOVEMBER, 1891. No. 9.

Church of the Ascension.

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ASSISTANT:
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251 S. 17th St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
GEO. H. HAVERSTICK.

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2029 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon, 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:

Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8.00 P. M.

THURSDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 A. M.

DAILY: Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR—NOVEMBER.

1 All Saints—Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity.
6 Friday—Fast.
8 Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity.
13 Friday—Fast.
15 Twenty-fifth Sunday after Trinity.
20 Friday—Fast.
22 Sunday next before Advent.
27 Friday—Fast.
29 First Sunday in Advent.
30 S. Andrew.

GUILD MEETINGS.

1 8 P. M., Anniversary of Men's Guild.
2 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
10 Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
12 8 P. M., Meeting of S. Andrew's Brotherhood.
24 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Mothers' Meeting, Wednesdays, 7.00 P. M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3.00 P. M.
Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.
Teachers' Meeting, Wednesdays, 7.00 P. M.

BIBLE CLASSES.

Sundays, 3.00 P. M.
For Young Men, Mr. Greenleaf.
For Women, Mrs. Hodge.
For Girls, Mrs. Carpenter.

BIBLE AND QUESTION CLASS.

Fridays, 8 P. M.—The Rector.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. H. W. Montgomery.
Librarians, Mr. Carroll Hodge,
Mr. Stuart Jackson.
Mr. Robert B. Lewis.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10 A. M.

KINDERGARTEN.

Daily, except Saturdays, from 9 A. M. to noon.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

There is nothing so important as education. Most men's lives are determined by the education which they receive, and the views and principles which a man or woman imbibe in their youth they generally carry with them through life, and they determine what their lives are. So it is all important that every one should receive a sound religious education, should be thoroughly instructed in the principles of religion, to understand what the Church of God is, what its claims, teachings and the obligations to it are, to have so intelligent and firm a conviction of religious truth as to be able to answer assaults which from time to time are made on it, to have it completely govern all our actions, and to be able in time to teach it to others.

But there are many things now-a-days which interfere with the reception of such religious instruction. The decay of parental discipline, neglect of religious exercises and teaching in the family, the liberty allowed children to attend Sunday School and Church or not, as they choose, and the incompetence and lack of thoroughness in Sunday School teaching, and the almost entire divorce of secular and religious instruction. All these things tend to create an alarming neglect of distinct religious teaching, and we have multitudes growing up among us with the most hazy and indefinite notions in regard to religious subjects, and living in utter neglect and disregard of all religious duties.

In order to remedy this state of things we call most earnestly upon all heads of families to see to the religious training of their children, either to attend to it personally themselves, or if they do not feel themselves competent or have not the leisure, to see to it that their children attend regularly and faithfully the Sunday School and Children's Services in their parish, and that their children study the lessons that are given them. To our minds it is most astonishing that parents who are ready to make any sacrifices to secure the secular education of their children should be so indifferent and careless in regard to their religious training, which is really of far greater importance to them. They seem to think that religious knowledge will come to them naturally, or that it can be picked up anyhow. But this is not the case, and the reason why so many people fall into sinful or utterly worldly and careless lives, or become a prey to sceptical influences, or are carried away into this or that heresy or schism, is because they have never been taught and really grounded in an intelligent apprehension of the religious faith they profess. Parents therefore, and those responsible for the training of children, cannot be too attentive and careful in this matter.

But we call not only upon parents, but upon all the adult members of our parish to attend to their own religious training. If through fault of others or stress of circumstances they have not been well taught in their youth, there is no reason why they should not remedy this now. There are numbers even of the communicant members of our Church who are lamentably deficient in their knowledge of the Bible and Church truth. Many who could not explain the meaning of, or even recite correctly the Ten Commandments, much less give any intelligent account of the characteristics and teachings of the Church to which they belong.

To remedy this they should make use of the means of self improvement which are offered them. Text books on every branch of Bible and Church teaching are now most common and accessible to every one, and we have some such in our parish library. And our Church people should take the pains of reading them and informing themselves on such subjects. In addition to this, we have Bible Classes for such study suitable for every one. The Rector of this parish begins this month an additional class, to be held every Friday evening in the Guild room with this special purpose of instruction in the nature and character of the Bible, and of giving information on any Church subject that may be desired. He earnestly hopes that there will be a great many who will avail themselves of this means of improving their knowledge on such subjects, and that all will feel the importance both for themselves and for their children, of a through religious training.

Record for October.

Marriages	2
Communicants added, new	1
" by removal	10
" removed	7

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$276.17
" the Poor	20.95
" Support of the Schools	2.90
" General Missions	25
" Freedmen "	1.00
" Diocesan "	25
" Prayer Book Society	2.00
" Year Book	4.60
" Organ Fund	5.00
" Memorial	58.90
Of the Sunday School	3.14
Total,	$375.16

PARISH NOTES.

THE AFTERNOON SERVICE on Sundays is proving, as we anticipated, very popular. Already the attendance is much larger than it was formerly at the Litany service and as the winter advances and the service becomes more and more known, we are confident the attendance will become larger still. It is just such a service as one wants for a Sunday afternoon.

THE RECTOR'S BIBLE AND QUESTION CLASS, announced last month, will be held every Friday at 8 P. M., in the Guild room.

SUBJECT OF HISTORICAL SERMON on the fourth Sunday evening of this month will be "The Early Church," the age of persecution.

KINDERGARTEN—The Kindergarten which was held last winter in our Parish Building re-opened the last of

October. The same lady who gratuitously gave her services last year, will continue in charge of it, and we hope that parents in this parish and neighborhood having children too young to go school, will avail themselves of this opportunity of sending them where they will be both instructed and entertained for some hours every day. The sessions are from 9 A. M. to 12 noon. If funds could be procured to provide an assistant teacher the size of the school could be doubled.

THE MOTHERS' MEETING re-commences this month on Wednesday evenings.

THE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL on Saturdays at 10 A. M.

EMBROIDERY CLASS on Thursdays at 10.30 A. M.

THE DAILY SERVICE.—Will not each member of the congregation resolve during the coming winter to attend in addition to the Sunday services, one service in the Church each week? As there is a service at 7.30 A. M., others at 10 A. M. and 5 P. M., and one at 8 P. M., there is certainly no one in the congregation who could not go to Church at one of these hours. If every member of the congregation would form and carry out this resolution we should always have a goodly number present at every service, and not only would a perpetual incense of prayer and intercession be thus ascending from the Church, but such a practice would be of inestimable benefit to the personal life of each one engaging in it.

ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN'S GUILD. We had some twenty-seven women present at the Anniversary of the Women's Guild this year, out of all the women of the Church who were asked to come. The Rector is very grateful to those twenty-seven for taking this much interest in the work of the parish, and he trusts that they and others too will work very hard during the coming winter. The Ladies' Aid has already began its meetings on Thursday afternoon, and we shall soon get started on a missionary box. The Embroidery Class, the Mother's Meeting and the Industrial School re-commence this month.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENT.—The members of the Sunday School and their parents enjoyed a very pleasant entertainment on the 29th of October. It consisted of dialogues, pieces, songs and choruses from the children themselves, and the members of St. John's Guild displayed their development of muscle by a friendly contest in a "Tug of War,"—the champions, Messrs. McCracken, Hornen, Lynch and Clarke, being the victors. At the close two large baskets of apples were distributed to the satisfaction of everybody.

ARREARAGES IN ENVELOPES.—The Warden informs us that the arrearages of contributions through the envelopes now amount to over $200. This is seriously crippling us in meeting our current expenses. These arrearages are legal and moral obligations, and we trust they will at once be made up. Many of them doubtless are due to absence during the summer.

SPECIAL ENVELOPES.—The Rector wants to call the attention of the congregation to the fact that the amount received through the special envelopes for the Poor during the half year from May 1st to October 31st, 1890, was $54.12, and for the corresponding period this year was $41.05, and the amount received during the same period for the support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools, 1890, was $30.58, this year $10.70. Now the Rector cannot suppose that this falling off is due to lack of interest in these necessary branches of Church work. It must be simply the result of carelessness. The special envelopes have been overlooked. He begs all who have such envelopes to fill them and return them at once. It is impossible for the demands of the work among the poor to be met, or the schools carried on with the funds thus far contributed. And surely the congregation will not see those works stopped for lack of funds.

ADDRESSES—Again the Rector must request persons belonging to the parish to notify him of changes of their addresses. No sooner had he begun his visiting this autumn, than he went to three places, all at great distances from the Church, and found that the persons who had been living there had removed. It would save the clergy a great deal of time and labor if prompt notification were made to them in such instances.

The Christian Social Union.

This is the name of an association which has existed for some time in England. The President is the present Lord Bishop of Durham, and the head of the Pusey House at Oxford is one of the Vice-Presidents. A similar society has lately been formed in this county, of which the Bishop of Central New York is the President and Prof. Ely of Johns Hopkins University is the Secretary.

The following are the objects of the Union.

"(1) To claim for the Christian Law the ultimate authority to rule social practice.

"(2) To study in common, how to apply the moral truths and principles of Christianty to the social and economic difficulties of the present time.

"(3) To present Christ in practical life as the living Master and King, the enemy of wrong and selfishness, the power of righteousness and love."

Any commmunicant member of the Church can belong to it.

It is proposed to form branches of the Union in different localities throughout the country, which will hold meetings from time to time for the study and discussion of social questions.

Such a branch has been formed in this city, the first meeting having been held in our parish building on the 10th of last month. It is proposed to continue the meetings here for the present on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 3 P. M.

The object of these meetings is simply for the study and discussion, of this deeply interesting and important subject, and any one can take part in them without being committed to any special theory in regard to it. We trust there are those in our parish who will be interested in attending them. There are no dues, but every one who can is expected to contribute at least 50 cents a year to the funds of the society.

HAVEN'T you been bothered many a time trying to remember the meaning of all these Bible terms? It is taken from a contemporary. Preserved where you can easily refer to it, it will prove helpful:

A gerah was a cent.
A cab was three pints.
An omer was six pints.
A shekel of gold was $8.
A firkin was seven pints.
A farthing was seven cents.
A talent of gold was $13,809.
A talent of silver was $538.30.
A bin was one gallon and two pints.
Ezekiel's reed was nearly eleven feet.
A cubit was nearly twenty-two inches.
A shekel of silver was about fifty cents.
A mite was less than a quarter of a glass.
A piece of silver or a penny was thirteen cents.
A Sabbath day's journey was about an English mile.
An ephah or bath, contained seven gallons and five pints.
A day's journey was about twenty-three and one-fifth miles.

"BE YE STEADFAST."

Cease lamenting, contemplating,
Mourning for "the might have been;"
Know the past is gone forever,
Try again, and work to win!
Daylight comes when darkness ends;
Shadow with our sunshine blends.
Then forget the faded fortunes
And forgive the faithless friends.

Silence sorrow, do your duty;
Mercy reigns, and God is good.
Trifled, trampled, all forsaken,
You will yet be understood.
In your darkest night a gleam
Of a kindly star must beam:
Infinite, Divine compassion.
Brotherhood is not a dream.

Do not nurse your mournful echoes
Of the dreary days gone by;
Let them perish! Do your ablest
Once again. You can but try.
Persevere, and stand the test;
Providence will do the rest.
Then, whatever may betide you,
You have done your very best.

Annual Meeting of the Women's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions.

A general meeting of the Women's Auxiliary will be held on Nov. 12th, at the Church of the Epiphany, beginning with morning prayer at 10 A. M., at which addresses will be delivered by representatives of the four branches of its work. A light luncheon will be served between the morning and afternoon sessions. All women interested in the missionary work of the Church are invited to be present

LETTER FROM MEXICO.

The Rector recently received the following letter from one of our young men, who has gone to seek his fortunes in Mexico, which he thinks will be interesting to quite a number in the parish.

San Luis Potosi, Mexico.
Apartado 132.
September 20th, 1891.

Dear Mr. Hodge:-

I have been intending for some time past to write you, thinking you might be interested slightly in hearing from me. Last evening I received from Mr. Cope a copy of the ASCENSION NEWS, and brought forcibly to mind that which I left behind me. I was very glad to get it.

On my arrival at Galveston, Texas, I went right through to the City of Mexico, but when I got there I found a note awaiting me telling me to come up to this place, which was retracing my steps about 300 miles and bringing me that much nearer the U. S. I stayed at the capital a few days to take in some of the sights, and I trust that before turning my steps again northward, I shall be able to visit it again, for there is much to see. Just as I was getting on the cars, I met Mr. Gordon and introduced myself to him. Inasmuch as his particular district is the capital, I did not give him your letter, but will have to keep it until I am in a place where there is a clergyman, American or English. Here there is none. I believe there are Methodist or Presbyterians around, but they do not interest me.

San Luis is a city of about 60,000 inhabitants, and is situated in a valley surrounded by mountains on all sides, and is at an altitude of 6000 feet. Except during the mid-day, it is very pleasant, especially after 4 o'clock in the evening.

Just now I am living in the city itself, but most any day I will take up my residence in the mountains about four or five miles away.

From there, in the evening just as the sun is disappearing, casting its rays on the many Church towers in the city, a most beautiful view is obtained. I often go out horseback and return at that hour.

There are very few foreigners here, and these are mostly Germans. They are very good fellows. Last Sunday I went out with quite a party of them for a ride across the country. We made quite a cavalcade. In some of the American papers that have been sent me, I have read rumors of a near war in this country. So far as I can learn there isn't the slightest truth in it. Of course nearly all the time there are petty troubles in the different States, but the army rules the country to duty.

This last week, the celebration of Mexican Independence from the Spanish rule, has been going on. On last Tuesday and Wednesday the city was decorated all over with flags, lanterns and flowers. At night on the 15th the city and State palaces were one mass of fire from top to bottom. At 11 o'clock the Governor came out on the balcony of his palace, and repeated the words used by Hidalgo, 81 years ago, "Viva la Virgen de Guadalupe, Viva la Independencia de Mexico, muerto a los Espanoles." (long live the Virgin of Guadalupe, long live the independence of Mexico, death to the Spaniards,) and the people punctuated every sentence with viva, viva. A party of Americans got on the balcony of our house, and gave some Yankee yells for Mexico. All the bells in the place rang for half an hour, a dozen bands played the national hymn, and with all the yelling, pandemonium reigned for the next 30 minutes.

About every week is a grand feast day in the R. C. calendar, and the day is generally kept as a holiday. On such occasions, a lot of booths and tents are erected around some Church, and there for all day and night the Indians keep up their gambling, always first in the Mexican mind; drinking and dancing. The first few were quite interesting to me, but there are so many and all being alike, they are getting tiresome and I don't pay much attention to them now. For the present, I am living in a very nice house right opposite the Plaza Mayor. Nearly every night and Sunday morning and afternoon, we have music.

Sunday is a gala day. In the forenoon, crowds parade the streets, clowns advertising the bull fights, the lottery drawings take place, and one would think it was most any day than Sunday. I generally go to the Cathedral in the morning, read over our own service, read, and in the afternoon go out for a ride. The native amusements have no attraction for me.

I like the place very well now. At first it went rather hard, but I expected that, so did not give up my courage, and am now glad I stayed.

I shall be very glad to hear from you when you can write. My interest in the ASCENSION shall always remain unchanged. It is the parish through which I first knew the Church.

Yours Sincerely,

H. R. CARSON.

GEORGE W. SHAW & CO.,
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VOL. IV. PHILADELPHIA, PA., DECEMBER, 1891. No. 10.

Church of the Ascension.

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ASSISTANT:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.
251 S. 17th St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

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Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

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4 Friday—Fast.
6 Second Sunday in Advent.
11 Friday—Fast.
13 Third Sunday in Advent.
16 Ember Day—Fast.
18 Ember Day—Fast.
19 Ember Day—Fast.
20 Fourth Sunday in Advent.
21 S. Thomas.
25 Christmas Day.
26 S. Stephen.
27 S. John, Evangelist—Sunday after Christmas.
28 Holy Innocents.

GUILD MEETINGS.

7 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
8 Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
10 8 P. M., Meeting of S. Andrew's Brotherhood.
22 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

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For Women, Mrs. Hodge.
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OUR FINANCIAL SITUATION.

It is right and necessary that our people should understand our present financial situation. Our financial year runs from May 1st to May 1st. On the first of May this year we came out, as is frequently the case with churches, with a deficit of some $300. This, instead of being made up at the time, was allowed to run over into the new year. And this year our expenses are much larger than they were last year, owing to the increase in the salaries of both the Rector and the Assistant Minister. And yet our income for the first six months of the current year has been no larger than it was for the corresponding period last year. We have therefore now not only the deficit left over from last year, but a much larger deficit for the expenses of the Church so far this year, with the likelihood of its still further increasing. Now how is this to be met? We know of no way but by larger contributions from our people.

We speak of this especially now in view of the approaching Christmas offering. We have always depended upon special contributions at Christmas and Easter to make up the amount needed to meet our expenses for the year, as our receipts Sunday by Sunday are not sufficient for the purpose. And as we have this year special need, so we ask that the Christmas offerings may be especially large.

In previous years we have had in addition to the ordinary offerings for the support of the Church, large special offerings for building and improvement purposes. One year we built the school building, another year the Church, later we added the chancel, later still we put in the organ and made the outside improvements. Now this year we are asking for nothing of this kind from our people. Will they not therefore give what they have in other years given for these purposes, this year towards our current expenses? We say *this* year because if we can manage to get through this year, another year we will be in receipt of the income of the fund left us by the late Mr. Johnson, which will be a very material help in meeting our current expenses.

We know that our people are interested in our effort to prove that a Church can be supported on the free principle. We have an excellent position here for doing the work of a free Church. And any one who knows anything of the character of our congregation, knows that it is largely composed of those who could not afford, and would not be likely to attend a pew Church. The Church is conducted in a way calculated to attract persons of different classes. The clergy do not spare themselves in providing services at all hours, and of all kinds. And the people are being reached, and could be reached in larger numbers if we had greater resources at our command. Shall not this good work go on and *increase*? To what better purpose could anyone contribute than that of maintaining a free and open Church for all people? Will not those who have been interested in this work hitherto, give as largely as they can to meet our current expenses, for that is our special need now?

And are there not those who can do something to relieve us of the incubus of our debt, either by a donation now or by making some provision for it in their wills? If it was not for this debt, we would have no difficulty in meeting our current expenses. We stand under special disadvantages with it, as a gentleman outside our parish said to us recently, "no free Church has a fair chance that has a debt on it."

By special arrangement we can pay $500, on account of this debt at any time. Who will give or leave us that amount, or more? Let every one think about it. And especially let every one remember just now our Christmas offering. We need to have it very large.

Record for November.

Baptisms,	2
Communicants added,	4
" removed	1
Burials	2

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$577.90
" the Poor	7.78
" Sunday and Industrial Schools	16.10
" General Missions	6.75
For Diocesan Missions	21
" Episcopal Hospital	30.58
" Year Book	1.75
" Church Building	2.00
Of the Sunday School	5.20
Total,	$648.27

PARISH NOTES.

OFFERINGS AT WEEKDAY SERVICES.—The Finance Committee of the Vestry has taken the responsibility with the approbation of the Rector of directing the discontinuance of making collections at the Wednesday evening services, and at the ordinary early Celebrations on weekdays. The purpose is that our people may feel that they do not have to make an offering every time they come to Church. And the hope is, that more will attend these weekday services, if they are not always asked to give when they come. Any present at those services who desire to make a contribution, can do so by putting it in one of the alms boxes in the vestibule.

A SEWING MACHINE.—Is there not some one in the congregation who has a sewing machine they would like to give to the Church? It is very much needed for the work of the Ladies' Aid and our other sewing societies. The only machine we have is one purchased some years ago by S. Mary's Guild, which was second-hand when bought, and is now almost useless.

RECTOR'S BIBLE CLASS.—The Rector has been disappointed that so few thus far have cared to avail themselves of this opportunity for systematic Bible and Church instruction. He is very anxious to see his people all intelligent church people, and he is sure that there must be many subjects on which they need information. Will they not come and get it? Anyone can ask any question they like. The class is open to all, men and women, old and young. It meets in the Guild room every Friday at 8 P. M.

S. Marys' Guild had a very pleasant entertainment on their recreation meeting night last month. It consisted of a supper to which every member of the Guild was entitled to bring a friend. They are planning a public entertainment in January for the benefit of the Church. If the Guild get up such an entertainment we trust all in the congregation will interest themselves in buying and selling tickets. We should like to see all the young women of the parish in this Guild.

Sunday School Hymnal. We have lately introduced a special Sunday School Hymnal into use for our children's services. It contains hymns more appropriate for children than most of those in our Church Hymnal, and has also the office we use at the children's services. We trust its use will improve our music at that service, and make it more attractive for the children.

Christmas Festival and Decorations.—We trust our people will not forget to give a special offering to provide the Christmas festival for our children, and the decorations for the Church. One of the alms boxes in the vestibule will be devoted to these purposes for some weeks before Christmas, or donations may be handed to the clergy or the superintendent of the Sunday School.

Our Missionary Box.—We have generally got to work on our annual missionary box before this. But owing to the death of Mrs. Weaver, and the difficulty the Rector has found in getting anyone to take her place, we have been behind hand this year. Miss Hewson has, however, kindly consented to make the collections for it, and some of the other ladies will superintend the purchase and cutting out of the materials. If those, therefore, who are willing to contribute towards it, will give their donations to Miss Hewson, we shall soon get it started.

Clothing.—The members of the congregation will bear in mind that we can use any kind of clothing, even worn out shoes, at the Church. What is good enough we put in our missionary boxes, and the rest we use in our own work. The sexton will call for bundles if so directed.

Historical Sermon.—The third sermon in the historical course will be preached by the Rector on the evening of the third Sunday in this month, the subject being, "The Church under Constantine and his Successors."

Christmas Day.—There will be an additional early celebration of the Holy Communion at 6.30 A. M., as last year. The midday service will begin at 10.30 A. M.

The Christmas Music.—The choir is hard at work on the Christmas music. Every effort will be made to make the service on that day the most successful ever held in the Ascension. Orchestral instruments will be employed in sufficient number to supply brass instruments for the processional and full strings for the service. Gounod's famous S. Cecilia will be given. The Te Deum is not decided on. In the afternoon of the Sunday after Christmas the choir will sing, Stanford's Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, and Goss' anthem, "Behold I bring you good tidings." The full force of boys (24) will be used, and the tenors and basses reinforced from the ranks of the University Glee Club.

Childrens' Festival.—Our usual Childrens' Christmas Festival will take place on the evening of Holy Innocents' Day, December 28th, at 7.30 P. M. The children will assemble in the church and sing their Christmas carols, and afterwards proceed to the school room, where some new features will be added this year to the entertainment.

We hope the parents of the children and others interested in the school will be present.

Christmas Offering. — Let every one remember to give a special Christmas offering to the church.

The Ladies' Aid Society will be glad to take orders for any kind of sewing.

The Year Book containing the report of the church for the past ecclesiastical year was distributed in the church on the first Sunday in Advent. Any one who did not get a copy can obtain one from the Sexton.

Subscriptions.—The following subscriptions to the News have been received:

Miss A. S. Sherrett,	Mr. L. Barry,
Miss C. H. Darlington,	Miss E. Whelen,
M. E. Bloomer,	Miss Pemberton,
Miss W. L. Bloomer,	Mrs. J. B. Read,
Miss F. Drinker,	Rev. G. W. Hodge,
Mrs. A. Jackson,	Mrs. G. W. Hodge,
Miss F. Jackson,	Mr. Carroll Hodge,
Mr. S. Jackson,	Miss E. H. King,
Miss K. Pomeroy,	Mr. Thos. Neilson,
Mrs. M. E. Carmen,	Mr. J. H. Botwright,
Mrs. Wm. Anable,	Mrs. J. H. Botwright,
Miss E. Kerr,	Mrs. H. W. Bond,
Miss Hewson,	Miss A. W. Fosque,
Mrs. Milliken,	Miss R. C. Potts,
Mrs. S. S. Peniston,	Miss M. M. Menah,
Mrs. Dr. Butcher,	Miss Isabel Schell.

CHRISTIAN SOCIAL UNION

A meeting of the Philadelphia Branch of the Christian Social Union will be held in our Parish building, on Monday, December 14th, at 8 P. M., when the Rev. Dr. Hollond of St. Louis, who is one of the most eloquent preachers in the American Church, and who was really the inaugurator of this movement in this country, will be present and make a statement of the purposes of the Union.

Any one who is interested in the study of this most important subject of social economies is invited to be present. It is a subject which involves many difficulties and perplexities, and yet is of such vital consequence to the welfare of our Country and to the work of the Church, that we think all churchpeople ought to try and master it, and endeavor to carry out in their own lives and in the actions of those organizations or institutions, to which they belong or of which they form a part, the principles of the religion they profess.

Joining this Union commits no one to any particular theory. It is simply for study.

First Annual Report of the Kindergarten.

A Kindergarten was started last November in connection with the Church of the Ascension; the Rev. G. Woolsey Hodge, having kindly given the daily use of the Sunday School room for the purpose. The locality proved to be a suitable one, as the attendance after the first few weeks increased rapidly, making it difficult for one teacher to carry on the work.

This Kindergarten was organized with the desire of bringing the neglected children of the neighborhood under a pure and cheerful influence.

The children are taken at an age when they are most impressionable, from 3 to 7 years.

In the Kindergarten materials we have the fundamental forms of nature, presented in their simplest elements and thus from the created, the child is led naturally to the source—the Creator.

The Kindergarten means true moral and religious culture for these little ones.

Since last November upwards of seventy children have been enrolled upon the books. The largest number at any one time being thirty-five, with an average daily attendance of about twenty children.

This Kindergarten has no money

or resources apart from the voluntary subscriptions and donations of a few friends.

In order to carry on the work money is needed both for an assistant teacher's salary and for new materials.

Anyone who is willing to become an annual subscriber or to subscribe for this year only, may send their subscriptions to Miss Pauline Neidhard, 1511 Arch Street, or to Rev. G. Woolsey Hodge, 334 S. Thirteenth Street.

We are glad to acknowledge the receipt of subscriptions and donations which have been sent to us during the past year from the following subscribers: Rev. Dr. S. D. McConnell, Miss Clara Williamson, Mrs. Wm. Logan Fox, Miss Mary White, Miss Hoy, Rev. G. Woolsey Hodge, Miss M. Wurts, Miss Ella Williamson, Mrs. Chas. Neidhard, Mrs. S. Decatur Smith, Jr., Mrs. J. W. M. Newlin, Mr. Chas. A. Eckels.

ANOTHER LETTER FROM MEXICO.

As so many of our readers were interested in the letter from Mexico we published last month, we print another lately received. We think we shall have to ask Mr. Carson to become our regular correspondent.

San Luis Potosi, Mexico.
Nov. 13th, 1891.

Dear Mr. Hodge:

I received your letter four or five weeks ago, and was much pleased to hear from you. I am not living in the city proper any more, but am now "roughing it" some four or five miles out.

It is right up on the first elevation that goes to make up the mountains—the Sierra Madre—in these parts. The great valley of San Luis lies at our feet, and we can see for miles. Up to this last week, my business caused me to be in the saddle most of the time, and you can be sure, I thoroughly enjoyed it after being shut up in a Philadelphia office for four or five years.

Last week was one series of holidays; Sunday and Monday were All Saints' and All Souls' days, and nationally observed, and Wednesday was the Governor's birthday; besides, on Friday, the Governor and a party of distinguished Mexicans visited the works out here, so that day was also a holiday. On the Governor's day, I made one of a party of four, for a trip of 40 miles, to the mountains on the other side of the valley, 20 miles away. We started with the intention of visiting the famous San Pedro mine, but we were so slow in getting off, and had such a hard time finding something to eat at dinner time, that we were compelled to return, not having quite reached our destination. We will try another day and hope for better luck. From this mine, Spain received more gold than from any other in the world, save from Potosi, in Peru. In fact, from it, I believe, was taken the largest nugget of pure gold, that was ever found. So you can imagine I am interested in visiting it.

This coming Sunday, ten of us are going on a trip in a different direction.

I suppose the Roman Saints' days are celebrated in Europe about in the same manner as here, and you have some knowledge of them. All Souls' day was indeed a day for the dead, altho' of somewhat ghastly feasting. Throughout the market place, everything mostly was made to represent death. Candied skulls, skeletons, coffins, abounded all over. The real skull itself was occasionally seen. Coffins with bodies in them, were sold as toys. A string is pulled and the body springs up: I secured a cardinal in this condition.

But the celebration of the Governor's birthday, was magnificent. The great plaza had been transformed into a veritable fairy-garden.

For weeks past it had been inclosed from the public view, and one could only imagine what was going on within. But when the opening day came! Within were constructed quaint walks, extending up into the air, on artificial supports, up into the boughs of the trees; there were miniature cascades breaking over rocks; lakes, in which were swimming ducks, enjoying the freshest and cleanest water for months; bands were playing constantly soft music; mosses and flowers were everywhere. The lower class of people were excluded as they were unable to pay the admission fee. I did not know that these people here, seemingly so degraded, had so much taste. It is doubtless confined to the upper classes.

The lower people are suffering for the necessities of life almost, and that is saying a great deal.

They live entirely on corn, made into a cake, (being crushed, mixed with water and thrown on the coals) and beans. But within these last two or three years, there has been in some parts of the country, famine. Even here, in the State of San Luis, one of the most fertile in the country, corn is worth $4.50 for 30 pounds. Since I have been here, I do not believe we have had rain more than half a dozen times; and now the rainy season is past, and there can be no hope for it for the next eight or nine months at the soonest. Here at the works we have to buy water for ten cents for a small barrel.

I do not see how a human being can possibly live on less than these people. This company I am with pays the best wages in the country, almost. On its pay-roll are about 1000 names; three-fourth of these make 37½c. a day, or $2.25 a week. On this, they support families averaging eight and ten. Do you not think they have about solved the problem of living?

They are the most courteous and obliging people that can be found. I have been often invited to share with them their cold, heavy, tastless, corn cake (torpilla). On the road, if you encounter them, be he the poorest and most abject creature, it is always—"a Dios"—(be you in God's keeping).

I am enjoying my life here very much. I meet all kinds of people, from every part of the world. I appreciate the opportunities for seeing and knowing life, as I had never imagined before.

It is getting late, and besides I am tiring you. I am always glad to get news from Philadelphia, and you may be assured, not the least, to hear from you.

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6 Epiphany.
8 Friday—Fast.
10 First Sunday after Epiphany.
15 Friday—Fast.
17 Second Sunday after Epiphany.
22 Friday—Fast.
24 Third Sunday after Epiphany.
25 Conversion of S. Paul.
29 Friday—Fast.
31 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany.

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OUR CHRISTMAS.

We certainly had a very successful Christmas in our parish this year. Our music was admitted on all sides to have been the best we have ever had, probably finer than in any other church in the city. Our collection was the largest we have ever had at any time, Christmas or Easter, reaching, with some additional offerings which came afterwards, nearly $900.

Our Children's Festival was unusually successful; the attendance, both of children and adults, was larger than in former years, and the singing better, some novel features being introduced. The members of the Mother's Meeting received each a Christmas treat through the liberality of some members of the congregation, and the choir boys and men were given a special supper as a reward for their hard work in preparing for the Christmas music.

The number of communicants on Christmas day was not, we are sorry to say, quite as large as last year. There were more—which there should not have been—at the mid-day celebration, but not as many at the early ones. But this, we are sure, was largely due to the prevailing influenza, which we know has affected a great many in the congregation. The attendance both on Christmas day and the following Sunday was large, though not as large as we are sure it would have been but for the same cause. So all things considered, we have had a very successful Christmas.

Well, now can we not keep up an equal success all the time? We want to see the congregation filling up more, and the work extending. Will not each member of the parish see if they cannot contribute towards this? If each would feel a personal interest and responsibility in their church, we are sure they could. They can do it by being regular in their own attendance. Do not let little things keep you from church. As our services are now arranged, no one should have any excuse for not being at church at least once a Sunday, except in case of sickness or some other great emergency. If anything prevents your coming at the hour you usually attend, come at some other hour; and come to the weekday services as well as on Sunday. There has been a marked falling off of late in the attendance on Holy days, Wednesday evenings and at the daily service. Our people should not let their worldly occupations and interests interfere with their spiritual duties. We can't give too much attention to the latter. The beginning of a new year is a good time to make new resolutions about these things.

And then we hope our people will interest themselves in trying

to bring others to our church. Tell your friends about the church and its services. A great many people know nothing of it. Except those living in the southern part of the city, few ever pass or see it. There is nothing to bring them this way. But if they were told of it we are sure they would be attracted to it.

And we must all remember that we have a great deal yet to be done. We want to get rid of our debt, which consumes so much of our annual income in paying its interest. We ought to be able to buy the property adjoining the church, so as to extend it to South Street, to give it proper dignity and prominence. And we want very much more room in our parish building, for Bible classes, infant school, gymnasium, work rooms, etc. All of these things would extend the influence and work of the church. Who will contribute towards them? Are there not those in the congregation who, if they cannot give more to the church than they are giving now, could remember it in their wills. The great hospitals and benevolent institutions we have in our city could never have been built or maintained, had it not been for the legacies they have received. No more can our churches do the work they should do, unless they are helped in the same way. And the Church is the greatest of charities.

Let each of our members take a deep interest in their church, and we are sure they can put it in such a position that it shall always be successful.

THE NEWS.

We are very happy to say that last year(1891) for the first time in the history of our parish paper, it fully paid its own expenses. Heretofore it has been necessary at the end of each year to ask for donations to make up the deficit. Neither the editor nor the business manager claim the credit for this satisfactory condition, for no matter how well the one may write or how hard the other work, if the parishioners do not take an active interest in the welfare of the paper, it cannot suceed. While we have many subscribers, we really ought to have more. Have *you* not some friend in the parish not at present a subscriber who would become so if you asked him? Nearly all of the advertisements will have expired by March 1st, 1892, and they have all been obtained by a *very* few persons. If the paper is to succeed as well this year as last, these expiring advertisements must be replaced by new ones, as it is not fair to expect the same people to keep on year after year. This can be very easily accomplished if the effort is made. Will *you* not help? The store where you deal most, will likely give us an advertisement if application for the same is made. Be good enough to try and we will continue to have that which *very* few parishes have, viz.: a parish paper paying expenses.

Every one seems to value the paper for the information it gives about the church. If so, it should be supported by each member of the parish subscribing for a copy or obtaining an advertisement.

Record for December.

Communicants added—new	7
" " by removal	4
" died	1
" removed	6
Burials	3

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$1,258.62
" Christmas Festival and decorations (through Alms chest)	17.28
" the Poor	12.13
" the Kindergarten	7.00
" General Missions	7.10
" the Mothers' Meeting	31.00
At discretion of the Rector	10.00
Of the Sunday School	5.96
Total,	$1.349.09

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Two church calendars, a book and number of magazines for the parish library, 6½ tons of coal, a turkey, pair of chickens and quanity of clothing for the poor, candles for the altar, embroidered white silk altar bookmark, two embroidered linen corporals, 12 doz. oranges and number of articles for the Christmas tree.

THE CHRISTMAS MUSIC.—For the benefit of those who were so unfortunate as to be kept away from church on Christmas day and the Sunday following, we will say that the choir fully redeemed the promise given in our last issue, of making the music on that day the finest ever heard in the Ascension. All concerned, the choir master, the men and boys, and they who contributed the means to provide the orchestra—we don't know who they were—all deserve the utmost credit for their labor and efforts in the matter. There were forty persons in the choir, without counting the clergy, crucifer, banner bearers and acolytes. The orchestra consisted of seven instruments, and added immensely to the effect of the music. The service chosen is a most beautiful one, and was admirably rendered. The soloists did their parts well. Our special thanks are due to the extra voices who, though not regular members of the choir, sang on the occasion, and we understand volunteered their services. The only regret we have heard about the music was, that we could not have such services oftener. We shall at least look forward to another such at Easter.

THE CHANGES IN OUR CHARTER, of which we have spoken before, have now been effected, the Court having finally approved of them. So our church is legally as well as in fact a free church, we shall no longer have to have it announced that the pew rents were due, though they were for a nominal sum, and for an unappropriated seat. Nor will our annual reports show any longer, receipts for pew rents. Now for the first time, since the short lived experiment when the congregation was first formed fifty-nine years ago under the title of All Souls' Church, is the parish by its constitution a free Church, though it has at different times been conducted as a free church in spite of its pew rent charter. Nor can any subsequent Vestry hereafter ever rent pews or sittings without at least again applying to the Court and the Convention to have the charter changed. And now no longer will the power of controlling the election of the Vestry be, as it has been for the past eleven years, in the hands of a few who have taken the trouble to have themselves qualified by a special annual payment. Hereafter all the "communicant members of the parish who appear by the Vestry books to have been contributing towards the support of the church for one year" will be entitled to vote at each Vestry election. By "communicant members" is meant those whose names are on the Parish register as communicants. And by those whom "the Vestry books show to have been contributing for one year," is meant those whom the books of the Warden show as contributors for that time through the envelopes. These certainly are the persons who are most interested in, and have the best right to determine, who shall represent them on the Vestry.

BENEVOLENT ENVELOPES. — Look through the envelopes that have been sent you by the Warden and see if you have any for benevolent purposes, the poor, the schools, or missions, which you have not yet returned, and fill them up and return them before the next quarter, which begins with February, when the new envelopes are sent out. If you have attended service of a Sunday morning and put your regular envelope in the offertory, it is a very good plan to use one of these envelopes of an afternoon or evening if you are in church, or on the morning of some holy day when there is a collection, it will give you something to put in the plate.

HISTORICAL SERMON.—The subject for the fourth of the course of sermons on the history of the Church, which will be delivered on the evening of the third Sunday of this month will be "The General Councils."

S. ANDREW'S BROTHERHOOD.—Owing to the removal of several of the members of the Chapter of S. Andrew's Brotherhood from our parish, its numbers have been seriously reduced of late, and we need some more young men to take their places. Are there not young men in the congregation who would be glad to serve the church in this organization? Their duties would be, not only to try to bring men outside of the parish to the church, but to act as ushers, especially at the Sunday evening service, distribute the leaflets, take up the collections, &c. As we have so many services on Sunday we cannot expect our Vestrymen to do this at all of the services, so this duty at the Sunday night service has been put upon the members of the Brotherhood. But we need more members in it. The regular meetings of the Chapter are on the second Thursday of each month, when new members can be always admitted.

CONFIRMATION.—The Bishop of the Diocese has appointed the evening of April 7th, to administer Confirmation in this parish. We trust that all in the parish who are old enough to receive it, and have not yet been confirmed, will present themselves at that time. A course of instructions preparatory to confirmation will be begun next month, of which due notice will be given. And it is of great importance that those intending to be confirmed should attend *all* of the instructions.

THINGS LEFT IN THE CHURCH.—The sexton has quite a collection of articles which have been left from time to time in our church, which he will be happy to return to their owners upon identification.

LIST OF COMMUNICANTS.—It is very difficult for the Rector to keep his list of communicants correct, as there are many persons attending the church, and making their Communions here regularly who never give him their names. And others move away without taking letters, as they should, to other parishes. The members reported from month to month as removed are often of those who, having removed without informing the Rector where they have gone, or having ceased to make their Communions at all, he has felt obliged to drop from the list. From this neglect on the part of cummunicants many cease to have any parochial connection whatever. Every church-member should be careful to see that he is always registered in some parish.

SUBSCRIPTIONS—The following subscriptions to the NEWS have been received:

Mrs. Henry Lehman, Mr. C. L. S. Tingley,
Dr. Thos. R. Neilson, Miss Zantzinger,
Miss M. H. White, Mr. F. S. Keese,
Mr. John Barton, Miss F. L. Carter,
Miss H. Dickerson, Mr. Chas. A. Nicholson
Mr. Robt. Armstrong, Mrs. Chas. A. Nicholson
Mr. J. B. Haslett, Miss M. G. Harper,
Mr. C. J. Yost, Miss M. W. Harper,
Mr. M. F. Roberts, Miss Sarah Vogdes,
Mrs. C. Tingley, Miss Wurts,
Miss Colley, Mr. W. M. Newnam,
Mrs. H. G. Gray, Mr. O. S. Glisson.
Miss Parmelee,

Attention is again called to the fact that it would greatly simplify matters if people would *promptly* renew their subscriptions after being notified of the expiration of same. It is sometimes necessary to send five or six notifications before a renewal is secured. Of the 44 expirations in December less than 20 have renewed; nearly, if not all, will renew, they simply forget the matter. Please bear this in mind. And as it is difficult to send fifty cents by mail to the business manager, hand it to him when you see him in church, or hand it to the Sexton to give him, or put it in an envelope with your name and address marked for the ASCENSION NEWS, and drop it in one of the alms boxes in the vestibule.

A Vision of the Hereafter.

"I had a dream, which was not all a dream"—
Methought I stood beside a placid stream
Whose farther shore was hidden from mine eyes
By murky clouds, and mists which seemed to rise
From off the water, on whose glassy face
A countless fleet of vessels I could trace,
Each laden with a ransom'd sinner's soul,
Which onward pressed towards a shining goal.
Each craft, though guided by an unseen Hand,
Around was compass'd by an angel band,
Whose dulcet voices blended in that hymn
Continually sung by cherubim
And seraphim, around the great white Throne,
"Thrice Holy, glory be to God alone."

And as each wand'rer stepped upon the shore,
I saw that all upon their foreheads bore
The sacred sign of our Redemption, there
Imprinted by God's earthly messenger,
And o'er each one a spotless robe was thrown—
Christ's Righteousness it's name, for He alone
By His Atonement for all earthly sin
Had granted them the boon to enter in
The blessed, holy, heav'nly City's gate,
Upon whose threshold *we* all seemed to wait;
For glancing downward, I, poor worm, perceived
That I the snow-white raiment had received.

The City's walls, with precious stones inlaid,
Arose before us; and each gate was made
Of but a single pearl. These open stood;
No guardian there, for nothing could intrude
That savored aught of sin, or evil deed.
The way was straight, and it did onward lead
Unto the glorious center, where the Throne
Of the Divinity in splendor shone.
There Patriarchs and Prophets, side by side,
With the Apostolic college were allied;
The Martyrs' noble army, matron, maid,
Confessors all for Jesu's Name, arrayed
In garments whitened by the precious stream
On Calvary shed—which did their souls redeem.

A song was raised, the music soft at first
Then grandly swelled, and in full harm'ny burst;
Ten thousand times ten thousand tongues intone
The wond'rous strain before the Almighty's Throne,
No organ there, to lead the tuneful throng,
As onward rolled the great, majestic song;
But strings of golden harps the harpers wrought,
And their sweet notes unto the chorus brought.
"*Hosanna in Excelsis*"—this the cry
Which swept around the Throne of God most High!
Anon the loud "*Amen*" was thund'red out,
And voices from afar took up the shout:
While echoes from the distant realms of light
Repeated "*Alleluia.*"

Here my sight
Grew dim: The music ceased, and some one spoke,
I hearkened to his words, and then awoke.

[*Contributed*] *H. A. de France.*

Items of Interest.

Envelopes were first made in 1839.

The first air pump was made in 1654.

The first steel pen was made in 1830.

Anæsthesia was first discovered in 1844.

The first balloon assent was made in 1853.

The first lucifer match was made in 1829.

Outline History of the Catholic Church.

[We cull the following from the neat little Manual of Trinity Church, Michigan City, Ind., drawn up by the Rev. H. Baldwin Dean.]

There is in the world one true, holy, Catholic (or universal) Church which was founded by Jesus Christ, the Divine Son of God, and completed by His Apostles under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost. This Catholic Church, its teachings, its Sacraments, and its worship, are the means of salvation for mankind.

The Church is a Divine institution with a human mission—not a human institution with a Divine mission. An organization for dispensing Christianity; and not an organization for the attainment of Christianity.

A corporation of believers; not a company of believers.

The kingdom of Heaven seeking men on earth; not a society on earth seeking the kingdom of Heaven.

This Church with its Apostolic ministry, faith, sacraments, and form of worship, was planted in every country of the then known world before the end of the first century.

This Church was planted in England as early as the days of the Apostles, or their immediate successors, (three British Bishops sat in the Council of Arles, A.D. 314), and it has had a continuous historic existence in that country to the present day. This is the Anglican branch of the Catholic Church.

The Church of England was planted in this country two hundred and eighty years ago; and when the United States became independent of the mother country it was made a separate national branch of the Anglo-Catholic Church and given the name of Protestant Episcopal.

It is the only Church in this country which has kept the Apostolic form of government by the three orders of the ministry—Bishops, Priests and Deacons; has kept the faith of the Apostles unchanged; has kept itself free from, and protesting against the errors of doctrine and polity into which other bodies of Christians have fallen; and has retained the forms of the Apostolic Church.

The legal name of the body in this country is the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, but the true historic name is The Church in the United States.—*Diocese of Arkansas.*

The crosses which we make for ourselves by over anxiety as to the future are not heaven sent crosses.

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The Ascension News.

VOL. V. PHILADELPHIA, PA., FEBRUARY, 1892. No. 2

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.
251 S. 17th St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
GEO. H. HAVERSTICK.

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2029 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon, 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:

Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8.00 P. M.

THURSDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 A. M.

DAILY: Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR—FEBRUARY.

2 Purification B. V. M.
5 Friday—Fast.
7 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany.
12 Friday—Fast.
14 Septuagesima.
19 Friday—Fast.
21 Sexagesima.
24 S. Matthias.
26 Friday—Fast.
28 Quinquagesima.

GUILD MEETINGS.

1 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
9 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
11 8 P. M., Meeting of S. Andrew's Brotherhood.
16 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Teachers' Meeting, Wednesdays, 7.00 P. M.
Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3.00 P. M.
Mothers' Meeting, Fridays, 8.00 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. H. W. Montgomery.
Librarians, Mr. Carroll Hodge,
Mr. Stuart Jackson.
Mr. Robert B. Lewis.

BIBLE CLASSES.

Sundays, 3.00 P. M.

For Young Men, Mr. ————
For Women, Mrs. Hodge.
For Girls, Mrs. Carpenter.

BIBLE AND QUESTION CLASS.

Fridays, 8 P. M.—The Rector.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10 A. M.

KINDERGARTEN.

Daily, except Saturdays, from 9 A. M. to noon.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, 112 South Fourth Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

THE FREE CHURCH SYSTEM.

We are very anxious that every one belonging to this parish should understand exactly what is meant by a free church, and should be interested in the extension of that system.

A free church is not one in which the attendants are not expected to give anything for its support, but one in which all the seats are free and people are expected to give, not in proportion to the advantage of the seat which is secured to them, but in proportion to their ability. The custom of selling and renting seats in churches, arose in this country from its being a convenient method of securing a revenue for churches which had no endowment. And at first when the community was small, and today in small places where every one is known and can be provided with a seat, it is not so objectionable, though we think it is never edifying or well to have people graded in the church according to their wealth. But now that our cities have become so large, and there is such a variety of classes of people, that system has become most harmful, and is actually the means of alienating multitudes of persons from the church. We have come to have class churches, that is, churches in which the pew rent is so high that no poor person, or persons in moderate circumstances can afford to attend them, and no single person, unless he takes a whole pew to himself, can go to them. And then we have poor, mean, unattractive churches, where persons who can't afford anything better are expected to go. And the numbers of young men and women and persons living in boarding houses, the floating population of our large cities, who do not stay long enough in one locality to make it worth their while to take a pew or sitting, get out of the way of going to church at all because they feel, and most naturally and properly, uncomfortable in going to a church where the pews are rented. And so it is with that still larger class who do not care sufficiently for religion to be willing to stipulate beforehand that they will give a prescribed sum for its support, and yet who, if our best churches were thrown open to them freely, would go to them, and be benefitted, and perhaps saved from openly sinful or irreligious lives.

For that reason we believe as a matter of principle that all our churches should be free, that is, that no charge should be made for attending them, or anything done to make any one feel that he has no right to, or is not welcome there. Of course, churches have to be supported, they cannot be carried on without money. But if you welcome all people to them, and get them there and interest them, then you can teach them to give freely and generously according to their means for their support, and you can adopt any system to secure regular and systematic offerings that does not interfere with the freedom of the seats.

So we want all attending this church to understand that this is not a church in which you are not expected to give anything for its support, nor is it simply a mission for the poor, or for those who can't afford to go elsewhere. What we want to do here is to build up a church which shall be second to none in the city in its attractiveness, and to prove that churches can be just as well supported, and do vastly better work on the free church principle than on any other, and so do what we can towards breaking down the pew system altogether. We want to banish it from the church because we believe it is a great hindrance to the growth of the church, the great cause of the alienation of the masses. Already two-thirds of our churches in this country are free. But we want to see them all free, and we are sure the church cannot do its full work until they are.

There is an association existing for this purpose, called the Free and Open Church Association, and we should be glad if all the members of this congregation would join it. The annual dues are $1 a year, and any one who will hand his name and that amount to the Rector for the purpose, he will see that he receives his certificate of membership. The association carries on its work throughout the whole country by disseminating papers, holding meetings, etc., to create a public sentiment in favor of this system. Thus as members of that association, and by trying to build up our own church, let us do all we can to promote this great cause of making all the Houses of God in the land free to all people.

Record for January.

Communicants added	7
" removed	3
Burials	1

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$ 422.28
" the Poor	10.58
" General Missions	4.80
" Diocesan "	1.20
" Sunday and Industrial School	2.95
" Church Building	1.00
" the Kindergarten	5.00
" the Ascension News	15.25
Of the Sunday School	7.17
Total,	$ 470.23

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—A large wooden cross, a linen alb, photograph of the Rev. Samuel Cox, D. D., Dean of the Cathedral at Garden City, Long Island, sometime Rector of this church. A linen corporal, chalice pall, purificator and maniple were made and embroidered for a missionary station in the west. Five barrels of holly were sent to the church before Christmas and should have been acknowledged in our last number. The holly was unusually good and added very much to our Christmas decorations.

FATHER HUNTINGTON, of New York, will address the Christian Social Union in our parish building on Tuesday, February 9th, at 3 P. M. The public generally are invited to be present.

The Rev. W. D. Bliss, of Boston,

will also preach in our church on the same subject on Sunday morning, March 6th.

CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTIONS.—Beginning with Friday evening, February 19th, the Rector's Bible and Question Class will be made a class of instruction for confirmation. The Rector trusts that all in the parish who are of sufficient age and have not yet been confirmed will give him their names for presentation this year, and that they will be careful to attend all the instructions that are given preparatory to it, that thus they may come to it intelligently and devoutly.

THE HISTORICAL SERMON this month will be preached on the evening of February 14th. The subject being "Monasticism."

AN ENTERTAINMENT will be given by St. Mary's Guild in the parish building, Tuesday, February 23rd, 1892, under the direction of Miss M. J. Jackson. The programme will consist of music and calisthenics, some features of which will be a fan, tambourine, scarf and tennis drill, and a play entitled "Mrs. Willis' Will." As the proceeds are for the benefit of the church it is sincerely hoped that every one will try and be present. Tickets 25 cents, reserved seats 50 cents, which can be procured from any member of the guild, or from the sexton.

BENEVOLENT CONTRIBUTIONS.—Since May 1st, 1891, the following special envelopes have been returned: for the poor 30, support of the schools 30, general missions 35; thus out of 150 envelopes sent out during the year for each of the above objects, only about 30 of each have been returned. Those receiving the others have given nothing to these objects. Is this right? If every member of the congregation would give something, even though it is a small amount, to each of the benevolent purposes for which they are called on, it would give us enough to carry on our work, and make a fair contribution for the purposes outside our parish. Do not refuse to give anything because you can't give a great deal.

DIOCESAN MISSIONS—The special benevolent envelopes this quarter are for diocesan missions. For this purpose we need $133.29. The parish being assessed $100 by the Convocation for the missionary work of the diocese, and $33.29 by the stewards of the Sustentation fund for the support of feeble parishes. These are canonical requirements. The diocese expecting this parish to contribute this amount towards its general work. Shall we not fulfill these obligations? Apart from the motive of charity which should be sufficient to make our people give to these purposes, it certainly looks very bad for a parish to spend all it has on itself and not give anything towards the work of the church at large. People will say it is the fault of the free church system.

OUR OLD ALTAR.—Our people will be interested in learning what has become of the altar we had in the old church. It was first erected, we believe, when the church was improved under Dr. Ogilby in 1847, and was used until the church was sold in 1885. It was then presented to the Church of the Good Shepherd, Kensington, where it stood until the erection of their new building which was completed last spring. It was then sent to a church in Monrovia, Liberia in Africa, where it is much prized. It had to be carried a long distance on the backs of natives to its destination, no other mode of transportation being available. Thus on another continent it still serves its sacred purpose. If any one will give us a handsomer altar than the one we have now, we will gladly transport it to as great a distance.

OUR ANNUAL MISSIONARY BOX is at last under way. Miss Hewson has kindly consented to make the the collections for it, and Mrs. Gilpin to superintend its being made up. Work is being cut out for it, and pieces may be obtained any Wednesday after morning or evening prayer. The work can be taken home. The box is to be sent to a clergyman in the west.

THE SUNDAY MORNING COLLECTION—A change in regard to the Sunday morning collection will be made this month. Heretofore, since we have been having the two services on Sunday morning, we have been having two collections, one for each service. But, as a majority of the people remain through both the services, it has been objected that this was practically having two collections in the same service, and that many persons felt awkard if they did not contribute each time and others did not understand it. To obviate this it has been determined to have hereafter only one collection, which will be made during the singing of a hymn immediately after the sermon. The alms however, will not be presented until the proper place in the service. And during the presentation and the preparation of the chalice and first oblation of the elements, instead of the hymn which was formerly sung there will be substituted the short anthem "Benedictus que venit," "Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord, Hosanna in the Highest", which always occured in the ancient office, and music for which is provided in all the communion services we sing. And in order to obviate the singing of two hymns, one after the other, instead of singing a hymn, as formerly for the introit, the ancient Psalms, appointed in the first English prayer book of King Edward VI. will be used. This arrangement will improve our service both liturgically and musically and at the same time will do away with passing the plate round twice to the same people.

ALTAR LINEN—The Rector has lately had applications for sets of altar linen for churches in the South and West. Are there not some of our ladies who would like to be constantly making up sets of such linen to give away? It would afford them a pleasant handiwork and at the same time be a great charity. Any member of our Altar Committee would give directions as to sizes etc.

OLD CLOTHING.—The Rector made an appeal a few Sundays ago which we trust the members of the congregation will bear in mind. That was for old clothing, especially children's clothing, even old shoes and pieces of stuff that could be torn up for carpet rags. The ladies in charge of the benevolent work can use anything of this kind that is sent to the church. We have frequently cases of children who cannot attend Sunday School, because they have not the shoes nor clothes to come in. And in large families in narrow circumstances clothing of this description is most acceptable, and in order not to pauperize those who receive it, the committee having its distribution in charge have adopted the plan, not of giving it away, but of selling it at low figures. Persons having bundles to send to the church at any time can inform the sexton and he will call for them.

NIGHT SCHOOL.—Some of the members of S. Andrew's Brotherhood propose starting with this month, a night school to be held every Thursday evening, for the

purpose of teaching boys over ten years of age, writing, arithmetic, book-keeping, athletics, &c. A penny savings bank will also be be started in connection with it.

SPECIAL SERMONS.—It is proposed to have a series of sermons under the auspices of S. Andrew's Brotherhood, on one Sunday evening of each month, by a special preacher. The first will be preached on the last Sunday evening of this month. The name of the preacher will be announced later.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions to the NEWS have been received:

Mr. Jas. Lescure,	Mrs. R. H. Larzelere,
Miss Barrington,	Mr. G. H. Haverstick,
Mrs. T. H. Helsby,	Mr. J. W. Price, Jr.,
Miss A.H.Chamberlain	Mrs. F. A. Lucas,
Mr. D. Rea,	Mrs. H. C. Pollock,
Miss M. C. Smith,	Mrs. Chas. L. Leiper,
Mr. C. W. Smith,	Miss M. S. Jansen,
Mrs. H. Connelly,	Miss M. Gilpin,
Miss E. L. Stokes,	Mrs. Jno. Minshall,
Mrs. C. Thwaites,	Miss A. Macartney,
Mrs. J. E. Carpenter,	Miss R. McElhinney,
Mrs. W. H. Webb,	Miss M. McElhinney,
Mr. F. R. Stevenson,	Mr. Wm. H. Cope,
	Mrs. Wm. H. Cope,

Subscriptions due and *unpaid* 27.

Quiet Day and Conference.

A quiet day for women will be held on the second Thursday in Lent, March 10th, 1892, in the Church of the Holy Trinity, 19th and Walnut Sts, Philadelphia, to be conducted by Rt. Rev. Cortlandt Whitehead, S.T.D. Services from 9.30 A. M. to 1 P. M., and from 2.30 to 5 P. M.

A Conference of Church Women, will be held in the lecture room of the Church of the Holy Trinity, on the second Friday in Lent, March 11th.

Morning session from 10 A. M. to 12.30 P. M. Topics—1. Clubs for Working Girls. 2. The responsibility of Christian Women in Social Life.

Afternoon session at 2.30 o'clock: A Woman's Responsibility in regard to Missionary Work.

From our Mexican Correspondent.

San Luis Potosi, Mexico
January 10th, 1892.

Mr. Editor:

If any words of mine can add to the interest of the readers of the ASCENSION NEWS, they will be most cheerfully given.

But I will promise to endeavor not to weary them, nor yet to exclude subjects of more importance and interest than that of Mexico.

Perhaps, to most of your readers in the staid and goodly old city of Philadelphia, this country appeals chiefly as the land of the Aztecs, the Montezumas; as the scene of the wonderful exploits of Cortez and his band of adventurers; and later, as the haunt of bandits and revolutionists, and the home of a race, teacherous and barbarous. It certainly has had a wonderful history, and is but now emerging from the obscurity of past ages, and taking its place among the civilized nations of the earth.

Races of people, now entirely unknown as to whence they came or whither they have gone, once wandered over these cactus covered hills. Buried treasures are continually being found showing traces of a civilization comparing favorably with that of ancient Grecian and Roman cities. Perhaps the people may yet be found in some remote and inaccessible parts of the mountains. Adventurers bring us strange stories.

However, it is not of the past history, nor the promises of the future that I would write. The

pen of the historian and antiquarian would be more interesting than mine, and smoother phrases and more glittering promises will the speculator and "boomer" give you.

But, to give a glimpse of the every-day life of these people, is all I desire, and as much as you wish.

Man is about the same the world over. One may be a little less civilized than his brother, and also, somewhat dirtier. The Mexican (I am writing of the typical native) is the living proof of both these assertions. The large cities have, of course, their modern laws, but one has but to go a few kilometres away from the city limits, and the native will be found in all his primitive and untrammeled glory.

On the maps of Mexico numerous rivers are represented, and one would naturally suppose that the country was plentifully supplied with water. Did the curious seek to trace one of these rivers, in *reality*, he would find the river-*bed*, but the *river* as known to our northern minds, would be lacking. Except during certain periods of the year, and these periods rather uncertain, there is very little rain. On the outskirts of every city and running into the cities, are always to be found a number of narrow ditches, containing generally six or eight inches of water. These ditches are the laundry and bath-houses. Every day in the week, Saturday, chiefly, may be seen the *lavenderas* (wash women) bending low over the waters seeming to bring certain destruction to the clothes, for her wash-board is a stone, and the soap, often, a certain root. (It may not be necessary for me to say, that the subjects of these operations belong almost always to some one else than the operator). The clothes are spread out on the cactus to dry, and at the close of the day are packed in large baskets and carried deftly on the head, while on the back is strapped oftimes a baby. All is not work, however, for the tongue of the lavendera is very loose. Here is a portion of their salutation, repeated, in *unison*.

Buenos dias, senora; como pasa usted la noche? Muy bien, mil gracias. Me alegra, mucho.

("Good morning, lady, how did you pass the night?" "Very well, a thousand thanks." "I am very glad to know it.")

The variations to this part are very few, but then comes the inquiries after all the family, best wishes for the day, etc., etc. It must be remembered that question and answer are repeated at the *same time*.

To be continued.

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The Ascension News.

VOL. V. PHILADELPHIA, PA., MARCH, 1892. No. 3

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

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REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.
251 S. 17th St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
GEO. H. HAVERSTICK.

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2029 Evergreen St.

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Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon, 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:

Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8.00 P. M.

THURSDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 A. M.

DAILY: Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR—MARCH.

2 Ash Wednesday.
6 First Sunday in Lent.
13 Second Sunday in Lent.
20 Third Sunday in Lent.
25 Annunciation B. V. M.
27 Fourth Sunday in Lent.

All days in Lent except Sundays are Fasts.

GUILD MEETINGS.

1 8 P. M., Meeting of Brotherhood S. Andrew.
7 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
8 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
22 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Teachers' Meeting, Wednesdays, 7.00 P. M.
Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3.00 P. M.
Mothers' Meeting, Fridays, 7.30 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. H. W. Montgomery.
Librarians, Mr. Carroll Hodge,
Mr. Stuart Jackson.
Mr. Robert B. Lewis.

BIBLE CLASSES.

Sundays, 3.00 P. M.

For Young Men, Mr. Lloyd.
For Women, Mrs. Hodge.
For Girls, Mrs. Carpenter.

CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTIONS.

Fridays, 8 P. M.—The Rector.

ASCENSION POLYTECHNIC.

Thursdays, 7.30 P. M.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10 A. M.

KINDERGARTEN.

Daily, except Saturdays, from 9 A. M. to noon.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, 112 South Fourth Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

ASCENSION POLYTECHNIC

Some of the members of the Chapter of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew of our parish have undertaken lately a new agency for reaching and benefitting the boys of our parish and neighborhood. It has been called the Ascension Polytechnic.

It opened on Thursday evening, the 4th of February, with a membership of 53. At the second meeting there were 72 present, at the third 80, at the fourth 116, making a total attendance for the month of 321 boys.

The Polytechnic is open every Thursday evening from half past seven until half past nine.

The object of the institution is to combine work with pleasure. The first half hour being devoted to an entertainment of some kind, or an enteresting talk. After that the boys go into different class rooms where they are taught, book-keeping, penmanship, short hand, arithmetic, free hand drawing, etc. So far we have been very successful, having classes in five branches in good running order.

Each boy is supplied with a card certifying that he is a member, which he is required to present at the door. The only qualifications for membership being that he is above ten years of age, and that he will agree to conform with the rules.

There is also a saving fund connected with it, in which any amount from one cent up may be deposited, receiving interest at four per cent. So far it has a membership of 20, any member of the Sunday School or the Polytechnic may become a depositor. We hope that the parents will encourage their children to join the saving fund, for it will instil habits that will never be regretted, and we offer unusual advantages for saving, as we do not ask for any specified amount, as is asked by nearly all, if not all, the institutions of like character. And besides we give a higher rate of interest. Any one wishing to inquire further into the matter can refer to Mr. J. Lardner Howell, Treasurer.

In addition to this we have an employment agency in which any boy wishing a situation, registers himself. In connection with this, we wish to ask a favor of the members of the parish, and that is, if any time they may need or know of any one needing an errand boy, office boy, or even a clerk, that they will come to us. We inquire fully into the character, habits, etc., of the boys, and would not recommend any one of whom we did not have a personal knowledge.

Such is a brief outline of the plan and purpose of this undertaking. In order to insure its success we need in the first place more teachers, who will be willing to give their time and interest to it, and in the second place, money or materials which are needed to carry it on. We shall be glad to receive donations of writing paper, pencils, penholders, rubbers, etc., and hope that some will be sent to us. any packages left at the church will reach us by marking them "for the Polytechnic." Mr. H. W. Montgomery, the Superintendent, will be glad to give any further information in regard to the general workings, etc. of the school, to any one who may be interested.

LENT.

With the beginning of this month we enter upon the holy season of Lent. We trust it will be a new call to the members of our parish to renewed devotion and activity. We think there is room for improvement among our members in both these respects. The attendance of our people at church both on Sundays and weekdays is not what it should be. We have enough people now belonging to the parish, together with the strangers who come, of whom we have so many, to make the church crowded at the principal Sunday services if all came, and to give a good attendance at all weekday services. Let all resolve with the beginning of this Lent to do their duty in this respect. We see so much slackness of living resulting from neglect of church attendance that we cannot insist to strongly on its necessity.

Then, too, we do not see the readiness to engage in church work that there ought to be. We have here a wide field, ripe for harvest, but we have not the laborers to work in it. Classes in our weekday and Sunday School might be multiplied almost indefinitely if there were Christian men and women who were willing to become faithful and conscientious teachers. Can our people sit still and feel that this work could be done, and ought to be done, and make no attempt to do it? Let each one ask this Lent: am I doing all I should and could do in the Master's vineyard? And may the Holy Spirit stir up many hearts plentiously to bring forth the fruit of good works to the praise and honor of God's Holy Name.

Record for February.

Baptisms	1
Communicants added	
" " by removal	3
" removed	3
Burials	1

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$ 323.49
" Church Debt	100.00
" the Poor	4.50
" Diocesan Missions	5.45
" General "	8.85
" the Russian Sufferers	2.00
" the support of the Schools	35
" the Missionary Box	81.50
Of the Sunday School	4.52
Total,	$ 530.66

Proceeds of entertainment by S. Mary's Guild after paying all expenses . . $63.52

PARISH NOTES.

S. Mary's Guild Entertainment on Feb. 23rd, proved a most enjoyable occasion. The members of the Guild, the ladies in charge, and especially Miss M. J. Jackson who so kindly volunteered her services to train those who were to take

part in it, worked very hard for many weeks previous to prepare for it. Considerable expense was incurred in erecting a special stage providing costumes, calcium lights, etc., all of which conduced to producing a great success. Our schoolroom was filled to its utmost capacity and more tickets could have been sold had there been more space. The entertainment consisted of a tambourine drill and a scarf drill by some twelve of the younger girls of the Sunday School; a tennis drill by sixteen young ladies not belonging to our parish, who most kindly contributed their services; a fan drill by twelve members of S. Mary's Guild, dressed in most becoming and effective Japanese costumes; together with some vocal music by a boy and three little girls, and a violin solo, all of which were very good. This was followed by a play in one act in which four of S. Mary's girls took part, and which was most admirably rendered. We had no idea the Guild possessed such dramatic talent. Altogether a great deal was given for the money paid, and a most agreeable evening's entertainment provided, and quite a little sum of money was netted for the church, for which it returns its thanks to the Guild.

BROTHERHOOD OF S. ANDREW—The monthly meeting of our chapter of the Brotherhood has been changed to the first Tuesday of the month instead of the second Thursday as heretofore on account of the night school which is held every Thursday. But in addition to the monthly meeting the members are asked to come every Thursday and assist in this school, and a short meeting will be held each week after it to consult about work.

SPECIAL SERMONS.—The Rev. W. D. Bliss, of Boston, who has been commissioned to present the objects of the Christian Social Union in different parts of the country, will preach in our church on Sunday morning, March 6th, on this subject. He will also address the members of the Union at their regular meeting on Tuesday afternoon, March 8th, at 3 o'clock in our parish building. Anyone interested in the subject is invited to be present.

The course of sermons arranged by our Chapter of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew, which was so ably inaugurated by the Rev. Dr. Mortimer last Sunday evening, will be continued this month by the Rev. Dr. Stone, Rector of Grace Church, on the evening of March 27th.

The next sermon by the Rector in his historical course will be preached, Sunday evening, March 13, the subject being "The Conversion of the Barbarians."

As in former years, there will be a short lecture after evening prayers every Friday during Lent at 5 P. M.

ADDRESS TO MEN.—Mr. G. Harry Davis, President of the Local Council of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew, will deliver an address to men in the Guild room of our parish building, on the evening of Tuesday, April 5th. We hope all the men of the parish will be present.

CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTIONS are being given by the Rector every Friday evening in the Guild room, and all in the parish not yet confirmed are *earnestly* invited to attend them.

QUIET DAY FOR WOMEN—We would remind the female members of our parish of the notice we gave in our last issue of a Quiet Day for Women to be conducted by the Bishop of Pittsburgh in the Church of the Holy Trinity, 19th and Walnut Sts., on March 10th, from 9.30 A. M. to 5.00 P. M. Also of a Conference to be held in the lecture room of the same church on the following day, March 11th, sessions beginning at 10.00 A. M. and 2.30 P. M. We trust as many of the women of our parish as can do so, will attend these meetings.

S. JOHN'S GUILD GAMES.—The members of St. John's Guild may congratulate themselves on the success of their first public display of athletics on the evening of Washington's Birthday. Three silver medals were given for a high jump, fifteen yards dash and a wrestling match. The members of the Guild who distinguished themselves in these were David McCracken, Reynolds Clarke and Jas. Honnen. A trophy, in the form of two-handled silver cup, for the best team at a "Tug-of-War", was won by the members of the Guild of St. Luke's Church. This trophy will remain as an object of competition by the athletes of the various Church Guilds in the city until won three times by the same Guild, when it becomes absolutely the property of that Guild. A large audience, which filled every available part of our hall, showed their interest in the sports by loud and frequent applause.

DIOCESAN MISSIONS—The special envelopes sent out at the beginning of the present quarter for this purpose have been coming in very slowly; and yet this parish is expected to give $133.29 for this object before May 1st. Our people must understand that the purpose of these offerings is to support missions in the poor and degraded neighborhoods in our city, where the offices of religion are so much needed, and in the poorer country portions of our diocese.

While contributing to carry the Gospel to a distance, we must not forget those at our doors who need its influences. Lent is a good time to contribute to these charities, and those who have recently contributed to the missionary box, must not think that that excuses them from giving to any other missionary purpose. That was a special work of the women of the parish. The missionary contributions through the envelopes go to sustain the regular work of the church, in which this parish is expected to bear its share.

BAPTISMS.—We have had very few baptisms in the church of late. By the rubrics of the prayer book the clergy are directed to "often admonish the people that they defer not the baptism of their children longer than the first or second Sunday next after their birth, or other Holy Day falling between, unless upon a great and reasonable cause." This being the direction of the church what are we to think of those people who deliberately let their children go months and even years unbaptised? If there are any such in the parish now we trust they will heed this admonition, and bring their children to Holy Baptism without delay.

THE MISSIONARY BOX.—The ladies in charge of the missionary box having collected for the purpose over $80, the necessary materials, etc., for it were purchased, the work cut out and made up, and the box sent off to its distination. In fact two boxes were sent, one to a clergyman in North Dakota, and the other to his wife who is in Canada with a child who is there at school. The first box was valued at $50, and the second at $75.

Any ladies who would like to assist in sewing for another box which is to be sent to a school for

Freedmen children in the South, are invited to meet with the members of the Ladies' Aid on Thursday afternoons during Lent at 3.00 o'clock, and make up garments for it. We don't know whether our people are aware that these church schools are the only schools that are provided for the Freedmen in many of the Southern States, and there is great destitution among those who attend them.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions to the NEWS have been received:

Mrs. Wm. Waterall,	Mrs. M. L. Volmer,
Mrs. S. Hiller,	Mrs. J. P. Eyre,
Mrs. Thos. B. Allen,	Miss McCauly,
Mr. John W. Strong,	Miss Wagner,
Mrs. M. M. Brown,	Mrs. J. M. Wirgman,
Miss Annie Neely,	Mrs. John Alexander,
Mr. Rymer,	Mrs. John G. Johnson,
Miss F. E. Smith,	Mr. Jas. M. Sayres,

From our Mexican Correspondent.

(*Continuation.*)

In one of Janvier's stories of this country are the following lines, "and as a dead burro is a thing almost unknown, the people came from miles around to look at his little fuzzy corpse, and stroked, almost tenderly, his long ears out of which the wag had gone forever."

To any one acquainted with the burro (the Rocky-mountain canary bird, as he is known in the West) it will appeal as a striking picture. There is no friend so faithful to these Mexicans, as this same shaggy burro. Who else has seen the household changes of the succeeding generations, father, son and baby? Hungry, but never complaining; beaten and cuffed, and he is as the most contented house-pet. Put in the fields among the cactus, hobbled, he jumps from blade of grass to blade of grass; a thorny piece of of cactus over an eye, and another over his mouth. He looks contentedly at the landscape, and muses—upon what? In course of time, perchance, the cactus dies and drops off; then does he complete his meal off the scanty grass.

Harness is an invention entirely needless in his case. To make him go forward, one has but to put a hand under his jaw, and with another, catch hold an ear, and shout "burro, arrah, burro." Do you want him to stop, catch hold his tail. To turn, hit him on the face; and so he goes whithersoever you will. It must not be forgotten to accompany all manipulations with "burro, arrah," and also sundry whistles.

As I have written of the burro, so must I also say a word for that other product of this soil, the cactus. It is a prolific family, 999 in all I am told. Were there nothing else to subsist upon, I am sure the Mexican could live and enjoy life upon this.

From it he gets his drink, food, clothes, medicines and all necessities. Is he injured, or his burro, or a friend, "un poco de maguey esta' muy buena" (a little maguey is very good) and straight-way to the door of his jacal does he go, and secures the certain "specific." Is the house-wife in need of a needle and thread, (a very rare occasion), she turns to the plant at her elbow, securely grasps the thorn at the and, giving it a turn or two around a stick to assist her hold, a pull, end out comes needle and thread combined. From the cactus is secured the great national drink, pulque. The root of it is also used as a "dulce" (a sweet). It is cooked in sugar and *mescal* (a native whiskey) and sold around the streets. Multitudinous are the uses of the plant, few of which I know, but it is safe to say, it answers the Mexican's every want.

A few days before Christmas, I was approached by a Mexican having a sentence written in Spanish and which he desired to have translated into English.

This was the translation, "according to the custom of the Americans, I come to ask you for my Christmas (present)."

Perhaps I did wrong in not endeavoring to explain away his idea of the "custom of the Americans," but I left him in his ignorance. Some victim, probably thanks me for not doing so.

Pilgrimages seem to many of us, simply as acts of the middle ages, or at least some other century than ours. Here, they are of frequent occurence, and the traveler often encounters the pilgrims back on the dusty roads of the country, wearily trudging on to their mecca.

Not far from where I write, there is a church called the Church of the Desert. It is well named. From almost all sides it is inaccessible, but to the initiated there is a narrow trail that leads to it. Not long ago I visited it. Once across the moats that surround it, one is confronted with a most unearthly stillness, broken suddenly by a "caw, caw," from the towers. A sacristan is at the door, and for a fee, will show the visitor the building, the chapels and towers. He says there are no plate nor vestments, for they are all gone. Going out once more into the sun-light, most mournful wails came upon the ear. Putting my horse in position, I awaited. Soon, around a spur of the mountain, came a most motley throng, fully 250 women.

At the head of the procession, trudged a stout old bare-footed Indian woman, a white rag wrapped around her head, and from it protruding four sticks. After her, came four "choristers" in a line leading the singing. Then the others, two by two, barefooted, carrying stout canes, eyes steadfastly on the ground and screaming, screeching, singing the same wierd shout over and over again. On the backs of all, of children as well as the women, were strapped heavy loads of provisions and offerings for the Saint whom they were visiting, and in whose presence they would remain four or five days. At the end of the procession, painfully keeping up with the rest, were two old women struggling along on their knees. For propiation or thanks? And so, I left them. Within, the shrieks and moans of enthusiasts; without, the last rays of a setting sun striking upon the venerable ruins. Had those stone walls tongues, what might they not tell?

H. R. CARSON.

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HOLY BAPTISM

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR—APRIL.

3 Passion Sunday.
10 Palm Sunday.
11 Monday before Easter.
12 Tuesday before Easter.
13 Wednesday before Easter.
14 Maunday Thursday.
15 Good Friday.
16 Easter Even.
17 Easter Day.
18 Monday in Easter Week.
19 Tuesday in Easter Week.
22 Friday—Fast.
24 Low Sunday.
25 S. Mark, Evangelist.
29 Friday—Fast.

GUILD MEETINGS.

4 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
5 8 P. M., Meeting of Brotherhood S. Andrew.
24 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Teachers' Meeting, Wednesdays, 7.00 P. M.
Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3.00 P. M.
Mothers' Meeting, Fridays, 7.30 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. H. W. Montgomery.
Librarians, Mr. Carroll Hodge,
Mr. Stuart Jackson.
Mr. Robert B. Lewis.

SERVICES IN HOLY WEEK.

PALM SUNDAY, as on other Sundays and at 11½ A. M., Procession of the Palms.

OTHER DAYS.

7½ A. M., daily, Holy Communion.
10 A. M., daily, (except Good Friday) Morning Prayer and Holy Communion.
5 P. M., daily, Evening Prayer.
8 P. M., daily, Sermon on the Passion.

GOOD FRIDAY.

11 A. M., Morning Prayer, Litany and Singing of the Reproaches.
12 to 3 P. M., Preaching of the Cross.

NOTE.—Copies of the words of the Reproaches will be distributed to the congregation at the service. Persons who may not be able to remain during all of the service and preaching on Good Friday, can enter or leave the Church at any time during the singing of the hymns with which the preaching will be varied.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish. is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, 112 South Fourth Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

EASTER.

During this month occurs the greatest festival of the Christian year. Easter is rightly esteemed the greatest of all festivals, because it commemorates and sets forth the great central fact upon which the whole truth of our religion rests. It was the fact of Christ's resurrection from the dead which proved Him to be the Son of God, and so the Saviour and infallible Teacher of all men, and able to open for them the gate of everlasting life. And the mere observance of this festival is the best answer and refutation of that miserable modern philosophy which is trying to rob the world of this Divine Saviour and of all belief in the supernatural. As long as Chistians keep the festivals of Christmas and Easter, so long will they believe that Christ was miraculously born and miraculously rose from the dead. Unless those are true facts these feasts are meaningless mockeries.

But that those are true facts has been the uniform, unvarying belief of Christians everywhere from the beginning, and that belief has been the power of Christianity, for as S. Paul says: "If Christ is not risen, your faith is vain." If the Christian world should come to lose its faith in the great fact that Easter teaches, religion would soon lose its power to influence and mould the lives of men. It is as true in this age as it was in the first century, that the Church spreads in proportion to the fidelity with which its ministers preach "JESUS and the Resurrection."

And, believing as we do, this cardinal fact of our religion, how natural and becoming is it that we should make the day that commemorates it, the greatest and most joyous in the year. Well is it, that the Church should thus teach the world the importance which she attaches to that event, how she makes the whole of the message that she brings dependent upon its truth; well that in every possible way she should exalt and magnify the keeping of this day, to make men realize all that it imports, the tremendous consequences that flow from it.

So it is that Easter has been universally observed as a day for general communion. If a man has any faith at all as a Christian, this is the natural time he should declare it. This is the great annual muster, so to speak, of the Church's army, in which she tenders to each one the oath of allegiance. And if a man feels that he cannot receive the sacrament even once a year, he thereby confesses himself an infidel or a sceptic, or as living so evil a life that he cannot profess in any sense to be a Christian.

But while it is the bounden obligation of every Christian to Communicate at least at Easter, yet all should come to that sacrament with such preparation and devotion that it may be to them the veritable beginning of a new life in this world, which will be to them the best ground for hope of a joyful resurrection in the world to come. We hope, therefore, not only that all our people will make their communions at Easter but that they will make good Communions.

So, too, Easter is the natural time when all Christians will want to make some special offering to God and to His service. There is nothing else which so proves the depth and sincerity of one's belief or one's affections as the giving of our substance, some substantial token, that which costs us something. If we care for any one, we want to give that person some gift as a manifestation of our love. So if any one appreciates his religion, feels what an unspeakable blessing it is to him, he will as naturally want to do, or give something, to attest his feeling, and as Easter is the culminating day of the whole Christian year, so is it the great day for offerings. Every Christian should make a special Easter offering. The general offerings in our Church this year will be for our current expenses. This is the first obligation we have to meet and we need a large sum, certainly $1000, to enable us to come out even at the end of our financial year, May 1st.

If beyond this anyone wants to do something special, there is our debt which we have not yet begun to reduce, but of which we can pay off $500 at any time. And then there are many things in the way of enlargement and ornamentation which the church needs, which could be given as memorials. We know of one or two such, which will appear at Easter or soon after.

Let each one keep the feast with sincerity and truth, and bring a large offering of a willing heart.

THE HOLY WEEK.

The last week in Lent which commemorates our blessed Lord's passion and death is the great culmination of the devotions of the whole Christian year. Anyone who can divest himself of worldly concerns and duties, should, if possible, give up the whole of his time during this week to the devotional study of the Passion. But if one cannot do that, such abundant provision of services is made in this parish during the entire Holy Week, that everyone can at least attend one service each day. There will be celebrations of the Holy Communion, which includes the reading of all the accounts of the Passion each day at 7.30 A. M. and 10 A. M., the latter being preceded by Morning Prayer, at 5 P. M., Evening Prayer, and at 8 P. M., a sermon on the Passion.

On Good Friday we follow the Anglican custom of having a celebration as on other days. Our Prayer Book not having any provision as the Greek and Latin liturgies have for the Mass of the Presanctified. But as it is not a day for rejoicing, we have only the solemn low early celebration, not the usual second celebration, the Cantata, which is intended

chiefly for eucharistic worship. In its place after Morning Prayer and the Litany, we sing the Reproaches, and have the Preaching of the Cross from 12 to 3 P. M. This is broken up by the singing of hymns during which persons can enter or leave the Church, if they cannot remain all through. This has proved in other years a most edifying service, and we trust as many as possible will attend it.

The Rector will take the three hours service this year and also speak on the mornings of Monday and Wednesday, and preach on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday evenings. The Assistant will speak on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings, and Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings.

Record for March.

Marriage	1
Communicants added	
" " by removal	2
" removed	4
Burials	4

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$ 371.78
" the Poor	6.96
" General Missions	2.25
" Diocesan "	9.60
" Sunday and Industrial Schools	10
" Theological Education	4 00
Of the Sunday School	4.13
Total,	$ 398.82

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Porter's Popular Encyclopedia, 3 volumes, and two other books for the parish library, a damask tablecloth for the Guild closet, 2 gross of lead pencils, 2 reams of foolscap paper, 12 large tablets of writing paper for night school, quantity of dress goods for missionary box, comb for choir room, white silk chalice veil and burse.

PALM SUNDAY.—We shall have our usual Procession of the Palms, but instead of its taking place before morning prayer, it will be immediately before the celebration instead of the usual Introit Psalm.

EASTER FLOWERS—Special offerings for the Easter decorations of the church and the Easter Festival for the children of the schools may be placed in the alms boxes in the vestibule which are marked for those purposes.

EASTER MUSIC.—The choir will repeat on Easter day and Low Sunday, the music that gave so much pleasure at Christmas: Gounod's S. Cecilia, Communion Service. The Te Deum will be Field in D. In the afternoon the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis will be Stainer's, and the Anthem, the "Halleluiah" from Handel's Messiah. As the music in the morning is very elaborate it will make the service long, and that it may not be made still longer, it is hoped that all who can possibly do so will make their Easter Communion at one of the earlier Celebrations, at 6.30 or 7.30 A. M.

THE EASTER ELECTION.—On Easter Monday the annual election for Vestrymen takes place. And this year under our amended charter many more have the right to vote than heretofore, the qualification now being, all who have been registered as Communicants, and have been contributing through the envelope system for one year to the support of the church. The Rector and Warden have already made out their lists by which it appears that 112 persons are entitled to vote. Last year there were but 23. This certainly is much more fair and just, and safe. And yet this list brings out the fact that out of our nearly 400 Communicants, only 112 are contributors through the envelope system. Why is this? Surely all the Communicants ought to be contributors in that way. None are so poor that they can't give something, and certainly the Communicants ought to set the example of contributing according to the regular method adopted by the Vestry. We shall hope to see an improvement during the coming year in this respect.

This being the first election under the amended charter the whole number of twelve Vestrymen will have to be elected, four to serve for three years, four for two years, and four for one year. The polls will be kept open from the close of Divine Service in the morning until 1 P. M.

SPECIAL SERMONS.—The historical sermon this month will be preached by the Rector on the evening of the second Sunday, the subject being "The Growth of the Papacy."

The sermon under the auspices of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew on the evening of the fourth Sunday will be preached by the Rev. Geo. H. Yarnall, assistant at the Church of the Incarnation.

AN ENTERTAINMENT for the children of the Sunday School will be given in the parish building on Easter Monday evening to which the parents and friends of the children are invited. The admission will be free, apply for tickets to the Superintendent, to whom also donations to defray the expense of the entertainment may be made.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MISSIONARY BOXES.

March 17th, 1892.

Mrs. Richard A. Gilpin, Phila, Pa.

Dear Madam:

Your favor of February 20th, came duly to hand, and after the usual time the box also. The contents of the same I appreciate very much, you need not have offered any apology for the same. The books were a most desirable selection. Please receive my thanks and convey the same to the ladies of your Guild.

I am very respectfully yours,

John Trenaman,

Buffalo, N. Dak.

St. Thomas, March 21st, 1892.

Dear Mrs. Gilpin:

The barrel that was sent arrived safely on Saturday the 19th, and we all join in sending our thanks to the ladies of the church for their kindness to us. I received the postal, note a week ago and feel grateful to you for your thoughtfulnesss in sending it. Wishing you a large amount of prosperity in your church work in the future, I remain, sincerely Yours,

Mrs. J. Trenaman.

S. MARY'S GUILD.—As the regular business meeting of the Guild would occur this month in Holy Week, it will be postponed until the fourth Tuesday evening.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions to the NEWS have been received:

Mr. Sam'l Wetherill,	Miss Rousseau,
Mrs. Sam'l Wetherill,	Mr. Thos. Sinnickson,
Mr. E. L. Teakle,	Miss Lavinia Smith,
Mr. Jas. L. Good,	Miss A. M. Holbrook,

Thirteen subscriptions to the NEWS are now due and unpaid. Will those who receive notice with this issue of the expiration of their subscriptions be good enough to promptly renew the same? They can be made as we have explained before, by putting a half dollar in an envelope addressed ASCENSION NEWS, with name of the donor inside, and dropping it in one of the alms boxes in the vestibule.

ADVERTISEMENTS.—Readers of the NEWS will notice a large falling off in the advertisements this month. We made appeal for new ones in the January issue which has not beeen responded to as we had hoped. One member of the parish has sent in two renewals, but other than this there has not been any response. We are much indebted for this kindness, above mentioned, but if the NEWS is to be as successful this year as last, it is absolutely necessary that some new advertisements be handed in at once. Please do not let this go unheeded. They can surely be obtained if the effort is made.

KNEELING.

A certain Canon of the English Church when asked upon one occasion how many sittings there were in a parish church, in the building of which he had taken much interest, replied, "there are 260 kneelings." Was not this very well said? Should we not think of the church more as a place for kneeling than for sitting? Is it not really a place for devotion rather than an audience hall? And yet how often we see the latter idea carried out. It seems to us that kneeling is the very foundation stone of all ritual acts. It does not matter how ritualistically inclined a person may be, to be consistently so he must observe the custom of kneeling as the primary rule of order. How particular some are in bowing in the creed, at the Glorias, when the Sacred Name is mentioned and in making their reverence to the altar, and yet these same people sometimes, and many others always, neglect to kneel at the portions of the service where the church commands us so to do. And especially in the office of the Holy Communion, how can they be satisfied with simply bending their backs and stooping down, when the rubric so plainly says "*devoutly* kneeling." No one, be he high or low in his church tendencies, can continue this attitude if he will but reason with himself for one moment. It was perhaps with the idea of correcting this wrong, that in the English Prayer Book we find thy curious phrase "kneeling humble upon their knees." Certain it is that any such peculiarity of expression is allowable and even acceptable, if the end in view is accomplished, viz.: the instilling into the minds of the worshippers this most necessary and correct following of the plain intention of our Mother, the Church. There are a few amongst us who are incapacitated by bodily infirmities from complying with this rule, and they are, of course, excusable, but the vast majority are entirely able to kneel, and we trust that those members of this parish who have not been in the habit of doing so will consider the matter, for we are well assured that a very small amount of thought on the subject will heartily convince them of the righteousness of this act of devotion. Go into any of the houses of worship of the Protestant Denominations and look over the assembly at the time of prayer, and then observe how a well ordered congregation in the Church appears when prayers are being said. The difference is striking. The scene in the latter is inspiring, heartlifting, grand, while in the former it is almost absurd by the variety of positions assumed, and the general ease of manner exhibited. Let us then all try more fully to follow out strictly the kneeling requirements of the Church, let us make the Ascension a model in this respect.

VIA DOLOROSA.

By Yesudasan, of Coombaconam, Southern India, in the Tamil language. Translated by Rev. Edward Webb, of Oxford, Pa.

Whither with this crushing load,
Over Salem's dismal road,
All Thy body suffering so,
Oh, my God, where dost Thou go?

CHORUS.

Whither Jesus, goest Thou,
Son of God, what doest Thou,
On this city's Dolorous way,
With that cross? Suff'rer say.

Tell me, fainting, dying Lord,
Dost Thou of Thine own accord
Bear that cross, or did thy foes
'Gainst Thy will, that load impose?

CHORUS.

Patient Sufferer! how can I
See Thee faint, and fall, and die,
Press'd and peel'd and crushed and ground
By that cross upon Thee bound?

CHORUS.

Weary arm and staggering limb,
Visage marred, eyes growing dim,
Tongue all parched, and faint at heart,
Bruised and sore in every part!

CHORUS.

Dost Thou up to Calvary go,
On that cross, in shame and woe,
Malefactors either side,
To be nailed and crucified?—CHO.

"Make a firm built fence of trust
All around to-day,
Fill the space with loving work
And within it stay.
Look not through the sheltering bars
Anxious for the morrow,
God will help in all that comes
Be it joy or sorrow."

THE CHURCH EXPECTANT.

(Episode from an "In Memoriam.")

* * * * * *

The body sleeps a sleep profound,
The spirit seeks that mystic shore
Where kindred spirits hover round
And greet the dear ones "gone before"

The Patriarchs of olden time,
The Prophets who their Lord foretold,
Martyrs of ev'ry age and clime,
Apostles, zealous, fearless, bold.

The dead in Christ are gather'd here,
That vast "innumerable throng,"
Of ransomed spirits; all appear
With victor palms and rapt'rous song.

A fiery pillar gives its light
To these the blessed camp within;
(Without—ah me!—is dreary night
For those who perish in their sin!)

A cross, the fiery pillar seems,
That "wondrous cross" the Saviour bore;
Exalted here, with radiant beams
Through Paradise its glories soar.

This is not heaven; no, that state
Is distant far in time and space;
The disembodied spirits wait
Their blest fruition in the place

Of rest and peace; the Paradise
Of God, the primal Eden, till
The archangel's trump shall bid arise
The dust of earth. That sound shall fill

The just with joy; "made perfect" men,
They rise to brighter realms above;
They "see Him as He is;" and then
They comprehend how "God is Love."

* * * * * *

(*Prayer for the faithful departed.*)

Eternal rest, grant to them, Lord,
Eternal peace on them bestow;
Eternal light to them afford,
Where'er the Living Waters flow.

Amen.

H. A. de France.

The Ascension News.

VOL. V. PHILADELPHIA, PA., MAY, 1892. No. 5

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.
251 S. 17th St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
CHARLES L. S. TINGLEY.

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2029 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

DAILY: Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8.00 P. M.

THURSDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 A. M.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

KALENDAR.—MAY.

1 SS. Philip and James.
6 Friday—Fast.
8 Third Sunday after Easter.
13 Friday—Fast.
15 Fourth Sunday after Easter.
20 Friday—Fast.
22 Rogation Sunday.
23 Rogation Day—Fast.
24 Rogation Day—Fast.
25 Rogation Day—Fast.
26 Ascension Day.
27 Friday—Fast.
29 Expectation Sunday.

GUILD MEETINGS.

2 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
3 8 P. M., Meeting of Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
10 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
30 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Teachers' Meeting, Wednesdays, 7.00 P. M.
Embroidery Class, every Thursday morning after Morning Prayer.

BIBLE CLASSES.

Sundays, 3.00 P. M.
For Young Men, Teacher Mr. Greenfield.
For Women, Teacher Mrs. Hodge.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. W. H. Montgomery.
Librarians, Mr. Carroll Hodge,
Mr. Stuart Jackson.
Mr. Robert B. Lewis.

DEDICATION FESTIVAL.

ASCENSION DAY, MAY 26TH.

7½ A. M., Holy Communion.
10.30 A. M., Choral Morning Prayer and Holy Communion.
5 P. M., Evening Prayer.
8 P. M., Choral Shortened Evening Prayer and Anniversary Sermon by the Rector.
May 29th. 8 P. M., Anniversary of Guilds. Procession of Guilds with Service and Sermon by Rev. Frederick Burgess.
May 30th. 8 P. M., Parish Tea for Parishioners and others, in the School Room.

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OUR PARISH YEAR.

The Conventional and financial year of all the churches in this Diocese runs from May 1st of one year, to May 1st of another year. All the statistics of the churches are made up for this period, and the reports containing them sent to the Bishop. So the end of this period is a very good time to look back and review our church work and note how it has prospered in the year past. This our Rector always does in his sermon on the evening of Ascension Day, our anniversary day, which occurs near the beginning of a new parish year, and so is a very appropraite time for the purpose. This the Rector proposes to do as usual this year, when we shall hear all the figures and details, with his comments upon them. But we may very well take a review of the past year here also, and note two or three things in regard to it.

In some parishes as their work is looked over year by year, it must be acknowledged that they are losing ground, in others that they are about holding their own, and in others still that they are decidedly gaining. How is it with us? Well, as we look over the past *twelve* years we think we can see that we have made steady and very great progress in that time. Of course in some years more has been accomplished than in others, and not near as much has been done as we should have liked to have seen done, but still there has been regular steady progress. What have we done in the past year? It is true no great addition or improvement has been made to our property, beyond putting some memorials in the church which have added to its adornment, but we have gained in the following ways.

First, the greatest proof of progress is increase in the membership of the church, and here we find that 67 persons have been added to the communicant list during the year, 50 have died or removed, making our present number 404.

Secondly, we have by the rearrangement of our services reached and gratified more people. Our Sunday afternoon congregation has been an entire gain, very few formerly ever attending in the afternoon. And we think that that service has tended to bring persons to the church who would not otherwise have come. And at the same time our night congregations have not been diminished, on the contrary we think they have been more steady than they were formerly. Our Lenten congregations too have been much larger this year than formerly.

Thirdly, we have made a great improvement in our music. We have never had as fine a choir before as we have now, and the special music we had at Christmas and Easter crowded the church on both occasions. And as our reputation in this respect gets established, we look for greater results yet in the future.

Fourthly, in regard to our finances, we made a great advance in our expenses a year ago, and our effort this year has been to meet them. We began the year with a deficit of about $300 from the previous year, and in spite of an increase of some $475 in our receipts, we have a deficit of about the same amount for this year. In order to meet this we have been obliged to use up a fund of some $550, which we have hitherto kept as a reserve, and which was very useful in that way. We regret this very much, and hope even yet that we may be able gradually to put it back. But notwithstanding this the Vestry has ventured on the same rate of expenditure for the coming year, as we shall have in addition to our former receipts the interest of the property left us by the late Mr. Johnson. We feel, therefore, that we have succeeded in our effort this year of securing an annual income sufficient to meet our present rate of expenditure. So that another year we can begin an advance in another direction. And the first direction in which we should advance, should be to reduce our debt, and as we do that we shall increase the receipts that can be used for current expenses. We trust the Vestry will undertake a systematic effort for this purpose during the coming year.

And at the beginning of a new financial year we again urge upon every one attending this free and popular church, renewed interest and labor for its welfare. Every one can help it by being regular in attendance at its services, ready to engage in its work, and systematic in contributing to its support. Let every one use the envelopes for this purpose. As the Rector said recently in church, "if any one is too poor to give anything he is welcome to our services without price. But if any one has money to spend in fine clothes or other luxuries, he certainly can afford to contribute something regularly towards the support of the offices of religion which are so necessary to him, and can be of such benefit to the world." Let us see if we cannot make greater progress still in the coming year than we have in the one just past.

OUR PARISH FESTIVAL.

Ascension Day being the name-day of our parish, we keep that Feast as our annual Parish Festival. On the day itself there are two celebrations of the Holy Communion, and all the communicants are asked to attend one or other of them, and make the welfare of the parish their special object of intercession with God at that time. Let each remember the parish is their parish, and what it is depends upon their interest and zeal in regard to it. We shall try to make the mid-day service as fine a service as we can have upon a week-day.

In addition to the 5 P. M. Evening Prayer, we have a Choral

Evensong and Te Deum at 8 P. M. And at this service the Rector preaches his anniversary sermon reviewing the history of the parish for the past year. It is earnestly hoped every parishioner will try to be present.

In addition to these services we have had in connection with our anniversary a Parish Tea, and a Guild service. The first of these has been held hitherto on the day after Ascension Day, but as that is always a Friday, which should be observed as a fast day, it is most inappropriate for such a purpose, and it has been determined this year to postpone it until the following Monday, which will still be within the octave of the Feast.

Our Guild service has heretofore been held on the Saturday evening after the Ascension. But this too is a very unfortunate night for the purpose as so many are occupied on that evening that it has been difficult to get out either the congregation, the members of the Guilds, or of the choir. It has been determined, therefore, this year to have it on Sunday night, combining this month with the service arranged by the Brotherhood of S. Andrew. The preacher on the occasion will be the Rev. Mr. Burgess, Rector of S. Asaph's Church, Bala.

We trust our people will show their interest in their parish by attending these various services connected with our Parochial Festival.

Record for April.

Baptisms, Adults	4
" Infants	6
Communicants added—	
" new	17
" by removal	5
" removed	14
" died	2
Communions for the sick	3
Burials	5

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$1,501.48
" Church Debt	12.50
" the Poor	4.45
" the Schools	20
" General Missions	1.35
" Diocesan "	15.75
" Indian "	33.00
" Freedmen "	11.00
" Flowers	35.00
" Children's Festival	6.75
" Female Tract Society	9.00
" " Prayer Book Society	13.00
" Easter Music	20.00
At discretion of the Rector	25 00
Total,	$1,688.48

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—We received at Easter a very handsome wood and brass font cover, suspended from the arch above it by a chain. It was given as a memorial and adds greatly to the dignity of the font. A white silk Eucharistic stole was embroidered for the Rector; five yards of carpet for the Sacristy, and two large terra cotta vases were given to the church; a quantity of pens, pencils, rubbers, etc., for the night school, flowers for the church on Easter-day, and cake, and two dozen Easter eggs for the Industrial School Festival.

EASTER.—As announced the same service that was sung at Christmas was repeated on Easter and the following Sunday, with orchestral accompaniment. It had the effect of crowding the Church on both occasions, and every one was very much impressed by it. We had in all at the three celebrations 304 communicants, the largest number we have ever had on any one day. There were only 258 last Easter. And our offertory amounted to $1200, the largest we have ever had at one time. The children's service in the afternoon was also a great success, the church being filled with the children and their friends.

ENTERTAINMENT.—The children of the Sunday School were given an entertainment on the evening of Easter Monday, consisting of songs, recitations, a farce, etc. They seemed to enjoy it very much. But we think that on another occassion the children ought to be given the front seats, and the grown people sit at the back when the entertainment is given especially for children, as it is impossible for them to see through the grown people.

EASTER ELECTION.—At the first election under our amended charter held on Easter Monday, the following gentlemen were elected to serve as Vestrymen: For three years—Mr. Samuel Wetherill, Mr. J. Edward Carpenter, Mr. Thomas Sinnickson, Mr. Frank R. Stevenson. For two years—Mr. George H. Haverstick, Mr. Francis S. Keese, Mr. William H. Cope, Mr. Thomas Robb. For one year—Dr. Thomas R. Neilson, Mr. Charles E. Bonnett, Mr. William Platt Pepper, Mr Charles L. S. Tingley. At a meeting of the Vestry held subsequently, Mr. J. Edward Carpenter was appointed Rector's Warden, and Mr. Charles L. S. Tingley was elected Accounting Warden.

THE MOTHER'S MEETING closed its sessions for the winter with a final tea in the Guild room. After some singing and an address by the Assistant Minister, an ample repast consisting of meat, tea, buns, ice cream, cake, etc., was provided by the ladies in charge. Thirty-eight sat down to it. And after it was over each person present was presented with a pot with a flower in it to take home as a memento of the occasion.

MISSIONARY BOXES.—During Lent the members of the Ladies' Aid and of S. Mary's Guild were engaged in making up a missionary box for a colored school in Spartansburg, South Carolina. They made in all 61 garments for children, which together with some clothes which had been sent as a donation made out a very nice box, valued at $25.00

The members of the embroidery class worked a very beautiful white silk stole for the Rev. Mr. Thorn, our former Assistant, besides executing an order for an altar cloth and hangings for the Church of the Good Shepherd, Kensington.

A box was made up by one of the girls classes in our Sunday School and sent to the Italian Mission on Christian St. It contained sixty-nine garments for children, 20 pairs stockings, 12 handkerchiefs, 12 cakes soap, 12 portmonnaies filled with bright pennies.

Some of the ladies of our Altar Guild sent a set of altar linen, consisting of a fair linen cloth, corporal, chalice pall, maniple and purificator, each piece embroidered with a cross, to a church in West Virginia. The following letter of acknowledgement has been received.

Bluefield, W. Va., April 11th, 1892.
Rev. G. Woolsey Hodge.

My Dear Brother: I am in receipt through Mrs. S. T. Morris, of a very handsome and beautiful set of Communion Linen from your Society, and (can speak for my people also), we are all deeply thankful to you for the same. We are a struggling little band trying

to get along and my field is a very large one, so I cannot give my entire time to them here. We used the linen yesterday, Palm Sunday,, and it was very gratefully received by the people of the church. Let me thank you again and the dear good women who labored to make it.

Faithfully your brother,
W. Hallihen Burkhardt.

A CONCERT.—There will be an entertainment in the Sunday School room on Monday evening, May the 16th, proceeds of which will go towards repairs and improvements of which the room stands very much in need. The programme will contain a long list of volunteers who have kindly offered their services, and we hope that every one will help to make this a grand success. Tickets 25 and 50 cents, which may be had of the Superintendent, teachers or sexton.

OUR INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL closed its sessions for the winter with a Festival on the Saturday after Easter. About 180 children were present. Each was presented with a chocolate egg and Easter card in the church, where also the prizes were given out, the girls receiving each a pair of scissors as the first prize, and a thimble as the second prize; the boys received a knife as the first prize, and a paint box as the second prize. Afterwards in the school room all were entertained with ice cream and cakes, and each took a turn at fishing in a supposed pond, from which they drew a small present.

SPECIAL SERMONS.—The historical sermon this month by the Rector will be preached on the evening of the second Sunday, the subject being "The Crusades," this will close the course for this season. The Rector hopes to continue them next winter.

The sermon before the Brotherhood of S. Andrew this month will be preached by the Rev. Frederick Burgess. This will be also the annual service for all the Guilds of the parish, and we trust there will be a good turn out. On the evening of the third or fourth Sunday of this month, we expect also to have the annual meeting of the Church Unity Society.

LOST AND FOUND.—The following articles have been picked up in the church and have not been claimed: a long narrow Prayer Book marked E. L. L., Easter, 1890, a Prayer Book of the Church of Ireland, name erased, a Yale latch key.

ORCHESTRA.—Some money has been sent to pay for the extra pieces of music added to our choir on Easter Day and Low Sunday, but the sum of fifty-five dollars still remains to be given. Will not some of the congregation help to make up this sum and send it to the Clergy or the Organist and Choir Master?

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions to the NEWS have been received:

Miss A. D. Butler,	Mrs. Henry Selby,
Miss A. Haynes,	Mrs. L. Deiterick,
Miss Goodman,	Mrs. Isaac Starr,

It will be a great convenience if those notified this month will promptly renew their subscriptions.

Report of the Mother's Meeting for the Winter of 1891-92.

The meeting has been conducted by Mrs. Mason, Mrs. Keese, Mrs. Jordan and Mrs. Pleasonton. Number of women belonging to it, 27; average attendance, 15; number of garments cut out and made, 139; number of garments partly worn disposed of, 170. All of the latter were paid for with the exception of

24, which were given away. The women were given a tea once a month, for which many donations were received. At Thanksgiving five tons of coal were distributed among the most needy, and at Christmas a turkey or chicken and basket of sweet and white potatoes were given to each.

Cash received from poor fund,	$10.00
Donations	44.93
From sale of garments	44.96
	$99.89
Expended for material, provisions, etc.,	$97.91
Balance	1.98
	$99.89

In addition to the above other ladies working among the poor have paid many visits and given donations of clothing, coal and provisions. Six large baskets of provisions were sent to as many families at both Christmas and Easter, and two tons of coal distributed.

SUPPORT OF THE CHURCH.

The Finance Committee of this church wishes to put before the readers of the "ASCENSION NEWS" in a short form, the exact condition of the finances of the church at this, the end of the financial year. There is a deficiency this year amounting to $739 of which $295 was carried over from last year. Numbered envelopes have been taken, and are used by only 170 persons in the congregation, though we have 400 communicants. If *every person* who has not hitherto taken a numbered envelope will do so for the present financial year, all the money needed for the support of this church will be given in a way by which no one contributor will feel that he or she is overtaxed, and yet all the expenses can be met without any deficiency whatever.

The following table has been prepared to show how much the regular and systematic giving of *small sums* will amount to in a single year.

If 100 persons will give 5 cts. every Sunday it will amount to	$260.00
If 50 persons will give 10 cts. every Sunday it will amount to	$260.00
If 25 persons will give 25 cts. every Sunday it will amount to	$325.00
If 20 persons will give 50 cts. every Sunday it will amount to	$520.00
If 10 persons will give $1.00 every Sunday it will amount to	$520.00
	$1,885.00

Many people think that the giving of so small a sum as 5 cents each Sunday will do no good, and are ashamed to give it, but it amounts to $2.60 a year, and pays for a sitting in a free church where there are *no pew rents*, at a most moderate cost.

The number on the envelope taken by any person using it, is known *only to the Accounting Warden*, and the user of it, so that the amount given in it weekly is *not* known to others in the church as it might be (by some, at least) if dropped into the offerings without an envelope.

Let *all* then, in our congregation, who have not already done so, begin *now*, at the beginning of the financial year, to contribute to the expenses of this free church, in proportion to his or her ability, by means of the envelope system, and if *205 more*, out of the 400 communicants of the Church of the Ascension do this, as above suggested, we shall be *sure* of receiving *$1885 more* in the coming year, and the Finance Committee will have a surplus to report instead of a deficiency on May 1st, 1893, which would be a great pleasure to them.

Let us show by our offerings that we love our church, and appreciate its numerous services, and intend to keep them up in the very best and most complete way, thus honoring the God we serve. "Despise not the day of small things."

The Ascension News.

VOL. V. PHILADELPHIA, PA., JUNE, 1892. No. 6

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.
251 S. 17th St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
CHARLES L. S. TINGLEY.

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2029 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 3.00 P. M.
Twilight Service, 7.00 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS:

Morning Prayer and Litany.

THURSDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 A. M.

KALENDAR—JUNE.

3 Friday—Fast.
5 Whitsun Day.
6 Whitsun Monday.
7 Whitsun Tuesday.
8 Ember Day—Fast.
10 Ember Day—Fast.
11 S. Barnabas.
12 Trinity Sunday.
17 Friday—Fast.
19 First Sunday after Trinity.
24 Nativity of S. John Baptist—Fast.
26 Second Sunday after Trinity.
29 S. Peter.

GUILD MEETINGS.

6 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
7 8 P. M., Meeting of Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
14 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
28 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. W. H. Montgomery.
Librarians, Mr. Carroll Hodge,
Mr. Stuart Jackson.
Mr. Robert B. Lewis.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish. is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, 112 South Fourth Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE.

As we look over the congregation Sunday by Sunday, we cannot help asking ourselves some questions in regard to our church attendance. When we know that there are now over 400 registered communicants alone belonging to the congregation, a number sufficient of itself to fill the church, if they were all present at one service, we cannot help asking why the church is not fuller even at the principal Sunday services.

When we consider the matter, we feel that certain things must be taken into consideration in regard to it.

First, we have to remember that in no congregation is it ever possible to get *all* the communicants together at one time. There is always a certain proportion that are sick or infirm, or away, or detained at home by various domestic causes, and there are always some who, though registered as communicants, are very careless and irregular, not only in making their communions, but even in their attendance upon Church. So large is this proportion that we have often heard clergymen say that they thought they were doing very well if they succeeded in getting *one-half* of the whole number of their communicants in church at one time.

Secondly, we have to consider that in a congregation, especially like ours, which is composed of persons of widely different habits of life, there are many who never go to church but in the morning, others never but in the evening, and we have some who never come but in the early morning, and others, never but in the afternoon. So that while it is true that we never get all of our people out at any one service, we do get a very fair proportion of the whole number out at the various Sunday services. Our total attendance each Sunday bears a very fair relation to the number of our members.

Thirdly, we have to consider too, that our congregation is a very scattered one, some coming from great distances, which of course, makes their attendance more or less irregular.

Fourthly, there are those who insist upon keeping up a nominal connection with the parish, who have really moved away and but rarely attend it. Then there are others, who, though professing to belong to it, have really from one cause or another lost their interest in it. There are always backsliders. Those who have started out fair in the Christian life, but whom the temptations of the World, the Flesh and the Devil have proved too strong for, and who, though they may keep up some show of their profession, have no heart in it, and let every little excuse keep them from church. Others have been attracted to the church by the novelty of its services, their having been different from what they were accustomed to, but like every new thing, they have tired of them, and so fallen away. The interest of others has been due to their holding some office or engaging in some work, and when that has been relinquished for some cause or other, their attendance slackens off.

These and other causes account for the fact that all our members are not in church, even at our principal Sunday services.

But beyond all these there is another cause and one that ought to be remedied, and that is, that the mass of even professedly Christian people do not appreciate as they should, either the obligation or the privilege of Divine worship in the Sanctuary. Every Christian ought to feel that it is a bounden obligation laid upon him by one of the Ten Commandments, and of just as much importance as any other of the Commandments, to sanctify the Lord's Day by at least one act of public worship. It is an obligation he owes to God, for unless he thus honors Him with all the accessories of public worship he is not giving Him the honor and reverence that is His due. He owes it to his own soul, for if a man neglects the aids afforded him by the worship of the Church, he will be depriving himself of what is essential for the cultivation of his spiritual life. And not only should he feel it as an obligation, but he should regard it as a privilege, as the most joyful, comfortable, helpful thing to him in all his life.

If all Christians had this sense of the duty and pleasure of engaging in Divine worship we would not have to complain of there being any vacant places at any of our services. The fact that the church was not large enough on Easter and Low Sundays to hold all that came, proves that if people made the effort or had the desire to come, as they do upon those days, that they could every Sunday, come in sufficient numbers to fill the church to overflowing.

Our ambition is to see it so filled. We are never satisfied when it is not full. Let our people feel their duty and realize their privileges and it always will be full. And let them all feel, too, that regular church attendance is just as necessary and as profitable in the summer as in the winter.

Record for May.

Baptisms	1
Communicants added—	
new	1
by removal	3
removed	2
Burials	1

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$ 548.23
" the Poor	9.70
" the Schools	1.95
" Diocesan Missions	80
" General "	25
" Endowment Fund	1.00
" Parish Tea	7.00
At discretion of the Rector	5 00
Of the Sunday School	6.09
Total,	$ 580.02

Payment in full of legacy from the estate of Benjamin Johnson, Esq., less collateral inheritance tax $9,525.00.

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—The Rector has received a beautiful set of altar linen for private celebrations, made by a warm friend of the parish. The chalice veil is of the most exquisitely fine drawn work. It is so wonderful, we think it ought to be sent to the World's Fair, as our Guild has been asked to send specimens of its work to be exhibited there. We had a large amount of cake, strawberries, etc., donated for our Parish Tea, also ten chinese lanterns which added much to the decorations.

OUR DEDICATION FESTIVAL.—We have just time as we are going to press to report in regard to our annual Parish Festival that the attendance on the morning of the day itself was very far from what it ought to be on such a Festival. There were but thirty communicants at the early service, and forty-seven in the middle of the day. How is it that people can so neglect so great a day, which tells them more than other day in the year of a subject about which people are naturally most curious, *viz.*, Heaven.

The attendance at the night service on Ascension Day was greatly lessened by a violent thunder storm which came up just at the hour of service. Only about seventy people were in church. We regret this as we should have liked more of our people to hear what the Rector had to say about the past and future work of the church. Our change of arrangement as to the Guild service worked well, the congregation being much larger than formerly on these occasions, though we should have liked to have seen more members of the Guilds in the procession, and had them hear the excellent sermon of Rev. Mr. Burgess.

OUR PARISH TEA was, as it always is, a success. The tables looked very pretty, the provision was excellent and abundant, and the members of S. Mary's Guild, who acted as aids were especially attractive in their caps and aprons. After some words from the Rector, a most excellent and telling address was made by Mr. G. Harry Davis of S. Luke's Church, Germantown, a very prominent member of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew. We had also a recitation by Mrs. Mason, and singing by Mrs. Mason, Jr., and by Messrs. Thorn and Botwright. Altogether it was a most enjoyable evening. But as in other years we had to lament the absence of many members of the parish who should have been there. Why is it that some people *won't* be sociable?

All regretted very much the absence of our Assistant Minister, Rev. Mr. Kittson, who was kept away by the extreme illness of his wife. He has the deep sympathy of all the members of the congregation. We missed also the genial presence of the Rector's Warden, as he has been missed through the greater part of this winter from church. This has been due to an acute and prolonged attack of rheumatism, he has now gone abroad for a few months.

A SPECIAL SUPPER was provided for the boys of the choir and members of S. John's Guild, on Tuesday evening, at which over thirty boys sat down. After the entertainment they enjoyed themselves with games in the school room.

THE JOHNSON LEGACY was paid in full to our Accounting Warden last month, after the deduction of $475 for the collateral inheritance tax. This money is now to be invested, and out of the interest we are first to purchase and keep burning a sanctuary lamp, to be hung in front of the Altar, and after that the interest can go towards meeting the current expenses of the Church. As it will be six months before the first payment of interest comes in, the lamp cannot be bought until then.

AN ENDOWMENT FUND.—This legacy of Mr. Johnson practically amounts to the beginning of an endowment fund, but it ought to be much larger. A member of our congregation recently wrote us that she thought every free church should have an endowment, and to start such a fund she would give one dollar, in the hope that ninety-nine others would do the same, to form a nucleus of such a fund, which might be added to by persons remembering it in their wills. Would it not be nice if at least the amount we have had to pay to the State out of the Johnson legacy might be made up, so that the fund could stand at a round $10,000?

MORE ENVELOPES.—The appeal of the Finance Committee published in our last issue, together with the plain statement which was afterwards issued, a copy of which we publish this month, have had the effect of increasing the number of contributors through the envelope system by ten. In addition to this, one gentleman doubled his contribution, and one lady has increased hers. This is well, but there are still a great many persons attending the church who ought to take them. It does not make any matter how small the sum is you contribute every week, give it through the envelopes. Persons leaving the city for the summer will remember to fill their envelopes and put them in the plate *before* they go. They can put the whole amount for the number of weeks they expect to be away in one envelope. The expenses of the church go on just the same during the summer, and they cannot wait to be paid for until people come back in the autumn.

CHANGE OF SERVICES.—With this month the 4 P. M. service is discontinued and the evening service begins at 7 P. M., and will consist of shortened Evening Prayer and an address. The children's service will begin at 3 P. M. The daily service and Wednesday evening services also cease, but the morning services on all Holy Days and on Wednesdays and Fridays will be continued all summer. The Thursday early celebrations will be continued until July. The work of the various societies will be suspended, and the Women's Bible Class, but the Guild meetings will continue through June.

THE CONCERT for the improvement of the Sunday School room realized quite a sum for the purpose.

THE POLYTECNIC closed on the Thursday before the Ascension with a supper for the members. Over 100 boys were present and thought themselves very well treated.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions to the NEWS have been received:

Mrs. Wm. Galloway, Mr. Wm. Platt Pepper,
Mrs. C. F. Leaming, Mrs. Jackson.
Mr. J. E. Carpenter, Miss F. C. Cooper,
Mrs. M. E. Carman, Miss Trucks,

An Alarming Statement.

We recently saw it stated in a paper that the number of young men in the United States was estimated at 6,500.000. And of this number 550.000 were reckoned among the criminal classes, and only 375,000 were connected with any Christian church of all the religious denominations. This is certainly a sad and an alarming statement.

REPORT.

The following is the report of the Parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop:

Baptisms.—Adults 4, Infants 15, Total 19; Confirmed 21; Marriages 7; Burials 27; Families connected with the parish 263.

Communicants Added.—New 29; by removal 38; died 7; removed 43; present number 404.

Services.—Sundays 296, other days 638, total 934; average attendance, Sunday 356; children catechised 75 times.

Sunday School.—Officers and teachers 29; scholars 200.

Bible Classes.—Teachers 3; members 35.

Other Parish Agencies.—Mother's Meeting, members 27; Industrial School, teachers 18, scholars 190; Men's Guild, Women's Guild, Young Men's Guild, members 22, Young Women's Guild, members 39; Chapter of S. Andrew's Brotherhood, members 12.

Money Receipts from all sources.—Offertory $8048.04; interest $16.82; other sources $63.52; total $8128.38.

Money Expenditures and Appropriations.—Current expenses, (including salaries of ministers, for music, fuel and lighting, care of church building and grounds, and ordinary repairs of same) $4922.91; interest on mortgage $1250.00; improvements $852.96; Episcopal and Convention funds $89.34; support of schools $286.53,; for the poor $184.49; Episcopal Hospital $30.58; Missions, Foreign $30.05; Domestic $129.55; Colored people $11.00; Indians $33.00; Diocesan $75.50; Tract Prayer Book Society $24.00; Church Building $9.00; Theological Education $25.00; Miscellaneous $589.27; total $8543.18.

Financial Condition.—Estimated value of property $70,000; encumbrance, mortgage $25,000; other indebtedness none.

A PLAIN STATEMENT

To the Worshippers of

The Church of the Ascension.

The Expenses of this Parish are composed as follows:

Salary of the Rector, . .	$1,500
Salary of Assistant Minister,	1,000
For the Church Choir, . .	1,500
Interest on Mortgage, . .	1,250
Sexton, ...	480
Convention Fund, . . .	83
Convocation Fund, . . .	105
Coal, ...	175
Gas, ...	150
Water Rent, ...	70
Insurance, Repairs, &c., &c.,	50
	$6,363

These are yearly fixed charges which the Vestry see no way of reducing.

Last year our income fell short $739!

We have **404** Communicants and yet only **170** of the numbered Envelopes have been taken, and registered on the Books of the Accounting Warden. Some of these givers are *not* Communicants! Is this as it should be? If you are already a Contributor through a numbered Envelope, will you not increase your weekly offering? If not, will you not *now* take a numbered Envelope, and give your regular weekly offering in that way? As it is so essential that the Vestry shall know *exactly* how they can meet the above named expenses.

Remember, that *no one but the Accounting Warden knows how much you give*, and that *your Pledge can be cancelled at any time.*

The Church remains open daily all Summer, and the expenses, of course, go on just the same. Will you not, therefore, *before you leave the City*, kindly contribute for the Sundays you expect to be absent?

"If thou hast much give plenteously: if thou hast little do thy diligence gladly to give of that little."

WILLIAM PLATT PEPPER,
FRANCIS S. KEESE,
THOMAS ROBB,
Finance Committee.

A Litany Hymn for Trinity Sunday.

Father Eternal! from Thy Throne on high,
Look down on us with Thine all pitying Eye
For we are sinful, and we pardon need.
Have mercy on us, to our prayers give heed.

O Word eternal! Day-spring from on high!
Who for us m n came down on earth to die
That we might live fore'er, Redeemer blest!
Blot out our sins, and grant us peace and rest.

O Paraclete! Who doth from Father, Son,
Eternally proceed the Holy One
Who searcheth out the heart and secret thought
Have mercy on us, who with sin are fraught.

O God Triune! Who hast created all
The universe, yet marks the sparrow's fall;
We sinners bow before Thine awful Throne,
And mercy ask; make us to be Thine own.
Amen.

Election to the Episcopate

The Rev. Mr. Kinsolving, the Rector of the Church of the Epiphany in this city, has just been elected Assistant Bishop of the Diocese of Texas. This makes the fourth Rector of churches in this city recently elected Bishops, *viz.*: The Rev. Dr. Davies, Rector of S. Peter's, Bishop of Michigan; Rev. Dr. Nichols, Rector of S. James, Assistant Bishop of California, and the Rev. Dr. Nicholson, Rector of S. Mark's, Bishop of Milwaukee.

SUMMER RESORT.

As our parishioners aid us in our work so we are glad when we have the opportunity to assist them. We take, therefore, pleasure in mentioning an undertaking of a member of our parish in opening a summer resort to be called Penhurst Cottage, at Mount Pocono, Monroe, Co., Pa. It is reached by the D. L. and W. R. R., is only five minutes from the station. There are fine views, pleasant drives, bracing air, and excellent water. The terms are $10 and $12 a week; special rates to parties. Apply to proprietress, Miss M. S. Wilson.

A DIOCESAN HOUSE.

The committee, of which the Rector of this church is chairman, appointed by the Convention to erect a Diocesan House to afford accommodation for the offices of the Bishop, Secretary, Treasurer and other officers of the Diocese, together with places of meeting for the Clergy, Boards, Committees, etc., is making a vigorous effort to purchase the property belonging to the late Mr. Benjamin Johnson of our parish, on Broad St. below Walnut. The amount asked for the property is $60,000. As we go to press the amount subscribed towards this sum is nearly $40,000, and it is hoped that the remaining amount can be raised by June 10th. If this is accomplished, about $50,000 more will be required to erect the proposed building on this site.

The Largest Store in America
DEVOTED
EXCLUSIVELY TO DRY GOODS.

STRAWBRIDGE & CLOTHIER,
Market, Eighth and Filbert Streets.

The Ascension News.

VOL. V. PHILADELPHIA, PA., SEPTEMBER, 1892. No. 7.

Church of the Ascension.

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Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS:

Morning Prayer and Litany.

KALENDAR—SEPTEMBER.

2 Friday—Fast.
4 Twelfth Sunday after Trinity.
9 Friday—Fast.
11 Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity.
16 Friday—Fast.
18 Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity.
21 S. Matthew, Evangelist, Ember Day—Fast.
23 Ember Day—Fast.
24 Ember Day—Fast.
25 Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity.
29 S. Michael and All Angels.
30 Friday—Fast.

GUILD MEETINGS.

5 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
6 8 P. M., Meeting of Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. W. H. Montgomery.
Librarians, Mr. Carroll Hodge,
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Mr. Robert B. Lewis.

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A NEW YEAR.

September is not the beginning either of an ecclesiastical or a civil year, and yet it is practically the beginning of a Church year for all city parishes. For during the summer months there is, we are sorry to say, an entire intermission of all Church work in the cities. All the schools and societies stop their work, and owing to the absence from the city of all who can get away, no progress can be made. For this we suppose there is no remedy until we can get a sisterhood, or paid workers, who would stay in town all summer. But while things are as they are, it makes the first of September the beginning of another year of work and activity in our churches. Then the schools re-open and people begin to return, and gradually our churches assume their wonted aspect and enter upon a new campaign against the powers of evil.

It is a time, therefore, when we should be thinking about and laying our plans for what that work shall be. Every new season brings changes. Persons remove from the parish, or for one reason or another give up positions which they have occupied, and new persons come, or have to be found, who will take their places. Nor is this always easy to do, nor are the changes always for the better.

And each year, too, ought to witness some distinct advance in our parish life. We ought not to stand still in Church work, because there will always remain, no matter what we do, more work still to be done. And there is so much we still need in this parish to make it anything like as efficient as it ought to be. There is the debt to be removed, the Church to be completed and to be decorated, the school building to be enlarged, the endowment fund to be increased.

We still hold, as we always have, that the Church is admirably situated for work. It affords a good field. It is central and can reach a variety of people. But just as in agriculture, there must be not only good ground, but hands and implements as well to cultivate it, so in spiritual things there must be not only a field in which to work, but men and women who are able and willing to work in it, and appliances for them to use. In other words we want workers and money. As we have often said, our Schools and Guilds could be much larger and more efficient than they are, if there were only more persons in our congregation who would give their time and labor to them. And we must have money to supply them with things which they need in this work as well as to furnish additional classrooms, &c., which we need.

Will not the members of the congregation come forward more readily during the coming winter to supply these wants, than they have done hitherto? Several important positions are vacant. Who will occupy them? More teachers, who will be faithful and regular in their attendance, are wanted in the Sunday and Industrial Schools. Will not each one who reads this feel that it is a direct personal call, and honestly ask himself or herself whether it cannot be answered affirmatively, and what share he or she can take in Church work?

And shall we not make some decided advance this winter? What that advance shall be the Vestry will probably determine at their November meeting, whether it shall be the reduction of the debt, or what. But wherever the Vestry lead, we trust the congregation will follow. Everyone should have the same personal interest in his parish that he has in his home. And just as one will not rest content while his house is unpaid for or incomplete, or not wholly occupied, so every member of the parish should feel unsatisfied while it is still in debt, or incomplete, or not doing all it should.

At the very beginning, therefore, of another year of work, we bespeak the earnest, active interest of every member of our congregation, and ask them all to unite in making a great effort during the coming winter to advance the interests of our Church, to make it more complete, more efficient, more what it ought to be. Give us more workers and increase our resources. Those are the two things which we need.

DEATH OF PARISHIONERS.

Long ere this number is issued our parishioners will have heard of the great loss which has come to our Assistant Minister in the death of his most estimable wife. It occurred on June 9th, after a most trying illness, extending over nearly two years.

We not only extend our warmest sympathy to our Assistant, in this great affliction, but we regard it as a personal loss to our parish as well. From her first coming into it, Mrs. Kittson had taken the greatest interest in it and entered most energetically into its work. For two winters she conducted the Mothers' Meeting most successfully, expending a great deal of time and energy in doing so.

In addition to this she organized and as long as her health permitted, conducted a Bible Class for men. She also took the entire charge of the Altar and all its furniture, attending herself personally to the care and changing of all the Altar vestments, linen, &c. She secured from members of the congregation, regular subscriptions towards defraying the expenses of washing all the Altar, Clergy and Choir vestments, providing flowers, &c., for the Altar. To her we owe the handsome dossels which now hang behind the Altar, the Vesting Altar, the decoration and furnishing of the Guild and work rooms, the gas stove, closets, &c., which have been put up.

Her interest never flagged, her work never ceased as long as she had the strength to carry it on. And even after this failed, the Church was still ever in her thoughts and prayers, and she was still making efforts to interest others to take her place. She had firm faith that the work would go on and the Church prosper, that God would raise up those who would provide it with all it needs. And while we believe that those prayers and hopes will be answered, still we cannot but feel that the Church has met with a great loss in her death, and so we grieve for ourselves as well as for him to whom of course the loss is greatest.

We have also lost during the summer another devoted parishioner in Miss Annie Jane Stewart. She passed away on June 2nd, in the Harrison Memorial Home for Incurables attached to the Episcopal Hospital, of which she had been an inmate since early in January. She, although brought up by Christian parents and a constant attendant at various churches, had never been definitely attached to any until she was confirmed at the Ascension in April, 1887. Since then she took the liveliest interest in it, was most regular in her attendance at its services and appreciative of them.

She was a member of S. Mary's Guild and never missed its meetings as long as her health permitted. Her illness, which extended over two years was most heroically borne. Though conscious from the first that it would be necessarily fatal, no murmur escaped her. She maintained her independence as long as she could, working till she could work no more, and caring for herself until it became absolutely impossible for her to do so. Only then would she consent to avail herself of any of those refuges which Christian charity has provided for such cases as hers. And she was most grateful for the care and attention which she received, first in S. Clement's Hospital where she was for a short time, and afterwards in the Episcopal Hospital where she died.

We regret also to chronicle the death in July of Mrs. F. E. Remont, the wife of one of the former members of our choir. Though for the last two years on account of her health, the family has been residing in the country, they still kept up their connection with the parish, and our deepest sympathy is extended to this most happy family circle in the great loss it has sustained.

As constituting one large family, we feel each of these losses that have come to us. We grieve for ourselves and for those most intimately afflicted. And we shall ever remember those who have been taken from us, and pray that they may rest in peace.

Record for June, July and August.

Baptisms, Infants	4
Communicants added	
new	2
by removal	1
died	2
Burials	4

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$ 723 16
" the Poor	21 99
" the Schools	8 25
" the Kindergarten	52 00
" Endowment Fund	1 00
Total	$847 84
Legacy	116 05
Received by sale of Party Wall	31 44

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—We have received a handsome donation of 67 volumes for the parish library, including some works of standard authors, such as Dickens, Trollope and others. We should like very much to enlarge this library, especially by putting in it instructive religious books, and we hope our people will use it. And will not those having books out, be careful always to return them?

A LEGACY.—The late Miss Annie J. Stewart, shortly before her death, transferred to the Rector a small sum of money she had saved, with directions that he was to defray from it her funeral expenses and what was left to use for whatever object connected with the church, he might see best. The Rector accordingly provided all that was needed for her funeral, it being held in the church, the choir being in attendance, the interment was according to Miss Stewart's request, in the church lot in Mount Moriah Cemetery.

The money which was left over, the Rector employed first in putting in order the church lot, which it very much needed. Headstones have been placed to each grave, inscribed with the names of those interred therein. Four blocks of marble have been put at the corners of the lot to define its limits, and a slab with a cross and the words "Church of the Ascension" cut in it, placed at its entrance. And as soon as the weather permits, the entire lot will be sodded. We shall thus have, through the liberality of Miss Stewart, a properly cared for lot for our parish dead.

With the amount still left over, the Rector proposes to order another clere-story window, on which the name of Miss Stewart will be inscribed. How nice it would be if each of our devoted parishioners could have their names thus perpetuated in the Church as one by one they pass away! And how much permanent benefit might accrue to the Church if each of our parishioners would remember the Church in their wills, even though each may have but little to leave. We are sure that if Miss Stewart could know what had been done with her money, it would be a pleasure to her that her place in the Church has been as it were, thus permanently preserved.

A ROBBERY.—Early in the summer, the prayer book lying on the litany desk in the Church was stolen. It was a handsome book, bound in red Turkey morocco, with a large brass cross let in on the cover and having silk markers with silver gilt crosses attached to them. It had been presented to the Church some years ago as a thank offering for a recovery from sickness. While we regret the loss of the book and shall take greater care to guard against such an occurence in the future, we must confess that we think it rather remarkable that, in such a neighborhood as that in which the Church is situated, this should have been only the second occasion during the six years in which the Church has been left open every day, in which anything has been disturbed. The other occasion was when one of the alms chests in the vestibule was broken open.

It shows that the objection to having Churches open that they will be subject to robbery and sacrilege is without foundation.

Who will replace the book that has been taken?

SUMMER ARRANGEMENTS.—The Assistant has been taking his holiday during July and August, the Rector conducting the services, assisted in the week-day services by Mr. James M. Blackwell, one of our members, a licensed lay reader in the Diocese, and who expects to enter the Divinity School in the Autumn. The Assistant returns this month, when the Rector will be away for two or three Sundays. He officiates at Atlantic City one Sunday, and at Bellport, Long Island, on another.

RE-BEGINNING WORK. — The Sunday School reopens with the first Sunday of this month. And our Chapter of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew recommences its meetings, as well as St John's Guild. We trust both teachers and scholars will be on hand for the Sunday School, and we hope that many men in the congregation who have not yet done so, will join the Brotherhood of S. Andrew. Resolve to do real work in it during the coming winter.

CHURCH PAPERS.—During the summer, copies of various church papers, received as exchanges, etc., have been placed in the racks in the vestibule of the Church. Attendants at the Church are invited to take them home and read them.

ADJOINING BUILDING.—We are sorry to say that during the summer the owner of the property adjoining the Church on the west has been building on the back of his lot. This not only has darkened up very much our Guild room, which was not very light before, and also interfered with the light of the one window we have on the west side of the Church, but it completely takes up the little triangle which is cut off the northwest corner of the Church. So that, if we shall ever want to straighten the Church out on that side, which we always hoped some time to be able to do, we should find it now, we fear, almost impossible to do so. This is the result of having been straightened in means, and not having been able to buy all the ground we should like to have had at the first.

Unless we can soon obtain possession of the property on the corner of Broad and South Streets, we may in like manner be unable to get that when we want to run the Church out to South Street, as we certainly ought to be able to do sometime.

Our Mexican Correspondent.

To see and to know the native as he is, is generally the great ambition of the traveler. One tires of examining architecture, paintings, scenery, but the individual man as a subject is inexhaustable.

The Pullman traveler, eating, sleeping, walking in his palace, sees very little of the aboriginal inhabitant. At the smallest way-station his car is, of course, surrounded by the people, clamoring that he shall buy their candies, fruits and curiosities. Perchance he may observe on the outskirts of the crowd, one or two looking with fearful eyes and trembling body upon the locomotive. They have heard tales of this fearful being and have summoned their courage and have come to see with their own eyes. To them, the devil is imprisoned in the engine, and his alone is the power that propels it. To satisfy his voracious appetite a daily offering of a Mexican is made. The escaping steam and shrill whistles are but his cries for more.

However, if you will come with me this afternoon we will take a short tour of four or five miles, and perhaps we may see something that has a flavor different from that of the nineteenth century. We secure our horses and ride sedately along the city streets, mindful of city ordinances and city police, and also of the inhabitants gliding along the roadway. We pass into one of the suburbs--Tequisquiapam--and have our contests with the dogs, an old yellow one is particularly well known, which with their loud barking and yelping set chase after our horses. We may here slacken up and observe the dwellings, not of stone, as they are in the city, but of clay, sun-baked, until they are as hard and as durable almost as brick. There are walls of these *adobe* brick, from five to ten feet high surrounding the habitation of the owner. In one corner we may see the house; square, one-story in height and windowless; the door being usually but a blanket suspended over a hole. In the balance of the enclosed space, the *patio*, it is called, are the burros gazing vacantly into space, the dogs, (half wolves), goats, chickens, and all the owner's live stock. Everything they enjoy in common. The wealthy Mexican may own the lot adjoining his house, and which has a lesser *adobe* wall surrounding it, and here are the crops raised. Deep furrows run across the lot at regular intervals for the purpose of irrigation. An ancient wooden plow is standing near the well, and the other antique farming implements.

This well and the operating machinery are curiosities, and should find place in the Columbian Exposition. There is a rough limb of a tree upright, to which a cross-bar is attached near the top. To the first mentioned piece is attached a leather bucket, and by muscular strength is lowered into the well, but a huge stone attached to the cross-bar is the power that brings the water to the surface. Great and graceful sweeps it makes, and the water is emptied into the furrows already mentioned, and the deficiency of rain is thus supplied.

(To be Continued)

PATHS.

The path that leads to a Loaf of Bread
  Winds through the Swamps of Toil,
And the path that leads to a Suit of Clothes
  Goes through a flowerless soil.
And the path that leads to the Loaf of Bread
And the Suit of Clothes are hard to tread.

And the path that leads to a House of Your Own
  Climbs over the bouldered hills,
And the path that leads to a Bank Account
  Is swept by a blast that kills;
But the men who start in the paths to-day
In the Lazy Hills may go astray.

In the Lazy Hills are trees of shade
  By the dreamy Brooks of Sleep.
And the rollicking River of Pleasure laughs
  And gambols down the steep;
But when the blasts of the winter come,
The brooks and the river are frozen dumb.

Then woe to those in the Lazy Hills
  When the blasts of winter moan,
Who strayed from the path to a Bank Account
  And a path to a House of Their Own.
These paths are hard in the summer heat,
But in winter they lead to a snug retreat.

S. W. Foss in Yankee Blade.

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The Ascension News.

VOL. V. PHILADELPHIA, PA., OCTOBER, 1892. No. 8

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.
251 S. 17th St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
CHARLES L. S. TINGLEY.

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2029 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Choral Evensong, 4 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

DAILY: Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P. M.

THURSDAYS: Holy Communion, 7.30 A. M.

KALENDAR—OCTOBER.

2 Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity.
7 Friday—Fast.
9 Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity.
14 Friday—Fast.
16 Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.
18 S. Luke, Evangelist.
21 Friday—Fast.
23 Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.
28 SS. Simon and Jude. Friday—Fast.
30 Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.

GUILD MEETINGS.

3 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild.
4 8 P. M., Meeting of Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
11 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
25 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. W. H. Montgomery.
Librarians, Mr. Carroll Hodge,
Mr. Stuart Jackson.
Mr. Robert B. Lewis.

LADIES' BIBLE CLASS, 3 P. M.

KINDERGARTEN.

Daily, except Saturdays, from 9 A.M. to noon.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, 112 South Fourth Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

THE GENERAL CONVENTION.

During this month the great Triennial Council of our Church will be in session in the city of Baltimore, and our church people ought to take an interest in its proceedings and remember it in their prayers, that its deliberations may result in the promotion of the glory of God and the welfare of His Church.

This Convention is the great governing body of our national branch of the Catholic Church. It consists of two Houses; one composed of all the Bishops of the Church, and the other of four clerical and four lay delegates from each diocese, and no action can pass without the concurrence of both Houses. The Bishops sit with closed doors, but the deliberations of the lower House are open to the public and are very interesting. Our local church paper, *The Church Standard*, will publish during the session of the Convention, a daily edition containing a full stenographic report of all its deliberations. It will be sent to all its regular subscribers, the subscription price for the year being two dollars. We should by all means advise our people to subscribe to it, and they can thus not only learn what the Convention does, but also read the speeches which will be made on the various subjects under consideration.

A number of very important matters will come up for action at this session. One is the completion of the revision of the Prayer Book. This has now been going on for nine years. The Constitution of the Church wisely provides that such an important thing as the Prayer Book should not be altered except by alterations being proposed at one session of the Convention, and being subsequently considered at the next session, three years afterwards. Such alterations were proposed at the Convention held nine years ago. These were acted upon at the subsequent Convention, when others were proposed, and still others at the last Convention, which are to be finally acted upon now. And this we trust will complete the work, for it is very unfortunate for the Prayer Book to be kept in this unsettled state. So that, though there are some further alterations we should like to see made, we would rather forego them and have the revision completed. The book has certainly been much improved by the alterations already made, and most of those proposed for action at this Convention are very good, so we hope that, with some exceptions, they will pass.

Another important thing before this Convention will be the adoption of a new Hymnal. There has long been great dissatisfaction with the Hymnal we have now. There are many hymns in it utterly unsuited for public worship, and which are never used, and there are many excellent hymns in other Hymnals which we ought to have the privilege of using. The report of the committee on this subject has been already published, and although it has met with many adverse criticisms, the general verdict, we think, is that it is a great improvement on that we have now. There are some few hymns omitted that we should have liked to have seen retained, and some others that we like do not appear in it. But the report may be further amended before it appears in the Convention, and we trust that it will be adopted substantially as it is. It certainly will add a great variety to the hymns we already have.

Another important subject for this Convention to consider is that of the division of the Church into provinces. At present we constitute but one province, presided over by the Senior Bishop, who is called Presiding Bishop; but in the primitive Church, and to-day in other branches of the Catholic Church, the provinces are much smaller. It is a very difficult and expensive thing for so large a body as our General Convention, containing representatives from every part of the United States, to assemble together every three years, and in many ways the interests of the Church are hindered by the great extent of territory covered by it. So it is proposed to divide the Church into several provinces and have a General Council composed of fewer members and meeting at longer intervals. A committee is to report on this subject, but there has been for a long time so much difference of opinion in regard to it, that we doubt whether anything will be done. But some of our dioceses will be divided and some new missionary jurisdictions will doubtless be erected.

These and a number of other matters of great interest and importance will come up before this Convention, and we hope our people will inform themselves about them, and especially trust, as we have said, that they will constantly remember the Convention in their prayers, that God would overrule all its consultations to the advancement of His glory and the welfare of His Church.

Record for September.

Communion of the Sick	1
Burials	3

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$ 163 77
" Support of the Schools	5
" the Poor	72
" Domestic Missions	8 09
Of the Sunday School	1 83
	$174 46

PARISH NOTES.

SERVICES RESUMED.—With this month we recommence the Sunday afternoon service at 4 o'clock, and the night service at 7.45 P. M., in place of the twilight service. The daily morning and evening prayers are also resumed, and we trust they will be better attended than they have been. We are sure our people will find it a very helpful and comforting thing to attend this daily service as frequently as they can. As we have urged before, let every member of the congregation resolve

to come to at least *one* service a week beside Sundays. Every one could do that, as we have services at all hours during the week. Holy Communion on Thursdays at 7.30 A. M. Daily prayers, daily 10 A. M. and 5 P. M. Wednesdays, service at 8 P. M.

This latter service we hope especially to see improve this winter. The Clergy will do their best to make it attractive. They both propose to attend it, and to give at it special courses of instructions on alternate Wednesday evenings. The subject of the Rector's instructions will be, "The Doctrines and Precepts of the Church," and those of the Assistant Minister will be on the Bible. It is hoped also to organize a special choir for this service.

PROMPTNESS.—At the celebrations of the Holy Communion, those who intend to make their communions should be prompt in presenting themselves at the altar. When the moment for the administration arrives and the clergy turn towards the people for the purpose, they are often much annoyed by the long delay before any one comes forward. They see persons looking about and waiting for others to make the motion, and it is not until some one person is bold enough to do so, coming perhaps away from the back of the church, that there is a general movement towards the chancel. Time is thus wasted, an awkward break occurs, and the clergy are left in doubt whether any one is coming or not. Do not wait for any one else if you are intending to communicate, come forward at once, even though you should be the only person in the church doing so.

SPECIAL SERMONS.—The Rector proposes to continue his course of historical sermons on one Sunday evening of each month this winter. The subject for the one this month will be, "The Mediæval Church." It is also proposed to continue the course of sermons under the auspices of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, on another Sunday evening of each month, by a distinguished preacher from outside of the parish.

SUPPORT OF THE SUNDAY AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.—The present quarter is the time for the return of the special envelopes for this purpose. The readers of the NEWS will have noticed in the September number that so far only $8.00 had been given for this purpose, and this is the last month of the quarter. All must acknowledge that our schools are a most important part of our church work, but how can they be carried on with such a paltry sum as *eight dollars?* Will not those who have not yet contributed, do so during this month? Never neglect to return your special envelopes.

GUILD ANNIVERSARIES.—The female communicants of the parish will not forget that S. Simon and S. Jude's Day is the anniversary of our Womens' Guild, and the Rector wants all the female communicants of the parish to be present. Whether you can take part in the work yourself or not, at least show enough interest in it to come to the anniversary meeting and hear about what is being done, and see if you cannot help in some way.

The anniversary of the Men's Guild is on the evening of All Saints' Day, November 1st, (before our next issue) and the Rector begs all the male communicants likewise to be present on that occasion.

TEACHERS WANTED.—More teachers are wanted in the Sunday School and in the Industrial School, which opens the first Saturday in November. But they must be persons who will undertake the work for the love of it, and who will be willing to sacrifice themselves and be faithful and regular in their attendance. Any other kind does often more harm than good.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—We have received this month another donation of some forty-seven books, chiefly new, for our Parish and Sunday School Library. These donations are very acceptable, as we hope gradually to accumulate a good library, and we hope our people will avail themselves of it. The regular time for giving out books is after the Wednesday evening service, but they can be had at other times on application to the Sexton. Our library has grown so much of late that we need another bookcase. Who will give it?

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions to the NEWS have been received:

Miss M. S. Wilson, Mr. Chas. E. Bonnet, Mr. F. B. Thompson, Mrs. Walter Cox.

NEW MISSION AT NORWOOD.

One of our parishioners, Mr. Charles Lynch, is taking much interest in starting a new mission out at Norwood on the B. & O. Railroad, where he and his wife have been living for some years. He is chairman of the committee in charge of it, and is helping in the choir and, we believe in the Sunday School. Our church has assisted the movement by presenting it with the wooden lectern and large lectern Bible we formerly had in use. They hope soon to be able to build a church.

Our Mexican Correspondent.

(Continued from last number.)

Fruit trees, apricot and fig, have lined the road, and all the varietity of the cactus. But we have now left the suburb, and can gratify our inclination to race unhampered by fear of the arm of the law and the bite of the cayote. At times the soil is nothing but sand, and again we go over solid rock. On each side of the road are ditches, now destitute of water. Rain has been absent for many days and only in occasional pools in the monntains is it found. We pass the Santiago (St. James) river, equally dry, but the huge bowlders worn so smooth give testimony of the water that was once present.

We enter another village—Morales—and go up the lane, lined on each side by impenetrable cactus. Our ears are immediately assailed, in addition to the barkings of the dogs, with "deme un cuartillo, senor," or the more modest, "deme un tlaco"—"give me three cents, senor," "give me a penny." The owners of the voices run about unhampered by any "neat dress suitable for a miss of three years," as the fashion catalogues say; nor with corduroys for the young gentlemen of two; nor, in fact, with any semblance of the same. They may indulge their propensity for rolling in the dust, six inches and more in depth, to their heart's content, and without fear of the maternal réproof for "dirtying their nice, clean clothes."

In the yard of one of the houses an animated dance is in progress, it being, doubtless, the feast-day of a patron saint. The twangs of the harp resound, and at times the high falsetto of some "sweet singer" breaks into song—monotonous and somewhat doleful. The dancers do not rejoice in waxed floors, but the soil of Mother Earth is all they need. Their feet are bared, if not already so, the straw sombrero is set jauntily on the head, and an extra tightening given to the blanket over the

shoulders, and they are ready. As a dancer retires from the "ball-room," he at once makes his way to the "banqueting hall," which is in one corner of the yard, and the feast prepared is a huge bowl of *pulque*. It is not for gratuitous distribution, but for a tlaco a large wooden dipper full may be obtained.

This *pulque* is the fermented juice of the maguey, and is the national drink. It has the smell of yeast, but in taste is sweet yet pungent; at times it is flavored with fresh fruits, bananas and mangoes—altogether it is considered quite healthful.

The place that the Mexican's blanket occupies in his life is interesting and amusing. He is never without it; neither in the most scorching sun, nor at work; in church, or wherever he may be, he always wears it. When new the cost is about $1.50, but the average Mexican, he, of the lower class, generally buys his wearing apparel at the pawn-shops, which abound plentifully. It matters little, if the article be dirty and well-worn, he will buy it. Asking the price, the *broker* will say, "cuatro reales (50 cents); how much will you give?" A quarter or a third is offered, and the bargain consummated. In dealing with a Mexican, one need never be abashed in offering a third of the price asked, and in nine cases out of ten you will be successful.

It is almost dark, and we must take a "short cut" back to the city. Here is a well beaten foot-path, and we may take it in confidence, for here "all roads lead to Rome." We pass a cross or two, erected to the memory of some waylaid traveler in years gone by; we catch a glimpse of the faded flowers placed upon it by some faithful heart. Some of these memorials have stood for upwards of a century.

As we enter the city, the electric lights are turned on and the angelus is ringing. The hats of the people are off, and there is a hush. The great cathedral chimes cease, and immediately all the parish bells take up the clanging, and the din is intense.

H. R. CARSON.

SMOKING BOYS.

Science gives the following significant facts concerning the results of smoking by boys: "In an experimental observation of thirty-eight boys of all classes of society, and of average health, who had been using tobacco for a period ranging from two months to two years, twenty-seven showed severe injury to the constitution and insufficient growth; thirty-two showed the existence of irregularity of the heart's action, disordered stomachs, cough, and a craving for alcohol; thirteen had intermittency of the pulse, and one had consumption. After they had abandoned the use of tobacco, within six month's time, one-half were free from all their former symptoms, and the remainder had recovered by the end of the year.

TURNING TO THE EAST.

As Daniel and pious Israelites prayed with their faces toward Jerusalem, the holy city, so the early Christians were wont to turn toward the East in their prayers, and more particularly in their creeds and doxologies (which partake of the same nature), as looking for the rising of the Sun of Righteousness. It is for this same symbolical reason that Christian Churches were ordinarily built with the altars, toward which the worshipers turned, at the East, and that the general custom in burying the dead, is to lay the body with the feet towards the East.

COLORS.

The change of colors for the sacred seasons and particular occasions, both in the vestments of the clergy and the adornment of the Sanctuary, is intended as a reminder to the eye of the character and purposes of the several seasons or services. The principle is exemplified and sanctioned in Holy Scripture, as in the many-colored hangings of the Tabernacle (*Exodus* xxv. 4; xxvi, 1), and the ornaments of the priesthood (*Exodus* xxvii,i 28) as well as in the significance of sackcloth and sad attire for sorrow and repentance. Accordingly *White*, the emblem at once of purity and joy, is employed as the ordinary *festival* color; on the feasts of our Lord and of the Blessed Virgin. *Red* is used on the feasts of Martyrs who shed their *blood* for the sake of Christ, and at Whitsuntide as emblematic of the *fire* of the Holy Ghost. *Violet*, the color of mourning, is used in Advent and Lent and on other *penitential* occasions. *Black* is used on Good Friday and at funerals. *Green*, the normal color of nature, is employed at ferial or common seasons, not marked by any special commemoration.

On Making a Reverence at the Mention of the Incarnation in the Nicene Creed.

The Word was made flesh. "Here the Word receives another name. Above He was called God, and a light which has come into the world, which has created the world, and which was not received by the world. Here He becomes flesh—so condescends as to take upon Him my flesh and blood, my body and soul, and becomes not an angel, or some other glorious creature, but a man. This is a too great and exceeding treasure and grace which God has exercised towards the poor human race; it is impossible for a human heart either to comprehend or to conceive, still less to express it. Therefore, we Christians should at least accustom ourselves to set much by these words, which even under the Papacy remain and are preserved in honor. This word has been sung in every mass; and this elegantly, with slower and more special notes than the other words, for when they have sung *Ex Maria Virgine, et homo factus est*, every one has bowed the knee. And it was proper and right that we should kneel before the words, *Et homo factus est*, and sing them with slow notes, and should hear with joyful hearts that the Divine Majesty had so condescended as to become like us poor mortals, and should thank God for His unspeakable grace and mercy, in that the Godhead Himself has become flesh. For who can sufficiently speak of this? It would not even be a wonder if we were to weep for joy."—*Martin Luther on St. John* i, 14, (quoted in Hengstenberg, Commentary on St. John.)

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The Ascension News.

VOL. V. PHILADELPHIA, PA., NOVEMBER, 1892. No. 9

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. HENRY KITTSON.
251 S. 17th St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
CHARLES L. S. TINGLEY.

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2029 Evergreen St.

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Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Leeture, 8 P. M.

THURSDAYS: Holy Communion, 7.30 A. M.

DAILY: Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR—NOVEMBER.

1 All Saints.
4 Friday—Fast.
6 Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity.
11 Friday—Fast.
13 Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity.
18 Friday—Fast.
20 Sunday next before Advent.
23 Friday—Fast.
27 First Sunday in Advent.
30 S. Andrew.

GUILD MEETINGS.

1 8 P. M., Anniversary of Men's Guild.
1 8 P. M., Meeting of S. Andrew's Brotherhood.
7 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild
8 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild
21 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

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Teachers' Meeting, Wednesdays, 7.30 P. M.

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Mr. Stuart Jackson.
Mr. Robert B. Lewis.

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Thursdays, 7.30 P. M.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, at 10 A. M.

KINDERGARTEN.

Daily, except Saturdays, from 9 A.M. to noon

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The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish is published under the direction of the Rector.

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Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

RESULTS OF THE CONVENTION.

We spoke last month of the many important matters which were coming before the General Convention of the Church, which has been in session during the past month in Baltimore, and we are sure our readers will be glad to know what it has done, not a very easy thing even for those who have attentively read the Church papers, to know exactly. So we will mention the chief things it has accomplished.

First, the revision of the Prayer Book has been completed. Nearly all the proposed alterations have been adopted, including the beautiful additional versicles in the Evening Service; special prayers for unity, missions, and Rogation days; a Penitential Office for Ash Wednesday; a second Collect, Epistle and Gospel for Christmas and Easter day; permission to omit the Decalogue, except at one service each Sunday, and the insertion of the short kyries when it is omitted, an additional offertory sentence, and some changes in the Baptismal, Confirmation, Marriage, Burial and other Offices. All these changes, with those made at previous General Conventions being adopted, a Standard Prayer Book including them was set forth, to go into effect on All Saints' Day of this year. So that they are now the law of the Church. But until we can get copies of the new Prayer Book it will be very difficult to carry many of them out. It is understood, however, that the new books will be issued at once, and we hope all our people will supply themselves with them as soon as possible.

Another thing accomplished was the adoption of the new Hymnal. A number of changes were made in the report of the Committee, some thirty or forty of the new Hymns suggested being dropped, and the same number of those in the old book being retained, and thus altered it was adopted as the Hymnal of the Church, though the use of the old one also is allowed until the meeting of the next Convention. We should like to use the new one in this Parish as soon as possible, and so ask our people to get it as well as the new Prayer Book. They will form very nice Christmas presents to be given by different members in a family. And will not some one give us enough to supply at least the choir with them?

No action was taken on the very important subject of dividing the Church up into Provinces, but a report was brought in favoring it, and a Commission appointed to revise the Constitution and Canons of the Church so as to adapt them to the great enlargement of the church, and doubtless it will report at the next Convention a detailed scheme for constituting Provinces.

No less than five new Missionary jurisdictions were constituted and one Diocese given permission to divide. Seven new Missionary Bishops were elected, an unprecedented number at one time.

A great deal of the time of the Convention was taken up with the discussion of the question of church unity, the result of which was the adoption by the House of Deputies of the declaration which was set forth some years ago by the House of Bishops and afterwards by the Lambeth Conference. A good deal of time also was given to the consideration of the missionary work of the Church.

These are the chief things which occupied the attention of the Convention, which altogether constituted one of the most important and interesting Conventions which have ever been held. And we ought to be very thankful that such happy and satisfactory conclusions were reached by it.

The next Convention is to be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

"SOME ONE ELSE."

We would like very much to find out who "some one else" is, we hear this person so constantly spoken of. He must be a person of great ability and great goodness, because he is supposed to be able and willing to do anything and everything that is desired. And he must be always about, always at hand, for people seem to think that his services can be had at any moment and at any place. We speak of this person as "he," and yet there must be both a man and a woman of this name, for the person so constantly spoken of can apparently do all that both men and women can do, or we should judge there must be many persons, both men and women, of this name, from the number of places it is supposed they can fill and the amount of work they can do. And yet in spite of all this general impression which is so prevalent, we have never been able to find one such person, although whenever any one in the parish is asked to do any work, or gets tired of the work they are doing, and wants to give it it up, they say, "let some one else take my place," yet we know no such person and cannot find such a person high or low. We can only conclude, therefore, that all these people who are thus constantly talking about this most capable and religious person who is so ready and willing to relieve them of all their work, and do it so much better than they could do it, are laboring under a delusion. *No such person exists.* It is a myth. So the sooner the better our people learn that if they are doing some work, or the call comes to them to work, they have got to do the work themselves. There is no one else to do it for them; if they do not do it, it won't be done.

Besides, even if there was "some one else" to do our work, it is not very nice to throw off upon others what we ought to do ourselves, to say nothing of losing the reward we could gain for ourselves. But what we want

our people to realize is that this supposed person they are ever stepping aside to make way for, and who they think is so ready and willing to do all their duty for them, does *not exist*, so they need not talk about him, or look for him, or wait for him.

If there is any duty to be done or work performed, *go and do it yourself*, and don't try to throw it off upon "some one else," when there is no such person to throw it on.

RESIGNATION OF THE ASSISTANT.

We are sure our people will be very sorry to hear that our Assistant Minister, the Rev. Mr. Kittson, has resigned his position in order to accept a call to a church in Montreal, Canada. Mr. Kittson's family is now in Montreal, and it is natural that he should avail himself of this opportunity of being with them. But we regret very much to lose one who has so long and so acceptably ministered to our people, and it will be very difficult to supply his place, especially just now, as we are beginning the winter's work, and at so short a notice.

Record for October.

Baptisms	3
Marriages	1
Communicants added	5
" removed	4
" died	1
Communions of the Sick	3
Burials	1

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$386 65
" the Poor	2 60
" the Schools	5 30
" Church building	4 00
" Year Book	4 55
" General Missions	25
Of the Sunday School	4 90
	$408 25

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Six new linen cottas for the Choir, seven do. made by the Ladies' Aid out of linen purchased from proceeds of the Parish Tea. Lot of magazines for the Guild room.

GUILD MEETINGS.—The Anniversary of the Women's Guild on S. S. Simon and Jude's day was attended as usual by about twenty-five ladies, who alone out of all our female communicants take an interest in our church work. We would that we could make all our women feel their responsibility in this matter. We are glad, however, to welcome this year some new workers and we trust we shall have an active and successful winter.

The Anniversary of the Men's Guild was attended only by the members of S. Andrew's Brotherhood; but we are never discouraged by a small attendance, if the few who come are faithful and zealous. A few good workers can do a great deal, and there are a great many who do work, and do not come to these meetings.

REOPENING WORK.—Our Industrial and Thursday night schools, the Mothers' Meeting, Ladies' Aid, Embroidery Class, and missionary work all recommence with this month. Let us see how successful we can make them all this winter. This can only be done by the members of our congregation volunteering their services, and by

those who undertake work being faithful and regular in carrying it out.

We still need teachers in the Sunday School, and Saturday and Thursday night Industrial Schools. Shall these good works fall through or be curtailed from lack of teachers?

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.—The school which we have maintained for many years on Saturday mornings during the winter, reopens as we have said, with this month. We consider this one of the most important agencies we have for reaching and benefitting the children in our neighborhood. It is held on the one day in the week when there is no public school, and the children are thus free. It keeps them out of the street, brings them under refining influences, the girls are taught to sew, and the boys to draw, paint, etc., and all attend the Morning Prayers in the church and receive a practical instruction from one of the clergy. But to carry it on we must have funds, and the returns thus far through the special envelopes for the support of this and the Sunday School have been most trivial. Very few envelopes have been returned. Will not *each* contributor through the envelope system give *something* for this object?

NIGHT SCHOOL.—On Thursday, November 10th, at half past seven, the Ascension Polytechnic will open for the winter. We hope that every one will feel it his duty to help in this work. The Polytechnic is a night school for boys, and is open every Thursday night. In order to insure its success we need in the first place, workers, who will be willing to give their time and interest to it, and in the second place, money or materials which are needed to carry it on. We shall be glad to receive donations of writing papers, pencils, penholders, rubbers, etc., and hope that some will be sent to us. Any packages left at the church will reach us by marking them "for the Polytechnic." Mr. H. W. Montgomery, the superintendent, will be glad to give any further information in regard to the general workings, etc., of the school, to any one who may be interested.

MUSIC LIST.—There has been prepared a frame to hang in the vestibule of the church to contain a list of the music which will be sung at the different services every Sunday. This we are sure will interest our people to know what they are to expect, and we trust it will lead to a greater appreciation of the very good music our choir gives us. Especially we hope it will increase the attendance at the beautiful choral service we have on Sunday afternoons at four o'clock, a service that is by no means appreciated yet as it ought to be.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE.—We are glad to note the increased attendance at the Wednesday night service, though we look for still further improvement. The courses of instruction on alternate Wednesdays by the Rector and the Assistant are on the Bible, and the doctrines and precepts of the Church.

RESIGNATION OF A VESTRYMAN.—It is with great regret that we announce the resignation of one of our Vestrymen, our former Accounting Warden, Mr. George H. Haverstick. His resignation was caused by the fact that both he and his wife have abandoned the Communion of our Church, and entered the Church of Rome. Our parish is under deep obligations to both Mr. and Mrs. Haverstick for the fidelity and zeal with which they have served it for many years

in the past, and it is a great grief to us that they should have thus cut themselves off from all their former associations and withdrawn from a work in which they were both apparently so interested.

NEW PRAYER BOOKS.—Who will present the church with copies of the revised Prayer Book which is now the law of the Church? We need at least five, which should be the large edition and handsomely bound, an Altar Service, two Prayer Books for the clergy stalls, one for the Litany desk, and one for the Baptistry.

COLUMBUS DAY.—Owing to the difficulty of securing the choir, and the short notice of it which was given, there was no special service in the church on October 21, the day appointed to be observed in Commemoration of the discovery of America, but on the morning of the Sunday following, the Commemoration was held, the special service set forth by the House of Bishops was used and a special sermon preached by the Assistant Minister.

HISTORICAL SERMON.—The subject of the Historical Sermon to be preached on the evening of the third Sunday of this month, will be "The Causes of the Reformation."

ENVELOPES.—Every one attending the Church is expected to contribute to its support through the envelope system, by which each can give according to his means and yet not have his position in the Church dependent upon how much he gives.

If you are not already contributing in this way, ask the Sexton for a form of pledge, fill it up and give it to him or place it in the plate or in one of the alms boxes, and the Warden will send you each quarter the number of envelopes to be used for each Sunday, together with one special envelope for a charitable object for which collections are made during that quarter.

ENTERTAINMENT—On Tuesday, November 15th, there will be an entertainment for the Sunday School. The tickets are ten cents each which can be had of the Superintendent, Sexton, or any of the school children. We feel that every one can buy a ticket at this small price. For a person that cannot go, we think the plan adopted at one of our previous concerts is a good one: a member of the congregation bought a lot of tickets, and then placed them in the Superintendent's hands, to be given away at his discretion. We hope some one will follow this idea.

Annual Meeting of the Women's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions.

A general meeting of the Women's Auxiliary will be held on November 17th, at the Church of the Holy Trinity beginning with morning prayer at 10 A. M., at which addresses will be delivered by representatives of the four branches of its work. A light luncheon will be served between the morning and afternoon sessions. All women interested in the missionary work of the Church are invited to be present.

Weariness In Well-doing.

In a recently-published volume of discourses, preached at the Chapel Royal, Whitehall, by the late Rev. Aubrey L. Moore, the distinguished tutor of Keble College, and one of the brilliant lights of the new Oxford School of Anglican theologians who published "Lux Mundi," we find the following apt and impressive words on

that "weariness of well-doing" to which all except the heroic souls are so prone:

"I think clergymen and district visitors and Sunday School teachers know it well. All who try to do any special work for God, according to the greatness of the task undertaken and the zeal with which it is entered upon, very soon feel grievous and bitter disappointment. They are tempted to grow weary and faint in well-doing; they began with such earnest self-devotion, they were going to work God's work, and they expected great results; at least, they thought people would understand that they were engaged in well-doing. And then they soon find that things do not go as well as they hoped. There is so little visible result. Those whom they hoped they were helping Godward broke away, and their past efforts seem wasted. And worse than want of the expected success, they find their very motives challenged or misunderstood. They feel like Moses when, in his zeal and anxiety to help his fellow-countrymen, he thought that they would have understood that God had chosen him to be their deliverer. And he was shocked and disappointed and disheartened that those he was trying to help should turn round him upon and say, 'Who made thee a ruler and a judge over us?' And, as I have said, the disappointment and weariness, when it comes, is great in proportion to the zeal with which the work was undertaken.

"Is there not an explanation which is at least possible? Perhaps what we thought zeal covered a good deal of self-confidence, and God would teach us that it is not *we* who work *for Him*, but He who works *by us*. At all events visible success is never a trustworthy test. The promise is certain; the time is left in God's hand—'In due time we shall reap, if we faint not.' And this due time is God's time, not ours. The moment we begin to ask ourselves—and which of us has not done so?—'Am I doing any good? had I not better give up the effort altogether?' we may be quite sure that we are bringing in human tests of heavenly work."

The discourse closes with a brief reference to the simple and familiar truth that God's work in nature is a model for us in our work for Him. Everywhere we see the law of growth, the gradual going-on from the little to the great, and we ought always to be more ready to trust what is gradual than what is sudden. The gourd which springs up in a night, withers in a night.

"Remember that all real, lasting good comes after much effort, silently and, as we think, slowly. The bread cast upon the waters may not be seen for many days, or we may seem, like the Apostolic fishermen, to have toiled all night and taken nothing, just at the very hour which is God's due time, and He Himself is ready to bless our labor with success."

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KALENDAR.—DECEMBER.

2 Friday—Fast.
4 Second Sunday in Advent.
9 Friday—Fast.
11 Third Sunday in Advent.
14 Ember Day—Fast.
16 Friday—Ember Day—Fast.
17 Ember Day—Fast.
18 Fourth Sunday in Advent.
21 S. Thomas.
23 Friday—Fast.
25 Christmas.
26 S. Stephen.
27 S. John, Evangelist.
28 Holy Innocents.
30 Friday—Fast.

GUILD MEETINGS.

5 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild
6 8 P. M., Meeting of S. Andrew's Brotherhood.
13 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild
27 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

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CHRISTMAS.

Christmas is one of the three great feasts in the Christian year. As among the Jews there were three great festivals in each year which they were required to keep by all the males going up to Jerusalem to worship, to pay their tithes and offer their sacrifices, so from the earliest times Christians have kept the feasts of Christmas, Easter and Whitsuntide, which commemorate the greatest facts connected with our religion, in the same way. Christmas tells us of the great fact of the Incarnation of the Son of God to bring about man's redemption, and to share in all his sufferings and sorrows. Easter commemorates Christ's triumph over death, the proof of His divine nature, and of man's resurrection from the dead. Whitsuntide tells us of the divine formation and government of the Christian Church.

These are all truths of inestimable worth and importance to human life, and so should ever be kept before men, and impressed upon them, that they may be known and appreciated.

So we celebrate these Feasts with special ceremonies, and try to make them express and symbolize the great truths they are intended to teach. To do this, there is appointed, first a period of preparation for them, that our minds may be carried forward to them, and contemplate them for some time. Thus the season of Advent precedes the feast of Christmas, and is intended to prepare us for it. And the feast itself should be kept not only with special music and decoration of our churches, but by the performance of the greatest act of our religion, the reception of the Holy Communion.

Persons who have not been properly instructed often think that it is incongruous to make such a day of gladness and general merry-making as Christmas, a time for such a solemn act as the reception of the Holy Communion. But they should remember that the whole significance of the day comes from its religious character. It would have no meaning or purpose were it not for that, so we should consider that fact, and keep it as a great religious day, before we give ourselves up to merry making. And there is nothing incongruous between true Christmas joy and divine worship. The one will enhance the other. Only those who realize what Christmas means, and have such pure and clean hearts that they can peform their greatest act of worship, can truly enter into Christmas joy.

So we hope every one in this congregation will remember that Christmas is a day for general Communion, one of the three times in the year at least, when every Christian should receive. As in previous years the fullest opportunities will be provided for the purpose. These will be celebrations at 6.30, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M., and all who can possibly do so, are urged to make their Communions at one of the earlier celebrations, both because it is the best and most natural time in which to make one's Communion, and because the service in the middle of the day will be unusually prolonged by the special music.

Then, too, at Christmas as we give thanks to God for the great gift of His Son to us, so we try to imitate Him and make others happy by giving gifts to one another. In doing this let us remember the Church. Let every one return God's gift by giving a gift to Him. In what better way can we express our appreciation of what our religion is to us than by doing something especial to support and strengthen that great institution which brings it to us? And our parish is largely dependent upon Christmas and Easter offerings. Our ordinary receipts from Sunday to Sunday are not sufficient to meet all our expenses, especially during the four or five summer months when so many persons are out of town. During those months we have to borrow money in order to meet our expenses. This we have to pay back from the proceeds of our Christmas and Easter offerings. Every one attending the church, therefore, is asked to make a special offering on those days, *in addition* to his ordinary contribution. And we hope the offering this Christmas will be as large as possible. Last year it reached nearly $900. This year it should be at least $1000. We need also, donations for the children's festival, the church decorations, and for a treat to the members of the Mothers' Meeting.

Let every one realize what Christmas means, what joy and blessing it brings into his own life, and he will be only too glad to do all he can to express his thankfulness by making others happy, and bringing the same joy to them.

THE NEWS.

Last year our parish paper was very successful financially, and a real interest seemed to be taken in its welfare. It paid all its expenses, and we entered on the present year with a small balance to its credit. This year, we much regret to say, we are slightly in debt to the extent of about $15. Our subscription list has fallen off some 35 names, the advertisements have amounted to $62.50, as against $74.50 for 1891, and the donations, up to December 1st, have been $4.25, while last year they were $16.27. It can therefore, very readily be seen why we are behindhand. It is most important that we should close the year without carrying over any debt to 1893, and the object of this article is to ask for donations. Will not the members of the parish contribute according to their ability, whether the sum be large or small? The deficit is not a great one, and this appeal is made with the hope that it will not pass unheeded.

Record for November.

Baptisms	5
Communicants added new	1
" by removal	4
" died	1
" removed	2
Communions of the Sick	2
Burials	2

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$384 07
" the Poor	13 17
" General Missions	11 65
" Diocesan "	25
" Year Book	50
" New Prayer Book and Hymnals	12 00
" Polytechic	1 00
" Church building	3 00
" Episcopal Hospital	43 48
" Sunday School	1 00
Of the Sunday School	5 53
	$475 65

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Some members of the Vestry have presented the church with a very fine fire proof safe for the keeping of our valuable records, something we have very much needed. The Rev. Mr. Kittson, before leaving us, donated us some bound and unbound books to our parish library, also some devotional books. Six and a half tons of coal were donated for the poor, and several Thanksgiving dinners. Three wooden boxes for the collections, and piece of red tape and sealing wax.

CHANGE OF WARDEN. — Mr. Tingley having resigned the wardenship on account of the press of other work, Mr. Frank R. Stevenson has been elected in his stead.

PRESENTATION TO MR. KITTSON.—On the Sunday before he left, the Rev. Mr. Kittson was presented by the Superintendent and teachers of the Sunday School with a very handsome testimonial of their appreciation of his services. It consisted of a solid silver gilt pyx, a box in which to carry wafers for private Communions. To it was attached a heavy gold chain so that it could be worn over the neck. A speech was made by the Superintendent in presenting it, and Mr. Kittson returned his thanks for it.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS.—As we have said in our editorial, each member of the congregation is asked to make a special Christmas offering for the support of the church. And in making it do *not put it in your numbered envelope*, for if you do, it will be credited to your ordinary account. Put it on the plate *in addition* to your envelope for the Sunday. Or if you put it in your envelope, designate it as a Christmas offering. Donations for the Sunday School festival and the Church decorations may be put in the alms chest in the vestibule, marked for that purpose.

THE CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL will be on the evening of Holy Innocents' Day. It will take the place of the ordinary Wednesday evening service. The children will sing their carols in the church, and afterwards have their entertainment in the school-room.

TEACHERS.—We are glad to say that we have a number of new teachers, both in the Sunday and Industrial Schools. These schools were never so well provided for in this respect before. But if we can have more yet, we can have more scholars.

HISTORICAL SERMON.—The subject of the Historical sermon on the third Sunday evening of this month will be "The Reformation."

NEW PRAYER BOOKS.—In response to an appeal for copies of the new prayer books for the Chancel, one lady has given the money to provide two for the clergy stalls, another has promised one for the Litany desk, and we have received a dollar towards the others and another dollar towards hymnals for the choir. We are sorry to say, however, that there is no prospect of the handsome editions of the new Prayer Book being ready much before Easter. The only edition that will be ready by Christmas is a very cheap one, 25 cents a copy. We should advise all the congregation, however, to get this. It will do afterwards to leave in the church for the use of strangers, when the handsomer editions can be had in its place. And there is such a demand even for this edition, that it will be wise to leave orders at Wanamaker's for them, so as to be sure to secure copies when they come out, which will be probably the week before Christmas.

CHANGES IN THE PRAYER BOOK.—Until our people can supply themselves with copies of the new Prayer Book, it is impossible for us to conform to all the changes that have been made. We sing the new versicles after the Creed in the Sunday afternoon service now, as the choir have been supplied with copies of the responses.

THE ASSISTANTSHIP.—The Rev. Mr. Kittson left us on the Monday after the Sunday next before Advent. His place has not yet been supplied. The Rector has been corresponding with several clergymen in regard to it, but it may take some time before one suitable can be found who will be willing to accept the position. In the meantime the Rector has to get on with what occasional services he can secure from clergymen and a lay reader.

CLOTHING FOR THE POOR.—Donations of clothing of any description can be sent to the church at any time, and profitably used in our charitable work. There is special need of children's clothing. A number of children in the parish cannot attend the Sunday School because they have not decent clothes to come in.

THE CHRISTMAS MUSIC.—For the past month the choir has been hard at work upon the Christmas music. Perhaps not a dozen people in the crowded church on Christmas Day will be able to realize what the musicians before them have undergone to produce such a service. The high standard of the regular Sunday services must be maintained, and, in addition, music thoroughly learned that is so difficult of execution that the scores had to be obtained from London, there being no demand for them in this country.

Upon the boys, of course, falls the burden and heat of the day. They rehearse four times a week; yet, the choirmaster says, that the absences amount to only one in every two rehearsals.

The service that will be rendered is the famous Schubert in B flat. It's great attraction lies in the fact that, while it is thoroughly scientific music, it is steadily melodious; indeed some of the most beautiful passages in sacred music are in this service. It has plenty of solo work, which will be looked after by our regular admirable soloists, assisted by Mr. Lewis Neilson, tenor, and Mr. Frank Johns, baritone. The latter shortly will become a regular member of the choir. The solo boys will be the regular ones: Horton and Shelton, sopranos, and Snyder and Gouldbourn, altos.

At Morning Prayer, the feature will be the Processional at half past ten. The length of the processional, in exact figures, will be. Crucifer, 1; Banner-bearers, 2; Servers, 3; Sopranos and Altos, 32; Tenors and Basses, 16; musicians, (brass instru-

ments) 5; Clergy, 2; total, 60. The Te Deum will be one of the standard ones, and will be rendered with organ and string orchestra, as will the rest of the service. In the Recessional Hymn the full size of the choir will appear again, and again will the triumphal notes of the cornets and trombones assist in rendering "Angels from the Realms of Glory."

Nor will the afternoon service fall behind. Stainer's grand and beautiful Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, with the difficult and high fugues in the Glorias, will give the boys a chance to show that they were not "sung out" in the morning. The anthem is not quite certain, but it will be selected and put in rehearsal this week.

The Music Committee, the choirmaster and the choir intend to leave nothing undone to make the Christmas service this year, the most grand and impressive in the history of the Ascension, but second to no effort by any boy-choir.

The Music Committee asks that those who appreciate such music as this, and want to encourage our choir in giving it to us, will make special donations in order to provide for its expense. The musical instruments, especially, cost money, and are not counted in the regular music appropriation. But, as they add so much to the beauty of the service, we trust there are those in the congregation who will be willing to pay for them in order that we may have them.

CHOIR PRIZES. — Since May 1891, a system of prizes and of marking has been in vogue in the choir, with excellent results. The year is divided into two terms, ending on November 1st, and May 1st. The boys are marked for attendance, attention and conduct. The highest mark is 100. The marks for these three things are averaged, and boys obtaining an average above 96 in the term receive a prize of five dollars. The boy with the highest average receives ten dollars. The first boy on November 1, was Douglas H. Ross; for the third successive term he had an average of 100. The other two prize winners were, George H. Smith, average 99, and James L. Horton, average 96.66. The marks were nearly all high, as the discipline in the choir is of the best.

ENTERTAINMENT BY ST. MARY'S GUILD. — The members of St. Mary's Guild propose to give one or two entertainments during the winter, the proceeds of which will go towards the reduction of the church debt. The first will take place on the evening of January 10th. It will consist of music and recitations, and a play entitled the Ladies of Athens, most of the characters of which will be taken by the members of the Guild. Tickets may be obtained from the members of the Guild or from the Sexton.

MISSIONARY BOX.—The ladies of the Women's Guild are making preparations for getting up our annual Missionary box. Donations of money, or clothing that may be good enough, are asked for the purpose. The money donations should be given to Mrs. Gen. Leiper, 1416 Lombard Street. The members of the congregation will understand that what is given for this purpose is in addition to the contributions through the envelopes for General Missions. Those go directly to the Board of Missions, for salaries, &c. The collections made by our ladies are for the Missionary box, which is a great addition to the salary the missionary receives.

AFTERNOON SERVICE. — Tell your friends about the beautiful musical service we have here on Sunday afternoons, and see if you cannot bring them to it.

OUR PARISH LIBRARY.—Mr. W. H. Metcalf has recently been appointed by the Rector to the charge of the parish library. He has been cataloging and arranging the new books lately presented to it, and also overhauling the old ones. He finds no less than *eighty-three* books missing. These have been taken out from time to time and not returned. Will not our parishioners look among their books and see if they have not some belonging to our library which should be returned?

NEW YEAR BOOK.—The Year Book of the Parish for 1891-2 is out. It was distributed to those in the Church on the first Sunday in December. Any one who did not get a copy can obtain one from the Sexton.

DEATH OF OUR CARETAKER.—Just as we go to press, we have to record the death of the Caretaker of the Church, Mrs. Fanny McCracken. For six years, ever since the new church was built and left open during the day, she has been in daily attendance there. Always faithful and reliable, genial and pleasant with every one who came in, her presence will be much missed. She passed away quietly, after an illness of only a few days.

R. I. P.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions to the NEWS, have been received:

Rev. G.W. Hodge,	Miss E. Kerr,
Mrs. G. W. Hodge,	Miss F. Drinker,
Mr. Carroll Hodge,	Mrs. J. B. Read,
Mr. L. Barry,	Miss Pemberton,
Miss M. M. Menah,	Mrs. Henry Lehman,
Miss N. L. Bloomer,	Miss Isabel Schell,
Miss M. E. Bloomer,	Mrs. Snyder,
Miss L. M. Bloomer,	Miss E. D. Colley.

Mourn not for vanished ages,
With their great heroic men,
Who dwell in history's pages,
And live in the poet's pen;
For the grandest times are before us,
And the world is yet to see
The noblest worth of this old earth
In the men that are to be.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

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Residence, 1104 Ellsworth St.

The Ascension News.

VOL. VI. PHILADELPHIA, PA., JANUARY, 1893. No. 1

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. G. A. M. DYESS.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
FRANK R. STEVENSON.

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2029 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P. M.

DAILY: Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR.—JANUARY.

1 Circumcision.
6 Friday—Fast.
8 First Sunday after Epiphany.
13 Friday—Fast.
15 Second Sunday after Epiphany.
20 Friday—Fast.
22 Third Sunday after Epiphany
25 Conversion of S. Paul.
27 Friday—Fast.
29 Septuagesima.

GUILD MEETINGS.

3 8 P. M., Meeting of S. Andrew's Brotherhood.
9 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild
10 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
24 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild

OTHER MEETINGS.

Mothers' Meeting, Fridays, 7.30 P. M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3.00 P. M.
Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.
Teachers' Meeting, Wednesdays, 5.20 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. H. W. Montgomery.
Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Oliver Glisson.
Librarians, Mr. Carroll Hodge,
Mr. Stuart Jackson.
Mr. Robert B. Lewis.

BIBLE CLASSES.

Sundays, 3.00 P. M.
For Young Men, Mr. Lloyd.
For Ladies, Mrs. Hodge.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, at 10 A. M.

KINDERGARTEN.

Daily, except Saturdays, from 9 A.M. to noon.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, 112 South Fourth Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

OUR PROSPECTS.

The beginning of a new year is a good time to review the present condition and prospects of our parish.

In the first place we have a church in a central position and situated on a prominent avenue, along which thousands of people pass. At the same time the church is not as large and as conspicuous as it should be to attract strangers. This could only be remedied by the purchase of the apothecary shop on the corner, and extending the church to South Street, putting up a tower on the corner, which would be seen up and down the street. But we fear there is little prospect of this being done unless we should have the good fortune to have some one benefactor who would have the ability and the grace to do this alone.

Then in regard to our congregations, while at all the services on Sunday put together, we certainly have a good many people in attendance, still we should like the attendance at each service to be larger. We have enough persons now who consider themselves connected with our parish to give us good congregations always. But many of our people are not as regular as they should be, and many never come to church but once on a Sunday. Surely this should not be the ideal of church attendance. And we have so many services, and of such different kinds, that we should think every one might find it convenient and agreeable to come to church twice of a Sunday, and occasionally during the week.

Then another great difficulty we have to contend with, is the constant removals among our people. Looking over the last year book it will be noticed that although there were no less than sixty-seven additions to our communicant list, there were fifty losses by death and removal, making the net increase for the year only seventeen. We often look at the vacant places of those who have left us, and think how different the appearance of the church would be if we could only hold our old people as well as bring in new ones.

In regard to our finances, we are glad to note a steady increase in our weekly offerings, ever since the beginning of our present financial year. And the Christmas offering was peculiarly gratifying in the increased number of comparatively *small* contributions, showing that the congregation generally were doing more than they have done heretofore. And as the first of March we shall begin to receive the interest from our endowment fund, and the Vestry are shortly going to make an offort to reduce our debt, we shall hope hereafter not only to be able to meet our current expenses, but to increase our appropriations.

In regard to our different departments of work, we think our Sunday and Industrial Schools are better provided with teachers and have a larger attendance than ever before. Our Guilds, too, are in good working order. We note with peculiar pleasure the present prosperous condition of our Young Men's Guild. Still there is a great deal more work that could be done by a church situated and conducted as ours is, if we had more workers and more resources. There are a great many appliances for church work than we need, but we hesitate to apply to our people for them, as they have already so many demands made upon them. We can only hope that what we need will come in time.

On the whole then, as we survey, the present condition and prospects of our parish, we cannot but feel encouraged. Certainly as our statistics prove, we have been making steady progress for many years past, always going ahead, making improvements and getting stronger, never going backward. And perhaps this steady, though it may not be very rapid progress, is the best and most healthy that can be made.

We know that there are some of our members who are disappointed that more brilliant and startling results are not produced. But such persons should remember that only churches that are in very exceptional positions or have very special attractions or large resources can show such results. And we doubt if any church can be pointed to with *no larger an income* than ours, that does as much work, and has as large an attendance as ours. And we are very sure that the way in which our church is conducted, is calculated to attract a greater variety of people, and endear them more to it than any other that we know.

Let every member of our congregation do his or her full share of work, and be as liberal as they can, and no one will complain of our not making progress.

THE ASSISTANTSHIP.

We are happy to announce that the position of Assistant Minister in the parish, which was vacated so unexpectedly by Mr. Kittson, has been filled by the appointment of the Rev. G. A. M. Dyess, now Rector of the Church of the Epiphany, Bellevue, in the Diocese of Pittsburgh. He has been very highly recommended by those who have known him well, as a very faithful and good man and hard worker. We shall welcome him very warmly to the parish, and trust that he will be a great aid to the Rector in building the church up, and carrying out the purposes for which it was intended.

He will enter upon his duties on the third Sunday of this month, January the 15th.

The Rector takes this opportunity of expressing his obligations to the Rev. Mr. Meigs, the Rev. Dr. Batterson, and the other clergymen who have assisted him in the interval when he was without an Assistant, and whose services have been entirely gratuitous.

Record for December.

Baptism	1
Marriage	1
Communicants added new	4
" by removal	7
" died	1
" removed	6
Communions of the Sick	1
Burials	2

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$1,243 73
" the Poor	12 12
" Children's Festival and Decorations	18 78
" Christmas Music	53 00
" Mother's Meeting	27 50
" Ascension News	12 00
" General Missions	25
" Diocesan "	11
" the Schools	6 25
At the discretion of the Rector	10 00
Of the Sunday School	6 52
Total,	$1,390 26

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—The Rector received at Christmas the gift of a very fine linen surplice embroidered, there was given a fine linen embroidered cotta for server, and the embroidery of a fair linen damask cloth for private celebrations, 19 dozen oranges were donated for the Sunday School festival, and a number of the teachers both in the Sunday and Industrial schools made private donations to their scholars.

The Choir presented the Choir Master with a silver handle whisk, and the Ladies' Bible Class gave their teacher a very fine wall clock for the Bible Class room.

A surplice satchel was given to the church, and an iron bedstead and mattress to a member of the Mothers' Meeting.

CHRISTMAS.—Though we had been having a series of beautiful Sundays before that, Christmas Day proved stormy. This undoubtedly affected our attendance, for though we had good congregations except at night, they were not as large as they otherwise would have been. There were forty-four Communicants at the 6.30 A. M. service, seventy-two at 7.30 A. M., and one hundred and two at 11.30 A. M. This is a slight increase over the previous Christmas, but much less than we had at Easter. Why is it that our people do not consider the Communion at Christmas as much of an obligation as at Easter? The Church looked very pretty as it always does in its Christmas decorations. And the choir certainly did themselves credit in the music they gave us. A very competent musical critic who was present, and who has attended many services in England as well as in this country, said that "he had seldom heard a better service, and speaking ing as a musician, he was charmed with the precision and accuracy of the rendering."

It was the largest choir we have ever had in the church, and we are glad to welcome several permanent additional voices.

Our children's festival on the evening of Holy Innocents' Day was more largely attended than before, and the singing was better. The children had their tree and a real live Kriss Kringle presented a gift to each scholar, together with a box of candies and an orange.

The members of the Mothers' Meeting had their treat, seventeen women were provided with a turkey or chicken, and vegetables for their Christmas dinner, the amount specially donated for this purpose by some members of the congregation being $27.50.

On the Friday before Christmas the children of the Kindergarten had their tree, provided by the managers, most of whom were present on the occasion. The children went through some of their exercises and were then entertained with cake, candy, etc. So altogether the Feast of Joy was well observed in our parish.

MISSIONARY BOX.—The ladies having the missionary box in charge have collected so far over thirty dollars for the purpose, which is much less than last year. They hope additional donations will be sent. They also have received donations of an overcoat, warm underwear, &c. And as the clergyman to whom the box is intended lives in Missouri, in order that he might have the benefit of these during the cold weather, they have been sent to him at once. And now that Christmas is over, the ladies hope to be able to make up the remainder of the box.

ENTERTAINMENTS. — As announced last month, S. Mary's Guild gives an entertainment for the benefit of the Church Debt Fund, on Tuesday evening the 10th, tickets can be had from the Sexton, or from members of the Guild. As this is to take place on the regular monthly meeting night of the Guild, the business and devotional exercises which should take place on that night will be postponed until that of the 24th.

On the evening of the 17th an entertainment will be given by the children of the Sunday School, for the benefit of the school. It will consist of recitations, &c., by members of the school. Admission, 10 cents.

LETTER FROM MR. KITTSON.—The Rector received at Christmas a letter from the Rev. Mr. Kittson, conveying the congratulations of the season, and saying that though the thermometer was below zero in Montreal, he kept well and was busy in getting his new work in order. He asks to have the NEWS sent regularly to him, and promises a copy of his parish paper in exchange.

ARRANGEMENT OF SERVICES.—The Rector wants to explain that when the new Assistant comes, it will be necessary for a different division of the services to be made, as Mr. Dyess does not sing. Heretofore the Rector has always taken the early Celebration on Sundays, both because he preferred to make his own Communion at that time, and because he hoped thereby to lead his people to do the same. But now he shall be obliged to let Mr. Dyess take this and himself Celebrate in the middle of the day, as that Celebration is choral.

He makes this explanation that the members of the parish may not think that he has become lazy, or that he has changed his views as to preference of the early service as the time for Communion.

CONFIRMATION —The Bishop of the Diocese has appointed the evening of April 12th, to administer Confirmation in this parish. The Rector hopes that all who have not yet been confirmed, who are of sufficient age, will give him their names for presentation to the Bishop at that time. Instructions preparatory to it will be given during Lent.

HISTORICAL SERMON. — The subject of the Historical Sermon on the evening of the third Sunday this month, will be "The English Reformation."

NEW PRAYER BOOKS—Handsome (small) editions of the New Prayer Book can now be obtained at Wanamaker's, or McVey's, 39 N. 13th Street. And very good cheap editions at 25 cents a copy. We hope our people generally will provide themselves with them.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions to the NEWS have been received:

Mr. C. J. Yost,	Mrs. John Alexander,
Mrs. Dr. Butcher,	Mr. F. R. Stevenson,
Mrs. H. M. Bond,	Mr. F. S. Keese,
Miss Leiberick,	Mr. W. M. Newnam,
Miss Parmelee,	Miss S. Vogdes,
Miss E. H. King,	Mrs. H. G. Gray,
Mrs. Wm. Anable,	Mrs. H. C. Pollock,
Miss M. H. White,	Miss M. G. Harper;
Miss Zantzinger,	Miss M. W. Harper,
Mrs. M. S. Jansen,	Mrs. Milliken,
Mrs. M. F. Roberts,	Miss R. McElhiney,
Mr. C. L. S. Tingley,	Mr. Geo. A. Nicholson,
Mrs. Clement Tingley,	Mrs. Geo. A. Nicholson
Mr. O. S. Glisson,	Miss Barrington.

Second Annual Report of the Kindergarten.

In order to put our daily kindergarten for young children on a permanent basis, and provide for its support, the following Board of Managers and officers have been appointed.

Board of Managers.—Mrs. Francis S. Keese, Miss Maria Gilpin, Miss A. Chamberlain, Mrs. W. F. Smith, Mrs. J. E. Mason, Miss Amy D. Butler, Miss Helen Longacre, Miss E. Williamson. *Officers* — Secretary, Miss Elizabeth Gilpin; treasurer, Miss Pauline Neidhard. *Visiting Committee*—Mrs. James A. Bonsack, Miss Rosalie Grubb, Miss Clara Williamson. *Teacher*—Miss Alice Spear.

They make the following as their Second Annual Report.

The Kindergarten of the Church of the Ascension was started in November 1890, with the idea of bringing the many neglected children of that neighborhood into daily contact with pure and cheerful surroundings.

The results have been most satisfactory, for since that time upwards of one hundred children have been enrolled upon the books. The largest number at any one time being thirty-five, with an average daily attendance of twenty-two.

As the Public Schools are not yet adequate to supply the demands for Kindergartens in every locality, it would seem natural that the Churches should be willing to supplement this work, which means true moral and religious culture for these little ones.

As means to this end the Rector has kindly given us the daily use of the Sunday School room, but otherwise the Kindergarten has no resources apart from the help of a few voluntary subscribers.

In order to continue the work, money is needed for the teacher's salary and for new materials. The latter are mostly provided by the children themselves, who bring sometimes five or ten cents a week to help pay their way. Besides this a little more than $200 would be sufficient for the entire expense of the Kindergarten per annum, which is a comparatively small sum, when one considers the benefit and enjoyment it affords.

Any one who is willing to become an annual subscriber or to help us out this year, may send their subscription to the treasurer, Miss Pauline Neidhard, 1511 Arch Street, or to Rev. G. Woolsey Hodge, 334 South Thirteenth Street.

THE CHRISTIAN SOCIAL UNION.

We hope the members of our congregation will not forget about this Association, which exists for the study of social and economical questions in the light of the Christian religion. Any churchman or churchwoman can belong to it. The annual dues are only one dollar. The Philadelphia Branch meets in our Parish Building on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 3 P. M. The subjects to be discussed this month are "Moral Education," and "Church Union," each to be opened by the Rector of the Parish, the different members of the Union taking this duty in turn. Anyone, though not a member of the Union, is welcomed to attend the meetings.

THE NEWS.

We have received the annual statement of the business manager of the NEWS. We are glad to say that in response to our appeal last month, a number of subscriptions which were overdue, were paid up, and some donations made, which have enabled us to meet all our expenses for the year, except five dollars. Our thanks are due to those who have thus responded to our appeal, but will not some one give us this five dollars that we may square up our last year's account?

We are sure that all who are interested in our parish are glad to see and read the NEWS, as it tells them so much about its affairs, they might not otherwise hear. If so, will not all help support it by subscribing to it and endeavoring to obtain advertisements for it?

Anecdote of Bishop Wilberforce.

A writer in *Temple Bar* relates several interesting anecdotes about the late Bishop Wilberforce. "A Hampshire lout," he says, "I do not know a better word, appeared in a country church among the candidates (for confirmation.) The Bishop felt sure that he had confirmed him before, so he leaned over and said, very softly: 'My boy, I think I have confirmed you before.' The lad opened his great, wide eyes and replied: 'You be a liar.' Wilberforce knew that this was only the ordinary way a clown knew how to deny what was not true; so he was told to kneel down and he was confirmed.

Prayer.

Eternal Godhead, Three in One,
And One in Three Divine,
May Thy loving, gracious presence
Ever on my pathway shine.

Protect, befriend and comfort me,
In all life's trials be near;
Teach me to trust without a doubt
All through the coming year.

Answer.

"Be quiet." "Fear not." "For I will never leave thee nor forsake thee."

Mary Lonsdale.

The Largest Store in America
DEVOTED
EXCLUSIVELY TO DRY GOODS.
STRAWBRIDGE & CLOTHIER,
Market, Eighth and Filbert Streets.

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The Ascension News.

VOL. VI. PHILADELPHIA, PA., FEBRUARY, 1893. No. 2

Church of the Ascension.

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FRANK R. STEVENSON.

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2029 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P. M.

DAILY: Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTIONS, during Lent, Mondays, 4 P. M., Thursdays, 8 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR—FEBRUARY.

2 Purification, B. V. M.
3 Friday—Fast.
5 Sexagesima.
10 Friday—Fast.
12 Quinquagesima.
15 Ash Wednesday.
19 First Sunday in Lent.
22 Ember Day.
24 S. Matthias. Ember Day.
25 Ember Day.
26 Second Sunday in Lent.
All days in Lent except Sundays are fasts.

GUILD MEETINGS.

6 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild
7 8 P. M., Meeting of S. Andrew's Brotherhood.
14 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
28 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild

OTHER MEETINGS.

Mothers' Meeting, Fridays, 7.30 P. M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3.00 P. M.
Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.
Teachers' Meeting, Wednesdays, 5.20 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. H. W. Montgomery.
Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Oliver Glisson.
Librarians, Mr. Carroll Hodge,
Mr. Stuart Jackson.
Mr. Robert B. Lewis.

BIBLE CLASSES.

Sundays, 3.00 P. M.
For Young Men, Mr. Lloyd.
For Ladies, Mrs. Hodge.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, at 10 A. M.

KINDERGARTEN.

Daily, except Saturdays, from 9 A.M. to noon.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, 112 South Fourth Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

REDUCING OUR DEBT.

The Vestry of our parish has just issued an appeal to all whom they thought in any way interested in it, asking for contributions for the purpose of reducing the indebtedness on our property. This consists of a mortgage of $25,000, covering our entire lot with the improvements thereon. This was placed on the property when the church was first removed to Broad St., in order that all the money that we had could be used in building. Since then we have spent some $40,000 in erecting first the parish building on the rear of the lot, then the main body of the church, and then the chancel. In addition to which we have put in the organ, costing over $4000, and graded, paved, etc., the side and end of the lot at a cost of some $800. We have also received a number of costly memorials in the way of stained glass windows, etc.

All these improvements have been entirely paid for, but in the meanwhile we have been carrying this debt of $25,000 on which, for five years, we had to pay interest at the rate of 6 per cent., and since then of 5 per cent., amounting now to $1250 a year, all this is money paid away; it takes so much money which could be otherwise used for the support of the church; it is a great drain upon us; it prevents our church being consecrated, as we cannot offer to God that which we do not entirely own ourselves; and it so far endangers the future of the church, as it makes it always that much more difficult to support.

We are sure, therefore, all our people are agreed in the desirableness of our being relieved of this incubus; and the Vestry think that the time has now come to make an effort in this direction. Each year since we removed from Lombard street, we have taken a step forward, making some needed improvement, until last year, when we gave our people a rest. Is it not time to begin again and do this most needed work of freeing our church from debt? Will not all our people do what they can for this purpose, and also try to interest any friends they may have outside of the parish, who might be willing to help in this great charity of establishing a strong free church in this central part of the city?

At the same time we want to say to all the members of the parish that they must be very careful not to let any contribution they may give to this object take away from what they are giving regularly towards the support of the church, or reduce the amount of their special Easter or Christmas offering.

While the church was on Lombard street our annual expenses averaged $3000 a year; now they are about $7000. This is a very moderate sum to sustain such a work as we are now doing and we are dependent for this income entirely upon the offerings of the people, and any additional amount we may gain from reducing our debt is imperatively needed for increase of salaries, etc. While therefore we hope that our people will aid in this effort if they can do so without decreasing the amount of their ordinary contributions, we do not desire them to do it if they cannot afford to do both.

But we do think all might aid in this project, by trying to interest friends outside the parish. If any one knows those whom they think would thus aid us, they can obtain from the warden copies of the appeal to send to them.

We append it here, as it may thus come to the eyes of those who might not otherwise see it.

Philadelphia, January 1893.

The Rector, Church Wardens and Vestrymen of the Church of the Ascension, Broad Street below South, appeal for assistance in reducing the Mortgage of $25,000 on the Church Property.

All the buildings and improvements which have been put upon the propety are entirely paid for, and the Church has no other indebtedness, but the interest on this Mortgage is a heavy burden to be carried by a congregation, which is not a wealthy one, and a Church in which the seats are entirely free.

We have the privilege of reducing the Mortgage by payments of $500 or more at any time.

We herewith enclose contribution slips one of which you are requested to sign and return in the enclosed envelope.

Any amounts so contributed will be used solely for the purpose herein stated. If the subscriber is a parishioner, what is thus given should be in *addition* to all contributions towards the support of the Church.

Subscriptions may be payable in cash or extending through a term of years.

G. WOOLSEY HODGE, Rector,
334 South 13th Street.
J. Edward Carpenter, 228 S. 21st St.
Frank R. Stevenson, 225 S. 9th St.
Wardens.

It is accompanied with two forms of pledge, one for an immediate or definite gift, another for one running over a term of years.

I herewith enclose (or promise to give) towards the extinguishment of the mortgage on the Church of the Ascension, Philadelphia, the sum of $

(Name)

(Address)

I promise to give yearly for successive years towards the extinguishment of the mortgage on the Church of the Ascension, Philadelphia, the sum of $

(Name)

(Address)

THE ASSISTANTSHIP.

In our last issue we announced that the Rev. G. A. M. Dyess, of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, had accepted the position of Assistant Minister in this parish. This was the case. He spent Sunday, December 18th, with us and before leaving told the Rector that he would accept the position and enter on his duties January 15th. A few days before that date, however, he wrote to the Rector saying that he would not be able to come, as he had twice presented his resignation to his Vestry and they had refused to accept it.

This was a great disappointment to the Rector as he had thought the place was filled, and he had waited a whole month for Mr. Dyess to come.

The Rector has, however, been very fortunate in securing another clergyman for the position, the Rev. Louis A. Lanpher, who has already entered upon his duties.

We extend to him the welcome we had intended for Mr. Dyess, and trust that he will more than fill his place.

Record for January.

Baptisms	3
Communicants added, new	1
" by removal	3
" removed	2
Burials	2

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$455.73
" the Poor	9 00
" Church Debt	160 00
" General Missions	3 50
" Freedmen Missions	1 47
" Church Building	1 00
" the Kindergarten	2 00
" " Christmas Music	33 00
" " Altar Fund	20 00
Of the Sunday School	6 78
Total,	$692 48

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Two framed pictures of choristers for the Guild room; quantity of pamphlets and papers for the same.

CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTIONS will be given during Lent on Monday afternoons, at 4 o'clock, by the Rector, in the Guild room, and on Thursday evenings, at 8 o'clock, by Assistant Minister. All looking forward to confirmation are expected to attend one or other of these series of instructions.

MISSIONARY WORK.—The material for the missionary box has now been cut out, and any members of the congregation who are willing to take pieces home and make them up can get them from the ladies in charge on Thursday mornings after prayers, or afternoons during the meeting of the Ladies' Aid. During Lent the Ladies' Aid will work for some charitable object, and ladies in the congregation are invited to join with them.

All the young ladies in the congregation are also asked to meet every Tuesday evening during Lent to sew for a missionary box. One of the ladies in our congregation who is very much interested in missionary work will meet with them and while they are sewing will talk with them about the various missions our church is carrying on and in which all our church people should be interested.

DIOCESAN MISSIONS.—The special charitable envelope, sent out with the other envelopes this quarter, is for Diocesan Missions. The congregation will understand that this is for the support of the missionary work of the church within our own Diocese, conducted under our Convocations. For this purpose our parish is expected to give $100, and it certainly looks very badly to see it reported, as it has been several years in the annual report of the Board of Missions, that this church has only contributed one-half the amount it is asked to give. Can we not give the whole amount this year? Copies of the last annual report of the Board of Missions will be distributed in the church at the beginning of this quarter, that the congregation may be able to acquaint themselves with the object for which these offerings are asked.

ENTERTAINMENTS.—That which was given by S. Mary's Guild last month was very creditable to the members of the Guild who took part in it, and to the lady who trained them Unfortunately, the night chosen for the performance proved to be the very coldest of the season, which, together with the fact that very little time had been allowed in which to sell the tickets, made the attendance very light. But those who were there were well rewarded for going out on such a night. The receipts were about $34.

The entertainment of the Sunday School was a great success in point of numbers, and it, too, was most creditable to those who took part in it. The only trouble was that it was too prolonged, making it very late for the young children to get home. This was due to the enthusiasm of the audience, which insisted on having so many pieces repeated. We would suggest that in the future the performance begins sharp on the time announced, and that the programme be strictly adhered to.

On the evening of February 4th an entertainment is to be given by some members of the congregation and their friends, at the New Century Club, Twelfth street above Walnut, for the benefit of S. John's Guild of our parish, the object being to obtain money to provide the Guild with more and better gymnastic appliances. It will consist of music and a French play given by the Berlitz School of Languages, who have kindly offered their assistance. A number of prominent ladies have consented to act as patronesses. Tickets for this entertainment can be obtained from Miss Gilpin, 1332 Pine St., or from the sexton of the church. We hope the members of the congregation will encourage these friends of S. John's Guild in their laudable efforts in its behalf.

S. Mary's Guild contemplates contemplates giving a reception on behalf of the young people of the parish, to our new Assistant. In order to do this before Lent, the ordinary business meeting will have to be postponed again to the fourth Tuesday of the month, and the second Tuesday (which happens to be Shrove Tuesday) taken for this reception.

Each member of the Guild will have the privilege of inviting one person, and the Committee on Entertainments will invite, in addition, a number of the young people of the parish who are not members of the Guild.

LENTEN SERVICES.—As usual, during Lent a portion of the choir will be present every afternoon at the 5 o'clock service, and there will be a lecture after prayers on Fridays, with a collection for special Lenten offerings. The services for Holy Week will be announced in our next issue.

We call the attention of our female members to the announcement of the Quiet Day and Conference for Church Workers we print below.

HISTORICAL SERMON.—The subject for the Historical Sermon, to be preached on the second Sunday evening of this month, will be, "The History of the Church of England."

DEATH OF A FORMER SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER.—We are sure that all who knew her will hear with deep regret of the death of one of our former members and Sunday School teachers, Mrs. William Wilkinson, formerly Miss Mamie Morrell. She had been connected with our parish from her childhood, was confirmed in 1885, and from that date until her marriage, two years ago, was a Sunday School teacher. She was most refined and attractive in person and character. She was always faithful in the discharge of her duties and was devotedly attached to the church. After her marriage she removed to Roanoke, Va., but returned on a visit last spring, that she might have her baby baptized here. Her death is a great loss to her family and a great grief to all who knew her. The rector officiated at her funeral on January 18th. R. I. P.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions to the NEWS have been received:

Mr. James Lescure,	Mrs. A. Jackson,
Mrs. W. P. Chandler,	Miss F. Jackson,
Mrs. Geo. W. Biddle,	Mr. S. Jackson,
Mr. John B. Haslett,	Miss C. Williamson,
Miss E. L. Stokes,	Mrs. H. Connelly,
Mrs. J. P. Eyre,	Miss .M S. Wurts,
Mrs. C. H. Darlington,	Mrs. John G. Johnson,
Mrs. Chas. L. Leiper,	Mrs. Henry C. Mayer,
Mrs. David Carstairs,	Miss Mary C. Smith,
Mrs. M. L. Volmer,	Mr. C. W. Smith,
Miss Carter,	Miss Dickerson,
Miss M. Gilpin,	Miss R. Grubb,

Miss A. H. Chamberlaine.

It is particularly asked that those who are in arrears to the NEWS will make prompt payment. There are 28 subscriptions now overdue. If *you* are notified of the fact this month, will you kindly make payment without delay?

A QUIET DAY AND CONFERENCE.

A Quiet Day for Women will be held on Thursday, February 23rd, at the Church of the Holy Apostles, corner Twenty-first and Christian Streets, to be conducted by the Rev. James S. Stone, D. D., Rector of Grace Church. Services from 10 A. M. to 12 P. M., and from 2.30 to 4.30 P. M.

A CONFERENCE FOR CHURCHWOMEN will be held on St. Matthias' Day, Friday, February 24th, in the Parish Building of St. James' Church, entrance on Sansom Street. Morning session from 10 A. M. to 12.30 P. M. Topics: 1st, "Dangers as well as helps that arise from the multiplication of Parochial Organizations; 2nd, "Why is there such a dearth of Sunday School teachers, and how may their ranks be recruited?"

Afternoon session from 2.30 to 4.30 P. M. Topics: 1st, "The relative importance of work among the heathen in foreign lands and in our own;" 2nd "College settlements"

The women of this congregation are invited to all these meetings.

RELIGIOUS TRAINING.

"More and more there is growing up a disposition among parents to permit all matters of religious observance to be with their offspring mere matters of choice or preference. Your child must learn French and German and drawing; but he shall learn his catechism and Bible lesson and a reverent observance of this holy day if he chooses, and not otherwise. A more dismal and irrational folly it is not easy to conceive of. I do not say that there may not have been folly in another and in an opposite direction. I am not unmindful that religious teaching has been sometimes made a dreary and intolerable burden. But surely we can correct one excess (not, I apprehend, very frequent or very harmful), without straightway flying to an opposite and worse one. And so I plead with you who are parents to train your children to ways of reverent familiarity with God's word, God's house and God's day. Let them understand that something higher than your taste or preference makes these things sacred and binding, and constrains you to imbue them with your spirit. And that they may do this the more effectually, give them, I entreat you, that mightiest teaching which consists in your own consistent and devout example."—Bishop H. C. Potter.

THERE is probably no theme in the whole round of Christian duty and privilege so much neglected at present as the one of our accountabilitity to God for the right use of money which He has placed in our hands.

SELFISHNESS, stinginess, covetousness, or waste and extravagance are misappropriations of the Lord's money, and are as truly contrary to a Christian life as intemperance and dishonesty.

The Circus Boy.

BY A. A. VYVYAN THOMSON.

I left the little town behind
And took the path that led
Up to the churchyard on the heath,
The city of the dead.

In letters plain I found these words
Upon a cross of wood:
"Here lies the little circus boy,
Who did the best he could."

So strange I thought this epitaph,
I asked a farmer's wife,
Who gladly told me all she knew
Of his unhappy life.

She said: "The circus came to town
A year or so ago,
And so my husband and myself,
We went to see the show.

"A hundred clever things we saw
That filled us with delight,
And when the little Dono came
We clapped with all our might.

"He climbed up to a ladder top
And stood upon his head,
He danced upon a rope so small,
You'd snap it like a thread.

"At last they brought two horses in,
And, climbing up in haste,
As fast they galloped round the track
One foot on each he placed.

"He rode amid the deafening cheers
'Till, on the second round,
His right foot slipped, and with a shriek
He fell upon the ground.

"The manager picked up the boy,
Whose limbs were sprained and sore,
He cried, 'You fell off purposely,'
And angrily he swore.

"'How now,' he said, 'do you suppose
That you can earn your food?'
The little fellow answered him,
'I did the best I could.'

"The heartless man turned round when shrieks
Were heard on every side,
'The tiger's loose—the tiger's loose,'
They horror-stricken cried.

"He looked, right in the tiger's path,
There sat his little child,
And, as the tiger crouched to spring,
Looked round in terror wild.

"'O God! O, save my child,' he cried,
When, springing to his feet,
Young Dono rushed upon the beast,
An awful death to meet.

"The child was saved, Then shots were heard,
The angry beast was dead,
They picked poor Dono up all cut
And torn from foot to head.

"'How brave,' the weeping father said,
How generous and good,—
And dying Dono answered him,
'I did the best I could.'"

The Largest Store in America
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The Ascension News.

VOL. VI. PHILADELPHIA, PA., MARCH, 1893. No. 3

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. LOUIS A. LANPHER.
1032 Spruce St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
FRANK R. STEVENSON.

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2029 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P. M.

THURSDAYS DURING LENT:
Holy Communion 7.30 A. M.

DAILY: Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTIONS, during Lent, Mondays, 4 P. M., Thursdays, 8 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR—MARCH.

5 Third Sunday in Lent
12 Fourth Sunday in Lent
19 Passion Sunday
25 Annunciation B. V. M.
26 Palm Sunday
27 Monday before Easter
28 Tuesday before Easter
29 Wednesday before Easter
30 Maunday Thursday
31 Good Friday

All days in Lent except Sundays are fasts.

GUILD MEETINGS.

6 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild
7 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
14 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Mothers' Meeting, Fridays, 7.30 P. M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3.00 P. M.
Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. H. W. Montgomery.
Librarians, Mr. Carroll Hodge,
Mr. Stuart Jackson.
Mr. Robert B. Lewis.

BIBLE CLASSES.

Sundays, 3.00 P. M.
For Young Men, Mr. Lloyd.
For Ladies, Mrs. Hodge.

SERVICES IN HOLY WEEK

7½ A. M., daily, Holy Communion.
10 A. M., daily, (except Good Friday) Morning Prayer and Holy Communion.
5 P. M., daily, Evening Prayer.
8 P. M., daily, Sermon on the Passion.

GOOD FRIDAY.

11 A. M., Morning Prayer, Litany and Singing of the Reproaches.
12 to 3 P. M., Preaching of the Cross.

NOTE.—Copies of the words of the Reproaches will be distributed to the congregation at the service. Persons who may not be able to remain during all of the service and preaching on Good Friday, can come or leave the church at any time during the singing of the hymns with which the preaching will be varied.

Confirmation, April 12th, 8 P. M.

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Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

OUR COMMUNICANT LIST.

At our last Diocesan Convention a canon was passed requiring the minister of every parish to send to the Registrar of the Diocese one month before the meeting of the Diocesan Convention in each year, a certified list of all confirmed persons in his parish who are registered as communicants therein.

In accordance with this requirement the Rector of this parish has prepared the list, which is published in this issue of our parish paper, in order that if there are any errors in it they may be corrected before it is sent to the Diocesan authorities.

The Rector would be glad to be informed if there are any names on the list that ought not to be there or any names omitted that ought to be there, or if any names are misspelled. He would be glad also to have the full middle name where only initials are given.

The list has been made up on the following principles. First, it contains the names of all persons who have been confirmed in this parish and subsequently became communicants and are still making their Communions in it. Secondly, of all persons who have been received by letter of transfer from other parishes and are still communicants here. Thirdly, of persons who are regular communicants of the church, but who for some reason have not been able to bring letters of transfer, but who, as far as the Rector has been able to ascertain, are not registered in any other parish. These are persons coming from England, Ireland, Canada or other churches in communion with ours where the system of letters of transfer is not used, or who have belonged to parishes which have become extinct, or who from frequent removals or long neglect have not been on any communicant list for a great while or known to any clergyman.

Names are removed from this list for these causes: first, from death; second, on transfer by letter to other parishes; third, from neglect to come to the Holy Communion.

In regard to this last cause the amount of time elapsing before the name is removed from the list is a matter of discretion with the Rector, depending upon his knowledge of the individual case. In some parishes the invariable rule is made of striking off the names of all persons who do not make at least one Communion during the year. But this seems hardly a fair test as to whether one has permanently ceased to be a communicant. It is undoubtedly the rule of the English Church that all confirmed persons should receive the Holy Communion at least *three* times in the year. Why then should *one* Communion be taken as sufficient? Moreover, it is very difficult for the Rector to know whether each one on his list has made one Communion in the year or not. And even if he or she has not made a Communion in the year, it may have been from some temporary cause and is not proof of abandonment of the Communion of the Church, or permanent giving up of religious duty.

When the Rector notices that persons in his parish fail to come to the Holy Communion, he invariably speaks to them in reference to it, and urges upon them their duty and privilege in the matter, and it is not until he finds that such remonstrances and persuasions are in vain, and the person has in his judgment become permanently negligent of his duty, that he strikes his name from the list.

On this principle names of persons confirmed in or transferred to this parish do not appear on this list owing to long persistent neglect of Communion. And on the other hand there are names of persons who have not made a Communion for a long time but whom the Rector cannot yet believe intend to give it up altogether.

There is another cause for the removal of names from this list, and that is for open and notorious evil living, in accordance with the provisions of the rubric prefixed to the order for the administration of the Holy Communion. In this case the person offending is duly notified, as well as the ecclesiastical authorities.

We make this statement of the principles on which the list is compiled in order that those interested may be able to judge whether their names should or should not be on it.

Record for February.

Baptisms	3
Communicants added	
" by removal	5
" removed	8
Burials	1

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$391 41
" Church Debt	19 25
" Christmas Festival	7 50
" Diocesan Missions	14 25
" General "	6 20
" S. John's Guild	100 00
" the Poor	4 87
Of the Sunday School	5 93
	$549 41

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Repairing and painting closet in cellar, also putting up and taking down temporary Rood Screen in Church, new cassock for the Rector, donation of clothes for missionary box

ST. JOHN'S GUILD.—The entertainment given in the New Century Club on behalf of this Guild was very successful. It was a first-class entertainment, and the hearty thanks of the members of the Guild and those interested in it are due to the ladies and gentlemen who so kindly gave their services and went to so much trouble on its behalf. The proceeds, after paying all expenses, amounted, together with some donations that were made, to nearly $200. With this it is proposed to purchase the following additional articles for the gymnasium, a movable horizontal bar, two tug-of-war belts, mattress, 5x6 ft., Rugby football, trapeze, 2 sets of Indian Club holders; also to have some repairs made to present rowing machine, etc.

In addition it is proposed to board over a portion of the cellar under the parish building and to fit it up as a dressing room, with lockers to contain the gymnasium clothes, and a shower bath, a thing very much needed by the boys after they have become heated by their athletic exercises.

MORE ROOM WANTED—We wish very much we could put an additional story on our parish building that we might have a room entirely devoted to a gymnasium, as it is very awkward to have these appliances put up in our large school room which is used for so many different purposes. We need also very much, additional rooms for our infant school, kindergarten, ladies' work room and for Bible classes. We have now from eighteen to twenty boys crowded on Sunday afternoons into the small Bible class room which is the only room that is not otherwise occupied at that hour. The expense of an additional story would not be very great.

CHURCH DEBT—The result of our appeal for the church debt so far has been that we have received enough to pay off the first $500 of the amount and have on hand some $250 towards another payment. We feel thus that a beginning at least has been made, and we hope that it will go on. We will look for responses to come in from time to time. Let each member of the congregation keep the appeal and the special envelope beside him, and when he has saved up enough to make a contribution, send it to the warden.

EASTER OFFERING.—As we said in our last issue, our members must not let contributions to the church debt take away from their Easter offering. Our special Easter offering last year amounted to $1200 and we shall need fully as much, if not more, this year to enable us to meet our current expenses up to April 30th, the end of our financial year.

NEW PULPIT.—We are happy to announce that we have the promise of a new memorial pulpit. It is to be of stone of various colors to correspond with the church. A design is now being prepared after which it will be built. It will take some time to execute it, but we hope to see it in position during the early summer.

SANCTUARY LAMP.—As the first interest on the Johnson Legacy falls due the first of this month, the Vestry have been taking steps to secure the sanctuary lamp which Mr. Johnson's will directed them to purchase. It will probably be put in place shortly after Easter. It is also proposed to erect a brass tablet in memory of Mr. Johnson. It will be placed on the south wall of the church near the vestry door.

MISSIONARY SEWING.—As announced in our last number the young women of the Parish were asked to meet every Tuesday evening during Lent to sew for a mission in the South, and also to make fancy articles for a fair to be given in aid of the Seamen's Mission in this city. The attendance at the first meeting was very good, over twenty-five being present. The second night few were present as it was very stormy.

If there are any in the congregation who cannot attend these meetings but would like to aid in the work, they can do so by making plain or fancy articles at home and sending them to the church towards the end of Lent to be added to the things made here.

THURSDAY COMMUNION.—There will be an early celebration of the Holy Communion on the remaining Thursdays during Lent at 7.30 o'clock. We hope this privilege will be appreciated.

EASTER MUSIC.—The choir will sing on Easter day the service Schubert in b flat which was so effectively rendered at Christmas. We shall also have the same orchestral accompaniment. The Alleluia Chorus will be sung at the 4 P. M. service.

HISTORICAL SERMON.—The subject of the sermon in the Rector's historical course to be delivered on the second Sunday evening of this month will be, "The History of the American Church before the Revolution."

CHRISTIAN SOCIAL UNION.—The meetings of this Society have been changed from Tuesday afternoons to the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 8 P. M., in the hope of increasing the attendance. Any persons interested in the study of social questions are invited to attend them.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions to the NEWS have been received:

Miss L. F. Carter, Miss McCauley,
Miss H. Dickerson, Mrs. R. H. Larzelere,
Miss Pleasanton, Rev. L. A. Lanpher,
Mr. R. Armstrong, Mrs. L. Dieterich,
Mr. J. Hartshorne, Miss A. Macartney,
Mr. Thos. Neilson, Mr. J. M. Harris,
Mrs. J. E. Carpenter, Mrs. Wm. Waterall,
Miss W. F. Newsum, Mr. Henry C. Kerr,
Mrs. Thos. B. Allen, Miss F. E. Smith,
Mrs. J. H. Botwright, Miss Goodman,
Mrs. S. Hiller, Mrs Pemberton,
Miss Annie Neely.

SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE AND UNPAID, 23.

LIST OF COMMUNICANTS OF THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION, PHILADELPHIA.

March, 1893.

Addicks, Stanley
Aimes, Mrs. Wilhemina F.
Alexander, Mrs. Ellen
Allen, Mrs. Annie S.
Anable, Clara Williams
" Isabel
" Mrs. Olivia
Anderson, Helen Iminild
" Mrs. Matilda Hazard
Annibaldi, Guilo
Armstrong, Robert
Atkinson, Anna
" Mrs. Lizzie
Baird, Mrs. Charlotte D.
" Robert
Ballentine, Sarah
Barrington, Eleanor Ann
Barton, Mrs. Ann
" John
" Joseph
Beath, Mrs. Janet
Beverline, Alwinda
" Magdelina
" Martha
Black, Rachel
Blackwell, James Magee
" Lillie M.
Blackwell, Mrs. Martha M.
" Sarah D.
Bloomer, Ellen Lavinia
" Mary Ann
Bockius, Wm. Henry
Bond, Bertha
" Frances
" Mrs. Hannah M.
Bonnet, Charles E.
" Charles E., Jr.
" Leon Durand
" Mrs. Mary E
" Mrs. Minnie Robins
Botwright, Frederick Charles
" John Harvey
" Mrs. Lillie
Brands, Mary
Broomhead, Mrs. Mary Ann
" Mary E.
Brown, Mrs. Matilda
Bryson, Mrs. Charlote S.
" Rebecca
" William John
Buck, Mrs. Lydia A.
Bullock, David Jayne
" Louisa
" Mrs. Susan Spotteswoode
Bulmer, William Henry, Jr.
" Mrs. Isabella Wiley
Burke, Mrs. Jeanette Ann
Burns, Mrs. Ida
Bushell, Elizabeth Hannah
Butcher, Elizabeth Russell
Butler, Amy Dennison
Calder, Martha S.
Campbell, Mrs. Minnie
Carman, Mrs. Maria E.
" Louisa H.
Carpenter, Helen Dalton
" Edward
" J. Edward
" Mrs. Harriet D.
Carter, Louise F.
Casey, Emily
Chamberlaine, Annie
" Mary
Clark, Mrs. Hannah Maria
" Reynolds Wm. Henry
Colley, Eliza Diana
Cope, William H.
Cooper, Mrs. Annie R.
Costen, Chas. Fletcher
Cox, Mrs. Ann
" Edward

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Cox, Emma
" Fanny
Craig, Beatrice Goddard
" Mrs. Caroline Harriet
Crown, Mrs. Maria
" Mary Maria
Davis, Emma Amelia
" Genoa
" Jennie
Diamond, Mrs. Eliz'th Means
Dickerson, Hettie C.
Dietrich, Mrs. Louise
Doherty, Isabella
Drinker, Frances
Dunlap, James Hazelett
Dutton, Louis Gordon
Eayre, Albert
" Mrs. Fanny Brooks
Elliott, Mattie "Mrs Margaret
Ellis, Charles Henry
Emery, Mrs. Mary
Epprecht, Anna
" Bertha
" Mary
Ettla, Mrs. Susanna H.
Eyre, Jennie Pennell
" Mrs. Martha Smith
Farquhar, Mrs. Virginia
Fosque, Anna M.
Gaff, Geo. Lawrence
" Zoe Goldsborough
Galloway, Mrs. Mary Virginia
Garrett, Mrs. Catharine E.
Genois, Mrs. Kathleen
Gilchrist, Edward Lincoln
Gilpin, Elizabeth Sarah
" Mrs. Mary Cant
" Maria Juliana
" Richard Wm.
" Wm. Bernard
Glisson, Oliver Spencer
Good, James Lewis
Goodman, Maria L.
Gray, Mrs. Fanny
Grier, Annie
Griffiths, Mrs. Alice Caldwell
Grimball, Mrs. Clementina
" J. Berkley
Gundaker, Mrs. Sarah E.
Haigh, Noble
Hall, Isabella
Hamilton, Mrs. Josephine C.
" Mary Stuart
Hampton, James
" Mrs. Jeannette
Hardwick, Elizabeth
Harper, Martha W.
" Matilda W.
Harrison, Mary Ellen
Hartley, Mrs. Ada Louise
" William L.
Haslem, Kate Storey

Haslett, Mrs. Jeannette
" Jeannette Elizabeth
" John Barnes
Hawkins, Alice Eleanor
" Alice Ellen
" Mrs. Annie
" Elizabeth Annie
" George Wm.
" Mrs. Mary Jane
Haynes, Agnes
Hayward, Mrs. Sallie T. V.
Henderson, John D.
Hendry, Edwin Augustus
" Emma L.
" Mrs. Mary Ann
Henry, Mrs. Ann
Helsby, Mrs. Sarah Rebecca
Hewson, Jane Biddle
Hickman, Mrs. Minerva C.
Hiller, Agnes P.
" Edward
" Catharine Hollock
" Mrs. Susan
Hodge, Carroll
" Helen Harriet
" Mrs. Mary de Veaux
Holbrook, Anna Martha
" Benjamin
" Laura Prudence
" Lizzie Huhn
Honnen, James Henry
" Martha Annie
Hoskins, Mrs Sarah Jane
~~Howell, Mrs. J.~~
Hulings, Mrs. Harriet
Hull, Mrs. Ann Catharine
Jackson, Charlotte Amanda
" Fanny Archer
" Frederick
" Mary Rowan
" Mary J.
" Mrs. Mary T.
" Reginald Heber
" Stuart Wells
Jansen, Mrs. Margaret
Johnson, Bertha Rumford
" Clara Emery
" Mrs. Ida Alicia
Jones, Caroline
" William
Jordan, Mrs. Emma M.
" Geo. Frederick
Kernaghan, Mrs. Sarah
Keese, Francis Suydam
" Mrs. Susan Lamereaux
Kemon, Frank Price
Kerr, Eliza
King, Eliza H.
Kinzle, C. F. William
" Frederick C.
" Harry L.
" Mrs. Minerva Marg'tta

Kirke, Mrs. Elmira May
Knowlton, Mrs. Anna
Larzelere, Blanche E.
" Mrs. Rebecca H.
Leaming, Coleman Fisher
" Mrs. Hannah H.
" Josephine
Leeds, Mrs. Marion Cecelia
Leiberich, Augusta
Leiper, Catharine Stockton
" Charles L.
" Mrs. Henrietta Maria
Lescure, Annie Rosalie
" Jas. Cushing
Lewis, Robert Bartow
Lloyd, Elizabeth G.
" Franklin
" William C.
Lockhead, Alva C.
Lorhman, Mrs. Minnie Cath'rne
Love, Mrs. Janet McClellan
Lynch, Charles
" Mrs. Kate L.
" Walter Arnold
Mason, Mrs. Mary Blight
" Mrs. Mary Esther
Mathis, Mrs. Louisa Mary
Maykin, Mary E.
McCartney, Annie
" Helen Caldwell
" Jennie
" Mary
McCauley, Mary
McClure, Mrs. Jane
" Mary Jane
McCracken, David
" David, Jr.
" Mrs. Martha
" Samuel
McIlheney, Jennie
" Margaret
" Rebecca
McKelvey, Mrs. Margaret
McNeely, Louis
Meany, Adelaide
Meek, Frank William
Metcalf, Mrs. Anna M.
" Wellington Howard
Miles, Jennie Brown
Milliken, Charlotte Eagles
" Mrs. Martha M.
" Sadie
Minshall, John
" Mrs. Rebecca
Mintzer, Mrs. Elmira
" Sarah Frances
Mitchell, Mrs. Ann
Moffit, Mary Jane
Moitz, Martha Adaline
Montgomery, Annie
" Henry W.
Morgan, Mrs. Matilda

McCay, Elizabeth Frances

Morgan, William James
Morrow, Mrs. Sarah
~~Murray, Oliver~~
~~" Mrs. Jennie~~
Murray, Mrs. Fanny A.
" Alice Frances
Nathans, Mrs. Anna M.
Neely, Annie
" Samuel Jeffries
Niebergall, Rosa Boyer
Neilson, Thomas Rundle
Newnam, Walter M.
Newsum, Wilhemina Frances
Nicholson, Charles A.
" Mrs. Susan
Norris, Mrs. Margaret
O'Harra, Anna
Openshaw, Mrs. Mary Ann
Parmelee, Evelyn C.
Parvin, Mary Ethel
" Mrs. Isabel Louise
Patchell, David Donoghy
Patten, Blanche F.
Patton, Mrs. Helen
Pearson, Alice
Peirce, Mary Augusta
Pemberton, Mrs. Martha O.
Pepper, Mrs. Alice Lyman
" William Platt
Perry, Ella Isabel
" Lucy
" Mrs. Sarah
Pleasanton, Mrs. Gertrude R.
" Julia Aline
Pollock, Mary Farr
" Mrs. Rebecca F.
Pomeroy, Kate Goodman
Price, Mrs. Amelia M.
" Joseph Needham
" Mary C.
Rankin, Elizabeth
Rea, David
" Mrs. Hannah Jane
Remont, Frank Edward
" Frank Remi
" Wm. Stewart
Revell, Florence E.
Robb, Mrs. Delia
" Thomas

Roberts, Mrs. Amanda Jane
" Mrs. Emily Small
" Millard Fillmore
" Sarah A. E. J. M.
Rodgers, Mrs. Margaret
Rouseau, Alice Van Dyke
" Melani South
Sank, Fanny Cornelia
Schell, Mrs. Margaret Frances
" Isabel
Schock, Caroline
Schotts, Mrs. Anetta L.
" Gilbertine
" Louis Kilgore
Schuttler, Mrs. Elizabeth
Scott, Mrs. Sarah Ann
Seckel, Virginia
Selby, Mrs. Eliza Schellinger
Senn, Ann Elizabeth,
Shortell, Mrs. Sarah Anita
Sinnickson, Mrs. Adeline
" Mary H.
" Thomas
Smith, Elizabeth
" Mrs. Emily C.
" Florence E.
" Lavinia "Katie Dickson
" Mary Catharine
" William Fishbourne
Snyder, Mrs. Emmeline C.
" Louise Austie
" Margaret
" Mary Clara
Spear, Alice
" Bessie
" Edith
" Wickham B.
Speidel, Mrs. Matilda
Spinny, Anna L.
South, Margaret Hill
Steffins, Mrs. Jane
Steman, Christie
Stevens, Agnes
Stevenson, Mrs. Amanda E.
" Frank Russell
" Mrs. Lillie
Stockton, Mrs. Catharine
Stokes, Ellen J.
" Elizabeth Lyle

Storey, Mrs. Kate
Stuart, Jane
Teakle, E. Lambert
Tevis, Mrs. C. Millicent
" Wm. Hamilton
Thompson, Alicia Bloxom
" Frank B.
Tingley, Charles L. S.
Toler, Caroline P.
Trucks, Anna E.
Vogdes, Sarah
Volmer, Henry
" Louis
" Mrs. Mary Louisa
Wadlow, Mrs. Mary
" Samuel W.
Walker, Alexander
" Mrs. Elizabeth
Walls, Mrs. Mary Jane
Waterman, Mrs. Jane H.
Watson, Elizabeth
Watt, Mrs. Elizabeth Marion
Wetherill, ~~Mrs. Martha A.~~
~~—~~ Samuel
Wharton, George
White, Mary H.
Whitehouse, Caroline Estel
Willard, Mary Strickland
Williamson, Clara
" Ella C.
~~Willing, Lillian M.~~
Wilson, Mrs. Ann Eliza
" Anna Jane
" Ellen
" Elizabeth
" Mary S.
" Sarah
" Thomas Low
Wood, Rena Sinnickson
Woode, Mrs. Ella Doughday
Woodward, Mrs. Beuchland F.
Woolryche, Hilda Gwendelin
" Mildred Balfour
Wurts, Matilda
Yost, Charles Jacob
Young, Alice A.
" Eleanor Helen
Zantzinger, Esther Cornelia

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The Ascension News.

VOL. VI. PHILADELPHIA, PA., APRIL, 1893 No. 4

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. LOUIS A. LANPHER.
1032 Spruce St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
FRANK R. STEVENSON.

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2029 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:

Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P. M.

DAILY: Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

Confirmation, April 12th, 8 P. M.

KALENDAR.—APRIL

1 Easter Even
2 Easter
3 Monday in Easter Week
4 Tuesday in Easter Week
7 Friday, Fast
9 Low Sunday
14 Friday, Fast
16 Second Sunday after Easter
21 Friday, Fast
23 Third Sunday after Easter
25 S. Mark, Evangelist
28 Friday, Fast
30 Fourth Sunday after Easter

GUILD MEETINGS.

3 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild
4 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
11 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
25 8 P. M., Recreation of S. Mary's Guild

OTHER MEETINGS.

Mothers' Meeting, Fridays, 7.30 P. M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3.00 P. M.
Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. H. W. Montgomery.
Treasurer, Mr. John D. Henderson.
Librarians, Mr. Carroll Hodge,
Mr. Stuart Jackson.
Mr. Robert B. Lewis.

BIBLE CLASSES.

Sundays, 3.00 P. M.
For Young Men, Mr. Lloyd.
For Ladies, Mrs. Hodge.

KINDERGARTEN.

Daily, except Saturdays, from 9 A.M. to noon.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, 112 South Fourth Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

EASTER.

This number of our paper appears in the midst of our Easter Festival. The Church keeps this season as the chiefest Festival in all the year, because it commemorates the great essential fact on which our religion is founded. Our Blessed Lord's Resurrection from the dead was the proof of His Divine Sonship, the attestation of the truth of our religion, and of the great fact of the final resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. The whole teaching of the Christian religion is bound up with it and depends upon it. So that there is no other fact in all human experience more essential, or which should be regarded with greater joy and thankfulness.

Therefore the Church celebrates it with the most impressive services, puts on her most beautiful apparel, her choicest decorations, and uses the most elaborate and beautiful music she can command. All of which should make us realize the importance and glorious character of the truths Easter teaches. So it should be the beginning of a new life to every Christian. It is a time when we are all called upon to review the past, to look into the future, to consider the mysteries of life and death, and to repent us of the past; to put off the old man with all its sins and short comings, and to put on the new man, which is renewed after the likeness of our Blessed Lord, and henceforth walk in newness of life.

This is the meaning of the Easter Communion. It should be the beginning of a new life, a starting out afresh, with the determination so to walk in newness of life here that we may be sure of having our part in the glorious resurrection to the life to come.

We trust that all the communicant members of our parish who, for any reason, failed to make their Communions on Easter Day, will do so during this week or on Low Sunday. And we earnestly pray that those adult members of our congregations who are not yet Communicants will not let another Easter-day go by without fulfilling this bounded obligation, and enjoying this great privilege of every Christian.

THE NEWS.

Will not the parishioners take more interest in the NEWS? They can very readily do so in several ways, viz.: By getting additional subscribers and advertisements, and by renewing their subscriptions promptly when notified of the expiration of same. A short statement of how the NEWS is supported may be of use at this time; it certainly will show that there is room for more interest in its behalf: We have, at present, 136 subscribers. Of these 113 are members of the parish, and 23 are outsiders. Our last report to the diocesan convention gave us 404 communicants, and it really seems as though we might have, perhaps, 50 more subscribers out of so many communicants; especially as the latter do not by any means represent the full number of persons regularly attending the Church. If you are not subscribing to the NEWS, may we not have your name to add to the list? The cost is but 50c. per year, which can be put in an envelope with your name and address, and placed in one of the alms-basins at any service. If you do subscribe, can you not induce some friend to do so? And then, when your subscription expires, be good enough to renew it promptly. It is not pleasant work to have to remind you, four or five times, that your renewal is due, or, finally, to have to send some one to collect it. But when the latter is necessary, we ask for him a fair reception. He does not come on an unreasonable errand, but simply to collect a just debt, which should be paid without troubling him to call. You do not treat your every-day bills and expenses this way, and why should Church matters be continually put into last place, every thing else given the precedence? We again need some new advertisements: Here, again, you *can* help, if you will. In the past, nearly all the advertisements for the NEWS have been obtained by a very few persons. Certainly, not over six have secured all that have appeared in the past three years. We are deeply indebted for this help and assistance, but we think that much more could be given if some others would exert themselves a little. The NEWS costs about $150 per year, (not an extravagant sum), and yet it is a struggle, each year, to get this sum together. If a dozen others would take an active interest in our paper, its welfare and needs, it would not be necessary to write appeals like this; and we sincerely trust that all of our people will not read this one and immediately forget all about it, but that some response may be acknowledged in the May issue of the NEWS.

Record for March.

Baptisms	3
Communicants added—new	2
" by removal	3
" died	1
" removed	4
Funerals	5

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$423 87
" the Poor	7 19
" Church Debt	150 00
" the Schools	36 00
" Diocesan Missions	6 28
" General "	2 75
" Easter Decorations	26 23
" Missionary Box	62 50
" Endowment Fund	1 00
" Seamen's Mission	1 00
" Freedmen Missions	1 50
" Kindergarten	2 00
" Church Building	1 00
At the discretion of the Rector	10 00
Of the Sunday School	5 56
Total,	$736 88

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Blunt's Life of the Saviour, small cross; lot of magazines and papers; materials for missionary sewing. We also received for Easter a very handsome white silk brocade chasuble, embroidered and made by the ladies of the Altar Chapter of our Wom-

en's Guild. It was used for the first time on Easter Day. A very handsome new fair linen cloth beautifully embroidered with the five crosses and edged with lace was also donated and a very fine copy of the new edition of the Prayer Book for the Altar Service, which was received just in time for use on Easter. The members of the embroidery class are also at work on a beautiful new banner for S. John's Guild, which will be finished very soon, perhaps by the time this paper appears. Several donations of flowers were received for Easter, in addition to money given for the Easter decorations.

LENTEN SERVICES.—Our Lenten Services were unusually well attended this year. The preaching of the Cross, on Good Friday, was by the Rev. George M. Christian, formerly an Assistant in S. Mark's Church, now Rector of Grace Church, Newark, N. J. Our Rector exchanged with him, taking the same duty in his Church. He has also preached during Lent at S. Asaph's, Bala, Holy Trinity, West Chester, and S. David's, Manayunk.

DEATH OF MRS. WETHERILL.—We are sure the sympathies of the congregation have all gone out to Mr. Samuel Wetherill, who is one of our oldest Vestrymen, in the great affliction that has come to him in the loss of his wife. Mrs. Wetherill's health has been failing for some time. She has not been in Church since January. But even in her last sickness she did not forget it. For some years she has provided the palms which have been used in the procession on Palm Sunday, and from her sick bed she gave the order for them, and arranged that we should have them this year. Two of those she had intended for the Church, and part of which she probably had expected to carry herself, were laid upon her bier.

For a number of years Mrs. Wetherill represented this Parish in the Female Tract and Prayer Book Societies, of the former of which she was Treasurer. She also did most beautiful Church embroidery, of which we have some very fine specimens.

Her funeral took place from the Church on March 24; the Rector of the Parish, and the Rev. Benjamin Douglas, officiating, the latter being Rector of S. Paul's Church, Upper Providence, where the interment took place; it being near Mr. Wetherill's country-place. R. I. P.

THE KINDERGARTEN was suspended during January and February, on account of the very severe weather, which made it impossible for the small children to attend. It recommenced March 1st, and we shall be glad to see the attendance increase of children from three to six years of age.

S. MARY'S GUILD.—The annual appointment and election for officers of the Guild took place at the regular business meeting, last month, being the meeting before Lady Day, the anniversary day of the Guild. Mrs. Bond, who has so long and so successfully acted as Superior of the Guild, but who for more than a year past has been unable, through failing health and the distance she now lives from the Church, to attend to its duties, has been relieved of the position by the Rector, at her earnest request. We are sure all the members of the Guild are sorry to part with her, but it is inevitable under the circumstances.

The Rector has appointed as Superior of the Guild in her place Mrs. Pollock, who has for some time been most acceptably discharging the duties of the place as Mrs. Bond's assistant. The other officers elected by the Guild are: Miss Barrington, Treasurer; Miss Matilda Harper, Secretary; Miss Shelton, Banner-bearer.

All young ladies of the parish, who are Communicants can join the Guild at any regular meeting. The meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, at 8 P. M.

RECEPTION TO THE ASSISTANT.—We omitted, in our last issue, to notice the very pleasant and successful reception which was given to our new Assistant by the members of S. Mary's Guild, on the evening of Shrove Tuesday. The thanks of the Guild, and all who were present, are especially due to Miss M. J. Jackson for the very attractive entertainment which was furnished by her, all the talent for which was supplied gratuitously.

THE SANCTUARY LAMP to be purchased under the will of Mr. Johnson has been ordered by the Vestry, and will be ready to be put in place by the fourth Sunday of this month, on which occasion the Rector proposes to preach a sermon on the symbolic use of lights in the worship of the Church. A mural memorial tablet to Mr. Johnson is also being prepared, and will be unveiled at the same time.

CORRECTION.—The amount reported in our last issue, as received for the debt, should have been $419.25, instead of $19.25, as printed.

MISSIONARY BOXES.—The Ladies' Aid have been engaged during Lent in making up a most substantial box of clothing for the Children's Hospital at Rosemont, in this diocese. And the Sewing Class, consisting of the members of S. Mary's Guild and others, which met on Tuesday evenings during Lent, have a goodly amount of clothing ready for a box for one of the Church Schools in the South, as well as a nice collection of fancy articles for the Fair for the Seamen's Mission, to be held in S. James' Parish Building, in which this Church was asked to supply a table.

ENTERTAINMENT.—Some ladies of the Congregation propose giving an entertainment in the New Century Club Rooms, for the benefit of our Church debt fund, on the evening of the 26th inst. It will consist of an English play, in which some of our members will take part, a classical play, called "Pandora," by some of our younger members and others, who belong to the Minnie M. Jones Delsarte Institute, 1708 Chestnut St., and a pantomime and tableaux. The tickets are fifty and twenty-five cents, and can be had from the sexton, or those taking part in the play.

S. JOHN'S GUILD.—The members of S. John's Guild propose giving an exhibition in the Parish Building on the evening of Monday, May 8th, consisting of running, wrestling, and jumping matches; exercises with Indian clubs, etc. Tickets of admission, 10 cents. The members of the Guild are enjoying very much the additional gymnastic appliances and shower-bath provided for them last month.

NEW HYMNAL.—A very good and cheap edition of the New Hymnal is now out, and can be had at the principal bookstores, costing only twenty cents a copy. As soon as the members of the congregation will supply themselves with it, or some one will present us with a sufficient number to supply the choir and congregation, the Rector will

be glad to substitute it in the services of the Church for the book now in use. It will be a great improvement.

EASTER DAY.—We were blessed this year with an ideal Easter Day, the weather was perfect, the Church was not large enough to hold the people who came to the mid-day service, and the decorations, music, etc., were all that could be desired. We had the pleasure of having with us the very popular Bishop of Wyoming and Idaho, who took one of the Easter Celebrations and preached in the middle of the day. He expressed himself as much pleased with our services.

The number of communicants for the day and especially at the early Celebrations was larger than ever before.

EASTER OFFERING.—The offerings on Easter Day amount to about $800, leaving some $400 still to be raised before the first of May in addition to our ordinary offerings. We sincerely trust this sum will be made up that we may not enter upon another financial year with a deficit.

There are also some special objects for which we need contributions. The instruments we have been having on the festivals and which are such an addition to the music are of course extra, not included in the musical appropriation by the Vestry, and have to be paid for by special subscriptions Those who appreciate having them can contribute towards them by putting something in an envelope marked "extra music" and sending it to the Warden or putting it in alms basin.

Then we have the assessment of our Diocesan Missions which is not near yet made up, and for the Sustentation fund, the two amounting to some $139. It puts our parish in a very bad light in the Diocese if these assessments are not paid. Will not all our contributors fill up and return at once the envelopes they have for Diocesan Missions?

VESTRY ELECTION.—At the annual election for Vestrymen, held on Easter-Monday, the following gentlemen were elected to service until Easter, 1896: Thomas R. Neilson, M.D., Charles E. Bonnet, William Platt Pepper, Charles L. S. Tingley; and, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Haverstick (to serve until Easter, 1894), Mr. David Jayne Bulloch was elected.

HISTORICAL SERMON.—The subject of the historical sermon to be preached on the third Sunday evening of this month, will be, "The American Church since the Revolution."

OUR MEXICAN CORRESPONDENT. We were much pleased this last month to have a visit from our esteemed Mexican correspondent, Mr. Harry R. Carson, whose letters last winter all our readers enjoyed. He has left Mexico now and was on his way to Sewanee, Tennessee, where he proposes entering the University of the South. We trust that he will favor us with some letters from there as we are sure they would be entertaining.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions to the NEWS have been received:

Mr. Sam'l Wetherill	Mr. Thos. Sinnickson
Mr J. M. Wirgman	Mr. C. Thwaites
Miss A M. Holbrook	Mr. Jos. N. Price, Jr.
Mr. G. Eliot Beers	Miss. F. C. Cooper
Miss L. Smith	Mrs. C. Grim all
Miss Casey	Miss Rousseau
Miss Wagner	Mrs. John Minshall
Dr Thos. R. Neilson	Mr. David Rea
Mr. Jas. N. Sayers	Miss A. M. Fosque

Mrs. Henry C. Selby

THE SECRET OF SUCCESS.

It is an extremely short-sighted, narrow, selfish and suicidal policy for any parish or congregation to exclude itself from participation in the general works of the Church on the plea that it has need of everything for itself. Such a policy is opposed to the spirit of Christ and to the true principle of Christian development. If the individual members were to follow the same course its folly would soon be seen and felt. "We are building" or "We have a debt" is not a good reason for refusing to give to missions. Forbid it that, even for a time, under any pretext whatsoever, a Christian society should cut itself off from the currents of life or cease to contribute to the general good of the body to which it belongs. The reflex benefit from such communication of blessing will be worth more than it costs and the money which is contributed will not impoverish the parish, but will stimulate its life and its ability to do for its own things. The Rev. Dr. Atwill, of Toledo, in an address before the Ohio and Michigan Branches of the Woman's Auxiliary, aptly said:

Everywhere zeal for missions goes with zeal for home work as naturally as heat with fire. If, as rector of a parish, I desire to pay a parish debt, I welcome the formation of a missionary association. If I desire to stimulate the zeal of my people in parish work, I welcome a missionary association. If my Sunday-school languishes, and needs money, I still welcome the missionary association. To my brethren of the clergy, if any of them are in the least nervous or apprehensive about this matter, I say, Do not fear the zeal of your women in the cause of missions! Help them, and they will help you; encourage them, and they will cheer you! Their fervor and activity will preach for you, will enable you to preach more effectually, and will cultivate the soil in which you fling broadcast the seed of every variety of Divine truth.

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The Ascension News.

VOL. VI. PHILADELPHIA, PA., MAY, 1893. No. 5

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

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334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. LOUIS A. LANPHIER.
1032 Spruce St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
FRANK R. STEVENSON.

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2020 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.00 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P. M.

DAILY: Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

DEDICATION FESTIVAL.

ASCENSION DAY, MAY 11TH.

7½ A. M., Holy Communion.
10.30 A. M., Morning Prayer and Choral Holy Communion.
5 P. M., Evening Prayer.
8 P. M., Choral Shortened Evening Prayer and Anniversary Sermon by the Rector.
May 14th, 8 P. M., Anniversary of Guilds, Procession of Guilds with Service and Sermon by Rev. T. A. Tidball, D. D.
May 15th, 8 P. M., Parish Tea for Parishioners and others, in the School Room.

KALENDAR.—MAY

1 SS. Philip and James
5 Friday—Fast
7 Rogation Sunday
8 Rogation Day
9 Rogation Day
10 Rogation Day
11 Ascension Day
12 Friday—Fast
14 Expectation Sunday
19 Friday—Fast
21 Whitsunday
22 Monday in Whitsun Week
23 Tuesday in Whitsun Week
24 Ember Day
26 Ember Day
27 Ember Day
28 Trinity Sunday

GUILD MEETINGS.

1 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild
2 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
9 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
23 8 P. M., Recreation of S. Mary's Guild

OTHER MEETINGS.

Mothers' Meeting, Fridays, 7.30 P. M.
Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. H. W. Montgomery.
Treasurer, Mr. John D. Henderson.
Librarians, Mr. Carroll Hodge,
Mr. Stuart Jackson.
Mr. Robert B. Lewis.

BIBLE CLASSES.

Sundays, 3.00 P. M.
For Young Men, Mr. Lloyd.
For Ladies, Mrs. Hodge.

KINDERGARTEN.

Daily, except Saturdays, from 9 A.M. to noon.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish is published under the direction of the Rector.

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Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

OUR SANCTUARY LAMP.

Owing to an unavoidable delay in the factory, our new sanctuary lamp was not ready for use on the 23d ultimo, as we had promised; but it was duly put in position on the Sunday following.

The lamp is an enlarged copy of an antique lamp which is hanging in the Church of the Annunciation in this city, which was brought from Italy, and which is said to have hung in S. Mark's Cathedral in Venice. Copies of it also hang in S. Paul's Church, Baltimore, having been placed there by the present Bishop of Milwaukee, the Rev. Dr. Nicholson, formerly Rector of S. Mark's Church in this city, in memory of his father. It is certainly a very beautiful and graceful design, far superior to any the Committee of the Vestry, to whom its purchase was entrusted, saw in any of the stores, either in this city or New York. It was made by George W. Shaw & Co., of this city.

Everything being in readiness, the lamp was duly presented on the altar, at the mid-day celebration, among the other "alms and devotions of the people." It was then conveyed to its place and lighted by the Rector; the light being taken from one of the altar candles.

The Rector took the occasion to preach a sermon on the symbolical use of lights. He took for his text, Lev. xxiv: 1-4. He pointed out that light was the first of created things, and that it had ever been regarded among all nations as the special symbol of the presence and character of God. God is constantly spoken of in Scripture under this symbol, as "a consuming fire," as "dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto." Under this symbol He appeared on various occasions, recorded in the Old Testament, to Abraham and to Moses. It was a figure chosen and appropriated by our Blessed Lord to Himself, as when He said: "I am the light of the world." So in the Old Testament, God commanded the setting up of the golden candlestick with its seven branches, and the lighting of the lamps thereof daily, morning and evening, as a perpetual ordinance. In addition to this, Solomon set ten lamps in front of the most Holy Place, in his temple.

This was the use to which our Lord and His apostles were accustomed in the worship of the Jewish temple, and which, like so many other things belonging to the Jewish worship, was carried over into the Christian Church.

During the first centuries of the Christian era, the ages of persecution, the Christians, of course, had not the opportunity of developing their ritual practices, but it is evident that even then, from the fact of their

assemblies being held, as we read in one case in the New Testament, at night "in an upper room where there were many lights," and as we find from early records, very early in the morning and in underground places like the catacombs, they must have been accustomed to the use of lights at their services, and as soon as the Church was free to use its own worship, we find it employing this and many other symbols to which the Jews had been accustomed.

S. Jerome in the fourth century, speaks of lights being lighted in the churches when the Gospel was read "not to drive away the darkness, but to show a sign of joy."

The earliest form in which lights were used in the churches seems to have been of lamps, either set about the Holy Table or suspended by chains from the ceiling. Then came the use of candles on the altar or gradine behind the altar; first one, as is seen in some old illuminations, then two, which seems to have been the general pre-Reformation use, then finally a great multiplicity both on the altar and kept burning before pictures and images.

This engendered superstition and was abolished at the Reformation in England by the injunctions of King Edward VI, which prescribed: "shall suffer from henceforth no torches nor candles, tapers or images of wax to be set afore any image or picture, but only two lights upon the high altar * *, for the signification that Christ is the true light of the world." Accordingly these lights were retained and used throughout the reign of Queen Elizabeth upon the altars of the royal chapels and cathedrals, and in many of the chapels of the colleges and private chapels of the nobility, as well as in some of the parish churches. And in spite even of the subsequent Puritan re-action they have continued to stand upon the altars of most of the cathedrals and royal chapels ever since. This would seem to fix the distinctive Anglican use of lights on the altar as two, instead of the modern Roman use of six large ones and an indefinite number of small ones. This may be pretty, but it is scarcely as dignified and symbolical as the two. According to old English use these were to be lighted at all Celebrations of the Holy Communion and at solemn even-song. There was no distinction made in old English use, nor is there in modern Roman use, between Eucharistic and Vesper lights.

So in regard to the use of lamps. In some places it is held that a perpetual light ought to be kept burning only before an altar on which the Blessed Sacrament is reserved. But this was not the ancient or Roman use. Authorities say that a lamp should be kept perpetually burning before every altar in a church, and three before the high altar. The purpose of these lights is for the adornment of the holy place; a symbol of the church's constant watchfulness, and as a token of the special presence which God vouchsafes

always in His House of Prayer.

It is for these purposes that we have lighted this light in our chancel, and we trust it will have the effect of increasing the solemnity which all will feel for this holy place, and remind all who come here of the necessity of unceasing devotion, and of the constant, abiding presence of God Himself in His Holy Temple.

Record for April.

Baptisms, Adults	3
" Infants	3
Marriage	1
Confirmations	39
Communicants added—new	10
" by removal	7
" removed	6
" died	1
Burials	3

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$1204 70
" the Poor	8 73
" Diocesan Missions	18 00
" General "	1 00
" Foreign "	21 00
" Indian "	26 00
" Church Debt	18 25
" Ladies' Aid	5 00
" Prayer Book Society	16 00
" Church Building	1 00
" the Schools	31 75
Of the Sunday School	11 68
Lent Offerings of Sunday School	24 52
Total,	$1387 63

PARISH NOTES.

MEMORIAL TABLET.--At the same time that our sanctuary lamp was put in place, a very handsome brass tablet, set in a slab of black marble, was placed on the wall of the church near the door into the sacristy, in memory of Mr. Johnson, who left the money for the lamp. It has an ornamental border, a floriated cross and the following inscription: "In memory of Benjamin Johnson, born July 21, 1830, entered into rest May 23, 1891. A parishioner and benefactor of this church, who by his last will left to it a sum of money, the principal thereof not to be used or expended, but to be kept invested and the income to be used first, in obtaining a suitable metal lamp, to be suspended over or in front of the altar, in which shall be kept an artificial light burning perpetually day and night.

May light perpetual shine upon him."

The inscription is chiefly in the words of Mr. Johnson's will. The prayer at the end is most appropriate. It is one of the earliest and most universal inscriptions found upon Christian tombs. It is only in such general terms that we can pray for the dead, as we know so little of their specific wants.

But we may well thus remember him who has provided for the perpetual maintenance of this beautiful symbol of God's presence in our church.

The tablet as well as the lamp is the work of Geo. W. Shaw & Co., No. 710 Chestnut Street of this city. Its execution is most satisfactory.

MEMORIAL PULPIT.—The design for the stone memorial pulpit of which we spoke in our last issue, has been furnished by the architect of our church, Mr. Chas. M. Burns, and we hope soon will be in the hands of the workmen. It will be a great ornament to the church.

SPECIAL SERMONS.—The Rector, having completed the course of historical sermons he has been preaching on one Sunday evening in the month, and which has extended over two winters, will preach a concluding sermon on the last Sunday evening of this month on "The Future of the Church."

The special annual sermon to the Guilds of the parish will be preached on the Sunday after Ascension Day in the evening by the Rev. Dr. Tidball, the new Rector of the Church of the Epiphany in this city.

DEDICATION FESTIVAL.—As in other years, we follow the ancient custom of keeping the name day of the church as a special Parish Festival. There will be celebrations of the Holy Communion on Ascension Day at 7½, and after Morning Prayers at 10½ A. M. Evening Prayer at 5 P. M. and choral shortened Evening Prayer, with anniversary sermon by the Rector at 8 P. M. On Sunday evening after the Ascension there will be the annual Guild Service. The members of S. John's and S. Mary's Guilds and of S. Andrew's Brotherhood, and any members of the Men and Women's Guild who choose to join them, will assemble in the parish building and enter the church in procession, with their respective banners. The front seats in the middle aisle will be reserved for them. A special sermon will be preached to them and they will afterwards return to the parish building as they came in.

On Monday evening the 15th, we shall have our annual Parish Tea, when we hope to see all our parishioners together. It is only intended for adults, and the tickets are 25 cents, which charge is to provide the entertainment. On the following evening a special supper will be furnished for the members of the choir.

ENTERTAINMENTS.—The entertainment given at the New Century Club on April 26th was very successful; the house was full, and the actors, most of whom were members of our own parish, performed their parts remarkably well. The proceeds amounted to about $150. This, with some money we had on hand, enabled the warden to make another payment of $500 on account of our church debt.

S. John's Guild will have their Athletic Exhibition on the 8th instant. We hope the congregation will show its interest in the Guild by their attendance.

As appropriate for the month, St. Mary's Guild will give a May Festival or Dairymaid's Reception on Tuesday evening, May 30th. The entertainment is under the direction of Miss M. J. Jackson, who promises an enjoyable evening.

The tickets will be 35 cents including refreshment coupon.

PROGRAMME.

8 o'clock—Choral March of Dairymaids.
8.15—Song of Three Little Dairymaids.
8.30—The Minuet (recitation.)
8.45—Churning Song.
9—Song of the Flower Girls.
9.15—Duet—Where are You Going, my Pretty Maid?
9.30—Dairymaids' Chorus.
9.45—May-pole Exercises.

It is proposed that the proceeds of the entertainment shall go towards putting in one of the clerestory windows on the west side of the church. It will contain the figure of the Blessed Virgin and Child, and be known as S. Mary's Guild window. It is hoped also that two others may be put in at the same time.

A FAIR FOR THE SEAMEN'S MISSION in this city was held during Easter week in the Guild House of S. James' Church at 22d and Walnut Streets. Our church had been asked to take part in it and furnished a table. The members of S. Mary's Guild and some other ladies of the parish worked for it during Lent. The table was in charge of Mrs. Frederick Jordan, assisted by Mrs. Wirgman and Mrs. Burrell, and the Misses Dodson, Toler and Spear. The cash receipts of the table were $74.54. The proceeds of the whole fair amounted to over $2600.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions to the NEWS have been received :

Mr. John Barton	Mr. W. H. Metcalf
Mr. J. E. Carpenter	Mrs. M. H. Barrett
Miss S. S. Miles	Mrs. Thos. H. Helsby
Mrs. Thos. J. Diehl	Miss Trucks
Miss M. Baker	Miss M. A. Pierce
Mrs. C. F. Leaming	Mr. David J. Bullock

Acknowledgement of our Missionary Box.

BLAIR, NEB., March 27th, 1893.
DEAR MISS GILPIN :—I received your letter of February 22d, enclosing the bill of lading.

We have just received the second box and though it has been quite long in coming, it is none the less appreciated. I have just written to Miss Emery, to say how nicely you have supplied our wants, and now desire to thank most sincerely, not only yourself, but all the kind friends we have found in Philadelphia. We have had an exceedingly cold winter and we have often thought of your kindness in sending beforehand the clothing you thought we would need. We would have wanted them badly had they not been sent at the time they were. My wife and daughter like very much the additional clothing sent them, and these with the blankets and spreads and sheets and pillow cases and other neccesary house furniture, are very acceptable; everything sent is good and useful and will last a long time. As for me, after quite a *time* with Mr. W., I have a very nice suit of clerical clothing that is good for two years at the least ; this with the overcoat, undershirts, half hose and other things, quite completes my wardrobe.

A missionary box is a great assistance to the western missionary. He receives but a small stipend, and after the mouthly grocery bill and meat shop bill are paid, there is not often more than five or eight dollars left for house furniture. He buys then a few articles of clothing, but by the time he can get more the former purchase is old and worn, and so his family wears a combination of new and old continually. But the missionary box brings a great abundance, all in a lump, and it is the source, consequently, of the greatest interest and satisfaction, for everybody can come out with new garments entire, and then the goods are generally of better material than is commonly had here and the made garments are fashionably made.

Will you please kindly accept our sincere thanks for your good design in our behalf, which now so happily closes. We well know that all you have done for us has entailed upon you, not only much hard work, but worry and anxiety and responsibility, and we can only hope that as you are now relieved from it all, a real blessing may follow your disinterested work in His Name.

I am very faithfully yours,
R. C. TALBOT.

St. Anthony's Day In Mexico.

A few days before leaving Mexico, I witnessed a scene, some idea of which I would like to communicate to the readers of the ASCENSION NEWS, although it will be short.

The Roman Catholic calender is well supplied with Saint's days. It is not of their efficacy I wish to write, but only of the occurrences on one of them. January 17th is reserved for prayers to S. Anthony of Padua, the patron of bird and beast.

I was returning to the city of San Luis Potosi just before sun-down and was somewhat struck with certain adornments which almost every animal carried. They were decorated with tissue-paper of all colors, and cut in all possible shapes. Long streamers of red and green were tied to the tails ; chains of purple and brown encircling the necks ; stars and crosses appended to the ears.

Everybody and everything were going in the same direction and I followed in the current. On reaching the parish church of Tequisquiapam, as motley a crowd as was ever seen, was before me; man, child and beast were there in hundreds ; the burros, stolid and motionless wondered at it all ; the mules were there, parrots and canary birds; pigs and goats ; dogs and cats ; chickens and turkeys. In all stages of infancy, youth and age ; and their noises varying accordingly. Bleats and grunts, crowing and cackling, rose upon the evening air. Commotion reigned. Here a stampede on account of an escaped goat ; there, a mule has moved its heels to the inconvenience of the by-standers. The owners gossiped ; compared notes as to the relative value of their possessions, and wagered on the blessings that were in store for their pets. There was a long wait, but just before the ringing of the *angelus*, a padre (priest) appeared before the doors of the church, accompanied by acolytes carrying lighted candles. Then the pushing and crowding and jostling commenced with fresh vigor. No sooner had room been made for the passage of a mule, than the avenue was closed, all struggled to get closer to the priest in order to secure a few drops of the consecrated water, which he deftly threw to right and left. The pet puppy was carried in its proud master's arms, and alongside a venerable and aged hen was led ; the pig and goat, cat and rabbit, all were sprinkled in due time. Thanksgivings arose to S. Anthony, and blessings were poured upon his memory. Who in all that crowd doubted of the results which were sure to follow? youth to follow age ; health succeed sickness.

Not one, save perhaps, some curiosity-seeker Americano.

H. R. CARSON.
Our former correspondent from Mexico.

SEWANEE, TENN.,
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VOL. VI PHILADELPHIA, PA., JUNE, 1895. No. 6

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Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS:

Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR.—JUNE

2 Friday—Fast
4 First Sunday after Trinity
9 Friday—Fast
11 S. Barnabas
16 Friday—Fast
18 Third Sunday after Trinity
23 Friday—Fast
24 Nativity of S. John Baptist
25 Fourth Sunday after Trinity
29 S. Peter
30 Friday—Fast

GUILD MEETINGS.

5 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild
6 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
13 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
26 8 P. M., Recreation of S. Mary's Guild

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.30 P. M.

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Treasurer, Mr. John D. Henderson.
Librarians, Mr. Carroll Hodge,
Mr. Stuart Jackson.
Mr. Robert B. Lewis.

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OUR ANNUAL REPORT.

We publish this month, as we always have in our June number, the annual report of our parish for the year ending April 30th, which is the date to which all the reports in the diocese are made up. We hope our people will study it and compare it with reports of previous years.

We would like to call the attention of our readers to some points connected with it. First, we are glad to notice a large increase in the number of baptisms and confirmations over last year. The confirmation, indeed, is the largest but one which has ever taken place in the parish. We have also a goodly increase in our Communicant list, 58; but this is largely counterbalanced, as it always is, by the losses, 42 in all. This is due to the constant changes of residence among our people, the loss by death being comparatively small, only seven.

We have to lament, as we have before, that our Sunday School is not as large as it ought to be. This is due to our not having as many faithful and competent teachers as we should. Will not our people, especially our *men*, consider their duty in this respect? There is no more crying need, and there is no greater charity, than that of teaching the young the principles of religion. The Sunday School should be the great nursery of the church, and the means of making the coming generations moral and religious. Dare our lay people neglect the call to work in it? A teacher having been found for the young Men's Bible Class, we are glad to note its size and regularity during the past winter. Our Industrial School too, was much more satisfactory than it has been for some years past, owing to the fidelity and regularity of the corps of teachers.

Our Guilds for young women and for boys have also been prosperous this year, a new head for the former having been found, and the numbers of the latter far exceeding anything we have had before. As to the work of the different departments of the Women's Guild, we have to note that each year the duration of the time for work seems to grow less. It is hard to get anything done before Christmas, and every one wants to stop right after Easter. We shall have to try and get things to work earlier another winter.

Turning to the financial items we notice that the total offerings were about the same as last year: $8062.00, against $8048.04 in 1892. In addition to this we received in legacies $9641.05. Most of the latter has been invested as a permanent endowment of the church, which is a great God-send. We hope others of our parishioners will remember their parish in their wills. Every church, especially a free one, should have some endowment. We are glad to say that we have paid during the year $1000 of our indebtedness, but we must remember that we have still $24,000 left, which is a great annual drain upon us and prevents our paying our Rector and other officers the salaries they should have. Can we not do more to remove it during the coming year?

We are sorry to say, too, that in spite of repeated appeals of the Rector in regard to it, we closed our year with a deficit in our current expense account of some $400, which, added to about the same amount brought over from the previous year, makes our present floating indebtedness now some $800. It is certainly very unwise to let things run on in this way. An effort ought to be made to remove this.

But, on the whole, our review of the past and our outlook for the future is encouraging. We have not only held our own, but made substantial progress in several directions, and if our people will only interest themselves in their church, and be willing to work for it and give to its support, we are sure great good could be done.

We have a good field for work, and a fairly appointed church, but if our resources, both of means and workers could be multiplied, the results obtained would be much greater than they have been as yet.

We hope our people will all work hard and give liberally during the coming year.

Record for May

Baptisms, Adult	1
" Infants	2
Marriage	1
Communicants added, new	9
" by removal	1
" died	1
" removed	3
Burials	4

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$455 59
" the Poor	16 80
" Church Debt	2 25
" Parish Tea	14 00
" Schools	14 10
" Diocesan Missions	50
" Indian "	1 00
" General "	1 00
" Church Building	1 00
" Extra Music	65 00
Of the Sunday School	4 27
Total,	$575 51

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—We are very happy to acknowledge a donation of fifty new Prayer Books from the Bishop White Prayer Book Society, of fifty more from one of our Vestrymen, and ten others from various members of the parish. These will be placed in the seats with the name of the church and "not to be taken away" labelled on them. We trust they will be taken good care of. If some one will present us with as many copies of the new Hymnal, we shall be able then to introduce its use in the service of the church.

We have also received a large number of donations for the Parish Tea, crate of strawberries, cakes, buns, tea, sugar, etc., and a quantity of clothing for the poor and missionary work of the parish.

OUR DEDICATION SERVICES.—We wish that our people took more interest in our Dedication Festival services than they do. Whether it is the season of the year at which it occurs, or the fact of its being always a

week-day, we do not know, but the attendance is not what it should be, particularly at the Celebrations of the Holy Communion in the morning. The night service was better attended than last year, and we must especially compliment the *two* members of our Vestry who had sufficient interest in the parish of whose interests they are the custodians, to be present. The choir turned out in full force and gave us a most beautiful service, and the Rector read the annual report, pointing out what progress we had made in the past year, and what were the special present needs of the parish. We wish more could have heard what he had to say.

On the night of the Annual Guild Service the same music was repeated and we had the best turn out of the membership of the Guilds we have ever had.

Our Parish Tea was very largely attended, though it was a rainy evening, but of course the weather never affects the attendance at entertainments as it does church going. But if we complimented the *two* members of the Vestry who were at the Anniversary Service, how much more must the *one* member who represented the entire Vestry at the Tea be complimented! We cannot but think that it would be an advantage to the church if the members of our Vestry and others of our male attendants would embrace these opportunities of becoming acquainted with the different members of the congregation. We are all working together for a common end, and those who are thus working should have at least some acquaintance with each other.

The Tea passed off very pleasantly, the Rector and the Rev. Dr. Mortimer, Rector of S. Mark's Church, who honored us on the occasion, making addresses.

But let our people remember in the future that the Tea is not intended only for old women or for the young people, but as an occasion on which *all* the people of the parish can come together, and we are sure that every one could make some pleasant acquaintances thereby, and that such acquaintance will be for the interest of the parish.

CHANGE OF WARDEN.—At the regular meeting of the Vestry held on the first Thursday in May, Mr. Frank R. Stevenson resigned his office of Accounting Warden owing to his removal to a great distance from the church and occupation with business. In his place Mr. David Jayne Bullock was elected. We trust he will hold the position for a long time as we have had so many changes of late, which is a disadvantage to the church. The office of Accounting Warden involves a great deal of work, and our hearty thanks are due to any member of the Vestry who is willing to undertake this duty.

SUMMER SERVICES.—Our services change as usual with this month, on Sunday the 4 and 7.45 P. M. services are discontinued, and the Twilight Service, consisting of shortened choral evening prayer and a short address, being substituted for them; this will continue until October. The Children's Service on Sundays will be at 3 P. M. during June and September. The Sunday School will be closed during July and August.

The daily service and Wednesday evening services are stopped until October, but prayers are said every Wednesday and Friday and on all Holy days at 10 A. M. with Celebrations at 7.30 and 10.30 A. M. on Holy days.

Persons wanting a clergyman for any purpose can always be sure of finding one at the church at those hours.

We trust that those of our parishioners who remain in the city during the summer or part of the summer, will not fail to avail themselves of these services. They will find the early Sunday and the Twilight services particularly pleasant during the warm weather.

Having these services there is no excuse for staying away from church because it is hot. Let all remember it is as much of an obligation to go to church in the summer as in the winter, and the spiritual life of any one who neglects it will certainly suffer thereby.

CHORAL WEDDINGS.—We have had two choral weddings in the church during the past month, both of which were very pretty. It certainly added very much to the beauty of the service to have the choir present and the service sung, one hymn being sung as a processional as the bridal party enters, one between the betrothal and the marriage proper, and one as the married pair leave the church.

SUMMER OFFERINGS.—Persons going out of town for the summer should put their offerings for the number of Sundays they expect to be away on the plate some Sunday *before* they go, that we may have the means to meet our expenses during that time.

ST. JOHN'S GUILD SPORTS.—On Monday evening, May 8, the members of the S. John's Guild held their annual sports. There was a notable improvement in many of the atheletes over the form shown a year ago. This was most noticeable in the high jump: Shelton, one of the choir boys, showing some real ability and correct spring. Some of the wrestling was also excellent; in these events, Moneypenny, showed up remarkably well. Though small and light, he has quite a local reputation as a wrestler and gymnast, and acts as coach to the Guild. The 15 yard dash was too short to be exciting, and its only value to the contestants is to teach them a good start. The tug-of-wars were totally devoid of any team work, and the men seemed to have no staying powers. This was due, as an old University athlete remarked at the time, to too many cigarrettes. A man can't expect a heart loaded with nicotine to respond to extraordinary muscular exertion. Smoking is the bane of American physical development.

The Guild has some really good athletes, and ones which should improve with care and attention.

The sports were splendidly attended and thoroughly enjoyed.

REPORT

The following is the report of the Parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop:

Baptisms.—Adults 3, Infants 31, total 34; Confirmed, 39; Marriages 3; Burials 23; Families connected with the parish, 304.

Communicants Added.—New, 21; by removal, 37; died, 7; removed 35; present number, 420.

Services.—Sundays 258, other days 558, total 816; average attendance Sundays, 376; children catechised 67 times.

Sunday School.—Officers and teachers, 21; scholars, 154.

Bible Classes.—Teachers, 2; members, 51.

Other Parish Agencies.—Mothers Meeting, members 27. Industrial School, teachers 16; scholars 186. Kindergarten, scholars 36. Young Men's Guild, members 59. Young

Women's Guild, members 46. Chapter of St. Andrew's Brotherhood, members 15.

Money receipts from all sources.—Offertory, $8062; legacies $9641.05; interest, $345.01; other sources, $169.80; total, $18,217.86.

Money expenditures and appropriations.—Current expenses, (including salaries of ministers, for music, fuel and lighting, care of church buiding and grounds, and ordinary repairs of same) $5704.62; interest on mortgage, $1265.20; Payment of debt, $1000; improvements, $274.69; Episcopal and convention funds, $98.44; supports of schools, $242.56; for the poor, $137.58; Episcopal Hospital, $45.48; Missions, Foreign $40.15; Domestic, $100.07; Colored people, 21.47; Indians, $26.50; Diocesan, $50.00; Prayer Book and Tract Societies, $27.00; Church building, $10.00; Theological Education, $30.00; Miscellaneous, $650.93; total, $9124.59.

Financial Condition.—Estimated value of property, real and personal, $80,000.00; encumbrance, mortgage $24,000.00.

From San Luis Potosi to the Gulf of Mexico.

I left San Luis Potosi early on the morning of January 19th, just eighteen months after my arrival there. It was scarcely five o'clock, damp and cold, the street lamps were still burning, and the soldier policeman shivered in his corner. As the train slowly drew out from the station, I gave farewell glances to all the familiar spots, knowing not when I should look upon them again. All that day I rode, first over the plains, then in the mountains; slowly we made our way over gulches and ravines; through tunnels and over trestles high in the air, winding in and out among the peaks but continually descending to the sea-level. There was scarcely a sign of human habitation to be seen, but nature rejoiced in her primeval purity.

Early in the afternoon we entered the *tierrac-alienk* (warm country), and its humid atmosphere was immediately felt. (It must be remembered that San Luis Potosi is at an altitude of 6500 feet, and that during that day I went to the very sea-level). Coffee was to be seen growing wild and its low red-berried bush not appearing very differently to many bushes in our own forests; parrots screeched among the trees; tall palms burnt by fires, towered like so many sentinels over a city of the dead. When a man's habitation was to be seen, it was merely a hut made of bamboo cane, and afforded simply protection from the sun's rays. The density of the forest was so great, however, that very little of surrounding country could be seen.

We reached Tampico on the Gulf of Mexico at one o'clock A. M., on the day following that on which I set out, and immediately experienced the delights(!)of a "norther." What a blizzard is to those living in the northern and western states, that is a "norther" to those living in warm countries. There need be neither snow nor ice, yet when the mercury drops from ninety to twenty-five degrees, it is decidedly unpleasant. In company with two railroad employees I made my way to Hotel *Benito Juarez* (named in honor of the Mexican patriot). After a loud and continuous knocking, a porter was awakened, and the somewhat non-committal answer, *yo*, (I) being given to his question, *quien es* (who is it?), an admittance was gained. I found my way to some quarters up towards the roof, but

being tired and sleepy, I took no special note of the room or its contents. I passed one of the most uncomfortable nights possible, and in the morning set myself to learning the reason. It was no very difficult thing to discover. The bed consisted of four upright posts, equi-distant, and between them was stretched a piece of canvas. This canvas represented a mattress; a blanket was nowhere to be seen, but in lieu thereof, three sheets were given. One side of the room, that opening on the *patio*(court yard), was *latticed*. On any ordinary Mexican day, it would have been quite a pleasant room; as it was, I shivered all that day, all next day, and the day following. There was entirely too much ventilation.

There being an epidemic of typhus-fever in San Luis Potosi, a quarantine was established on the American border against the city. In order to escape quarantine, I had come to Tampico, expecting to go from thence by steamer to the United States. So, immediately on my arrival, I set about finding the conveyance. At first I was unsuccesful, and the only steamer I could hear of was one which *would* have sailed had it not been wrecked that morning in endeavoring to enter the Tampico harbor. By the merest accident I heard of a steamer that was loading with a cargo of cattle some miles from the city. I traced up its agents, and found it was the British "tramp" steamer, *Violante*, and that it would sail that afternoon for Yucatan, and from thence would proceed to Mobile, Alabama. I interviewed the captain, signed the ship's papers as *purser* (it was forbiden to carry passengers) and steamed for Yucatan. Through a number of circumstances, I went to Cuba, and from there to Galveston, Texas, experiencing in different degrees of severity, for three weeks, storm and calm, plenty and starvation, sickness and health.

HARRY ROBERTS CARSON.

SEWANEE, TENN., May, 1891.

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The Ascension News.

VOL. VI. PHILADELPHIA, PA., SEPTEMBER, 1893. No. 7

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. LOUIS A. LANPHER.
1032 Spruce St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
DAVID JAYNE BULLOCK

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2022 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.,

Children's Service, 3.00 P. M.

Choral Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.00 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS:

Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR.—SEPTEMBER

1 Friday—Fast
3 Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity
8 Friday—Fast
10 Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity
15 Friday—Fast
17 Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity
20 Ember Day—Fast
21 S. Matthew, Evangelist
22 Ember Day—Fast
23 Ember Day—Fast
24 Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity
29 S. Michael and All Angels—Fast

GUILD MEETINGS.

4 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild
5 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. F. E. Remont.
Treasurer, Mr. John D. Henderson.
Librarians, Mr. Carroll Hodge,
Mr. Stuart Jackson.
Mr. Robert B. Lewis.

KINDERGARTEN.

Daily, except Saturdays, from 9 A.M. to noon.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, 112 South Fourth Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

A SINGING GUILD.

A change will be made in regard to our choir at the Sunday night service this year. In churches where there are two evening services, one in the afternoon and one at night, there is always a difficulty about providing the music for them both. Organists and choirmasters consider it too great a strain upon their choirs to sing at three services of a Sunday. So in some churches they have an entirely separate organist and choir for the third service. But this is very expensive.

During the two winters in which we have had these two evening services in this parish, our organist and choirmaster has provided the music by having generally a substitute organist, and only a portion of the choir present at the night service.

But he is not willing any longer to continue this, as he does not consider it well for the boys, nor is he willing to have them sing when he is not present. He has offered instead to provide an organist and to train a singing Guild of girls to sing at the night service. And the Rector and music committee of the Vestry have concluded to try the experiment.

We regret very much the necessity of doing so, as it will quite change the character of our night service. As it is not ecclesiastical nor proper that women should be vested and seated in the chancel, the members of this Guild will have to occupy the front pews. This will leave the chancel unoccupied except by the clergy and a single server, and it will place those who are to lead the music at a distance from the organ, and with their backs to the congregation.

It will, however, give the young women of the parish the opportunity of cultivating their musical abilities, and we hope that if the Guild becomes a large one, as we trust it will, it may be the means of increasing the attendance and enthusiasm at the night service. We hope also that some at least of the members of the Guild will sing at the Wednesday evening services, and that they may make themselves useful at any concerts or other entertainments that may be given in the Parish building during the winter.

Our highly efficient choir, during the winter months, sing two very exacting services. Not only the difficulty of the music itself, but the tireless precision with which it is sung is very exhausting to the singers. And our choirmaster has long been of the opinion, as we have said, that no part of the choir should be allowed to sing three times a day. In order that the music at the third service should not fall short of the high standard set at the other services, it has been decided to form the Guild mentioned.

It is hoped that this Guild will not only be most useful to the church, but that the members themselves will receive much instruction, enjoyment and profit.

Mr. Neilson, himself, will have personal supervision and control of the Guild, and with proper co-operation from the young women in the parish, we look to him to effect rapidly a staunch organization, and expect to see the Guild follow close on the heels of the choir in musical ability.

It is not possible in an undertaking of this sort to organize until the director has obtained full knowledge of the vocal abilities of those desiring to enter the Guild.

Therefore, on Thursday, Sept. 14th, at 8 P. M., Mr. Neilson will meet in the Guild room, all the young women, over 16 years of age, who care to join, at which time a private trial of voices will be given.

It is Mr. Neilson's intention to strengthen the organization with singers from outside the parish, in order that the best possible results may be obtained.

We wish him every success in his efforts, and trust he will receive the co-operation he asks.

OUR NEW PULPIT.

The new memorial pulpit, which we announced as promised, has now been completed and placed in the church. It is made of Indiana sand stone, the same as the stone trimmings of the church, and different colored American granite, a large piece of grey granite constituting the central support of the pulpit and small columns of grey and pink granite supporting the upper part. This is handsomely carved, and the space between the columns and arches which rest on them is left open, producing a very pretty effect. The pulpit is reached by three stone steps, the whole resting upon a special foundation in the cellar. Around the base of the pulpit is carved the following inscription: "To the glory of God and in loving memory of Mary Archer Neilson, who entered into life 18 Oct., 1892."

Mrs. Neilson was a warm friend of the parish and attended its services as regularly and as long as her health permitted.

The pulpit is erected to her memory by some members of her family. It is in perfect keeping with the rest of the church and is a great addition and ornament to it.

It was first used on Sunday, Aug. 13. Before entering it, the Rector said to the congregation that it was proper that so important an addition to the sacred furniture of the church should be solemnly blessed and dedicated to the purpose for which it was designed, which he proceeded to do by the use of the following prayer, taken from the Priest's Prayer Book: "O, Almighty God, who dost enlighten the minds of Thy servants with the knowledge of Thy truth, Bless, we beseech Thee, this pulpit, now set apart and dedicated to Thy

service, and give unto those who stand therein the spirit of wisdom and understanding, of counsel and might, that they may speak those things which belong unto eternal life; and grant that Thy people, taught in Thy ways, may so take heed what they hear, as to fulfill all wholesome precepts delivered to them, so that by the word of truth they may at length attain unto Him who is the Way, the Truth and the Life, and who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end—Amen."

He then preached a sermon on the history and character of pulpits in the Christian Church, taking as his text Neh. viii, part of verse 4: "And Ezra the scribe stood upon a pulpit of wood which they had made for the purpose."

Record for June, July and August.

Baptisms	2
Marriages	3
Communicants added, new	2
" by removal	2
" removed	3
Burials	3

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$702 30
" Deficit in do	600 00
" the Poor	64 77
" The Schools	5 15
" Diocesan Missions	25
" Parish Tea	11 00
Of the Sunday School	3 11
Of the Ladies' Bible Class	5 00
Total,	$1391 58

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—In addition to our new stone pulpit, we have received since our last issue a framed copy of Vandyke's Crucifixion for the Guild room, and our burial lot in Mount Moriah Cemetery has been sodded and put in order without any expense to the church. We have also received a quantity of garments for our poor box, of which we need a perennial supply.

OUR VESTRY.—We understand that one or two members of our Vestry took exception to what we said in our last issue about there being only two members of the Vestry present at our annual service on the evening of Ascension Day, and only one at the Annual Parish Tea. We would like to say in reference to this, first, that we made no reflections upon any individual Vestryman, as we know some who would have liked to have been present were unavoidably kept away. And secondly, we did not mean to imply that the Vestry were generally neglectful of their duties. On the contrary we appreciate very much all they have done and are doing for the church, and congratulate ourselves that we have a Vestry composed of an unusually fine set of men. We simply wanted to point to them that there were ways in which, in our judgment, they could advance the interests of the church, beside supporting it financially.

S. JOHN'S GUILD.—In our notice of the Guild sports in our last number, we neglected to give the names of those who won the prizes. They were as follows:

Samuel McCracken—Wrestling Tournament, 1892.

John Hunter—Wrestling Tournament, 1893.

Harry Ellis—Sack Race.

David McCracken—Running High Jump.

Charles Manypenny—Dumb Bell Race, 15 yds. Dash.

H. Koons—Standing Broad Jump.

We regret to announce the death of one of the members of the Guild, John Hunter. Though not a member of the parish, as his family were Presbyterians, he was a regular attendant of the Guild and one of our very best athletes. His death was caused by bathing while over heated. He will be much missed. Some of the members of the Guild acted as pall bearers at his funeral which occurred August 12th.

The regular meetings of the Guild will be resumed this month.

MEMORIAL WINDOWS.—Two additional memorial windows for the clerestory of the church have been ordered from England. One, representing the Blessed Virgin and Child, is put in by S. Mary's Guild; the other, containing the figure of S. John the Baptist, is in memory of the late Miss Stewart. It is put in with part of the money she left to the church. These windows cost about $66 each.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL resumes its sessions with this month at 3 P. M.

We are happy to announce that our old friend and parishioner, Mr. F. E. Remont, who has at different times served the church in various capacities, has consented to undertake the position of Superintendent this winter. Mr. Remont was formerly Superintendent of the school when Bishop Hare was Rector of the parish, and has since then had charge of other schools. He has therefore the experience as well as the personal qualities needed for the work. And we have no question but that we shall have a very efficient and successful school under his care. The parish is to be congratulated on having a position which is so important and yet so difficult to fill, so well provided for. It is particularly good in Mr. Remont to undertake this duty, as being now a member of S. Peter's choir he will be obliged to sing at two services a Sunday in that church in addition to his labors here.

EXCURSIONS.—The boys of the choir were given an excursion one day in July to Florence, N. J. by the choirmaster. The day proved delightful and was enjoyed immensely. The servers, who have been very regular in their attendance at the services during the summer, will be given an outing one day this month.

WINTER SERVICES.—The full order of services for the winter, including the Sunday afternoon and night service, daily service, Wednesday night service, etc., will be resumed the first of October.

OUR OLD PULPIT, which was presented to the church some twelve years ago by S. Timothy's Church, Roxborough, where it had been in use for many years before, has now been given to the new Mission at Norwood, Delaware Co., of which Mr. Charles Lynch, one of our former choir men, is the warden.

AN ORCHESTRA.—We wish very much that we could organize a parish orchestra to assist the music at the Sunday night service and perhaps on the mornings of festivals. It would add very much to the attractiveness of the night service, and save the great expense of employing professionals on festival occasions. Are there any in the parish who are capable of performing on musical instruments and who would volunteer their services for such a purpose?

OUR DEFICIT.—Our readers will remember that our annual report to May 1st showed that we had a

deficit of some $800 in our current expense account which we were very anxious should be made up. We are very happy to announce now that through the generosity of some members of our Vestry, $600 of this amount has been paid. Are there not others in the congregation who will contribute the remaining $200 that we may not have any indebtedness whatever beyond our mortgage?

Bread for the Holy Communion.

The following are five good reasons for the use of wafer or unleavened bread in the Holy Communion: First, because it has ever been the aim of the Church to do in the Holy Communion precisely what our Blessed Lord did, and there can be but little doubt that He used unleavened bread in the Holy Eucharist, because it was during the Jewish Passion, when no leaven was to be seen in their houses, that he instituted it.

Second: Because leaven or yeast produces fermentation, corruption and decay.

Third: Because for so Holy a purpose, one would naturally prefer a material specially made and used for *nothing* else, marked or stamped with some sign or emblem indicating its purpose, and not that which is daily used in the most common and familiar manner.

Fourth: Because it is impossible to prevent ordinary bread cut into small pieces and passed from one hand to another from crumbling and small particles of it falling to the ground.

Fifth: Because the wafer bread may be kept any length of time and thus always be at hand and ready for use. Whereas ordinary bread can only be used when it is fresh and it cannot always be had in that state just at the time that it is wanted.

To offset all these advantages the only objection that we know of that is brought against the use of wafer bread is, that the Roman Catholics use it. On which principle we ought not to use the surplice, organs or any other accessory of public worship which they use. Intelligent church people ought to be above being influenced by such an argument as that.

We hope the day is coming when the use of wafer bread will be universal in our churches.

The Consecration of Bishop Gailor.

Sewanee, July 25, 1893.

To-day in St. Augustine's Chapel, the Rev. Thomas Frank Gailor, M. A., S. T. D., Vice Chancellor of the University of the South, was consecrated Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese of Tennessee. The Holy Communion was celebrated at half past six o'clock, and Morning Prayer said at eight o'clock.

Promptly at half past eleven the procession entered the west door of the Chapel singing, "The Church's One Foundation." In the procession were representatives of the Standing Committee of the Diocese, officers of the University, Clergy of this and other Dioceses, the Registrar of the Consecration, the Coadjutor-Bishop-elect with attending Priests, and the Consecrators. Dr. Gailor was vested as the Rubric directs, with rochet and purple cassock.

Bishop Dudley began the Communion office, Handel's "We Trust in Thee," being the Introit. Bishops Watson and Kinsolving read the epistle and gospel appointed. The Creed was sung by Bishop Nelson. The preacher, Bishop Seymour, took as his text, I Corinth. IV; 1 verse—"Let a man so account of us as Ministers of Christ and Stewards of the Mysteries of God." The sermon occupied more than an hour and a half in its delivery, the attention of the congregation being held to the end. His manner was earnest and vehement, and although, contrary to his usual custom, the sermon was read from manuscript, it was delivered with all the vigor of an *extempore* sermon. His words addressed to Dr. Gailor personally, were especially touching, and the emotion of both preacher and hearer could scarce be restrained.

The examination of the Bishop-elect was then conducted by the Presiding Bishop, Dr. Quintard, all the responses being given in a strong and firm voice. The Bishop-elect kneeling, there was sung over him, "Veni Creator Spiritus," the twelve Bishops present then laid their hands upon him, saying, "Receive the Holy Ghost for the office and work of a Bishop in the Church of God."

The Communion office was then proceeded with, the bishops and vested clergy only receiving.

The final collect was then said, and with a kiss, Bishop Quintard conducted his brother within the chancel rail.

The recessional hymn, "All Hail the Power of Jesus Name," was then sung, the order of retiring being the same as the processional.

The following Bishops were present and took part in the Consecration: Bishop Quintard, Bishop Dudley, Bishop Nelson, being the commission appointed by the Presiding Bishop of the Church, Bishop Sessums and Bishop Gray, as presenters, and Bishop Seymour, Bishop Perry, Bishop Kingsolving, Bishop Johnston, Bishop Watson, Bishop Jackson and Bishop Hale. The Rev. F. A. Shoup, of Sewanee, was the master of ceremonies.

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The Ascension News.

Vol. VI. PHILADELPHIA, PA., OCTOBER, 1893. No. 8

Church of the Ascension.

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334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
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1229 Locust St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
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Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.

Choral Evening Prayer, 4.00 P. M.

Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

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WEDNESDAYS:

Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8.00 P. M.

DAILY:

Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR.—OCTOBER

1 Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity
6 Friday—Fast
8 Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity
13 Friday—Fast
15 Twentieth Sunday after Trinity
18 S. Luke, Evangelist
20 Friday—Fast
22 Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity
27 Friday—Fast
28 SS. Simon and Jude
29 Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity

GUILD MEETINGS.

2 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild
3 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
10 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
24 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
28 11 A. M., Annual Meeting of Women's Guild.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. F. E. Remont.
Treasurer, Mr. James Dunlap.
Librarians, Mr. Robert B. Lewis.
Mr. Chas. T. Pfeiffer.

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS 3 P. M.

For Young Men, Mr. Lloyd.
" " " Mrs. Lanpher.
" Ladies, Mrs. Hodge.

KINDERGARTEN.

Daily, except Saturdays, from 9 A.M. to noon.

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The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, 112 South Fourth Street.

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PROGRESS.

Progress is essential to life. That in nature which ceases to grow, begins to decay and to die. This is as true of spiritual things and ecclessiastical organizations. The church should be always progressing. She has the world to conquer for God. She should be always going forward, growing stronger and stronger, making further and further advances. This should be the case with every individual parish. Its members, its resourses, its power should be ever increasing. Even in country parishes where the population is often almost stationary for many years, the church should be so strengthened by the gifts and bequests of its members, as generation after generation passes away, that it will be able to extend its influence further, and do more and more good. And in our cities, where there is an almost limitless field for the exercise of beneficence, the stronger the church is made the more good it can accomplish, and if there is the right spirit in the clergy and people, constant progress will be made. None should be content with simply holding their own, ministering to the same people, and doing the same amount of good year after year. There should be always strengthening of stakes and lengthening of cords. Clergy and people alike should ever be devising new means of carrying on and extending the work of the Lord, in the particular portion of the great field of the world which is assigned to them.

So it is our ambition for this parish that it should be always growing. It occupies a field where a good and large work can be done if the means are forthcoming to do it. A point has now been reached that undoubtedly it will go on, and it has unquestionably been doing and will continue to do good. But how much progress it will make, how much its work will be extended and increased, will depend upon the interest, energy and devotion its members show in its affairs, and what they do in its behalf.

At the beginning therefore of another season of church work, we want to set before our people their responsibility in this respect, and urge them to renewed efforts on behalf of their church. Do not let them be satisfied with the degree of prosperity it has attained or content with the fact that it answers their own personal needs as it is. Let them remember the church exists not only to minister to saints but to convert sinners, not only that those who seek its offices may enjoy them, but that the careless, the indifferent, the ignorant, the straying, the vicious may be reached and won, reclaimed and taught.

Do not let any one think that his or her whole duty in regard to the Church is discharged when one makes use of its offices for one's self, but remember the obligation to extend and press those offices upon all who need them. And who does not need them?

Every member of a parish, therefore, should be, if possible, a church-worker, engaged in some way in helping to carry the church's blessings to others, or by gifts and benefactions making the church ever more able to do a larger and larger work. There is a place in the parish for every one to work, and there are many things the church still needs for its completion and for fitting it to do the work which might be done in this locality, and we want every one to feel that all they do for the church, every service they perform, every dollar they give to the church, or everything by which they add to its furnishing and advancement is a strengthening and perfecting of the church, and making it more and more capable of doing a larger work.

We append a list of some things we especially need, and by which the efficiency of the parish can be advanced.

Additional workers in all branches of parish activity; the payment of our debt; increase of our endowment; completion of the church building, tower and bells; enlargement of parish building; new altar and reredos; rood screen; remaining windows in chancel and clerestory to be filled with painted glass; tiling of aisles, etc.

Some of these things might be most appropriately given, as so many other things we have received have been, as memorials.

BAD TIMES.

We have been undoubtedly passing through a very trying period of financial depression which has affected all branches of industry. And while things are improving, there is still very general dullness in business and many persons' incomes are very seriously affected, and though we are glad to say that so far there has been no falling off, but on the contrary a slight increase in the contributions over those for the corresponding period last year, still we fear that our church will suffer during the coming winter in the amount of the offerings which will be made for its support. And at the same time we know that larger demands will be made upon it for assistance to those who are in need, many members of our congregation being now out of work.

We want, therefore, to urge upon our people the conscientious giving to the church as largely as they can. If they have to curtail their expenses, do not let it be only in their charities, but make it proportional all around; and those whose income is not curtailed, let them give more liberally to make up for the failure on the part of others, and let the special offerings for the poor fund be larger than ever. And we should be especially glad of any opportunities that might be opened to us of getting work either for grown people or children.

Record for September.

Baptisms	2
Communicants added by removal	1
" died	1
Burials	1

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$172 21
" the Poor	2 08
" Church Debt	1000 25
Of the Sunday School	2 46
Total,	$1177 00

PARISH NOTES.

OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL is being rapidly reorganized under the efficient superintendence of Mr. Remont. We were much disappointed, however, that more of the teachers did not appear in their places last month. The scholars will not return until the teachers return, and four months is a very long time for the sessions of the Sunday School to be suspended. In many parishes the sessions are continued without intermission all the year. We trust all the old teachers will be back this month, and more new ones are wanted.

OUR BIBLE CLASSES recommence with this month, and we hope to see a very full attendance at them this winter. The young men's class was so well attended last year that the room in which it met was not large enough to hold it. This year it is proposed to divide it. Mr. Lloyd will continue with part of it in the same room he had last year, and Mrs. Lanpher, the wife of the Assistant Minister, will take the other part of it. Mrs. Lanpher has had experience with such classes, and we are sure she will make it attractive.

We regret, however, very much that we have not another room in the parish building in which her class can be held, so that it will have to meet in the rear part of the church, immediately after the children's service.

WINTER SERVICES.—The full complement of our winter services begins with this month.

COURSES OF SERMONS.—The Rector proposes this winter to follow the plan which he has adopted in other years, of preaching upon one or more Sundays of each month a course or courses of sermons.

This winter he proposes to preach on one Sunday morning of each month a course on the Christian Ministry, its various offices and their functions.

We shall probably publish an abstract of these sermons in our paper, in order to give them more permanency and reach a larger congregation than may happen to hear them.

The various subjects of these sermons will be: The Ministry, its Nature and Origin. The Bishop. The Priest. The Preacher. The Pastor. The Rector. The Deacon. The Minor Orders.

On one Sunday evening of each month, the sermon will be on some subject connected with our social life, as the Family, Marriage, the State, Business, etc.

WOMEN'S GUILD.—We want to remind all the women of the parish that the anniversary of the General Women's Guild, which includes all the departments of women's work in the parish, takes place this month on SS. Simon and Jude's day, the 28th.

It is the one day in the year when all the female communicants and workers in the parish are asked to meet together to hear the report of the last year's work and arrange the plans for the coming year. We trust the attendance will be larger than it has been on some previous occasions. If not only those who have been doing work, but all our female communicants who have time or opportunities for engaging in church work, would attend this meeting, we are sure they would become more interested in what is being done, and find out some one or more portions of the work in which they could aid. The meeting is held in the Guild room immediately after the 10 A. M. service in the church.

THE NEW HYMNAL.—As soon as some one will present the church with at least one hundred new Hymnals, the Rector will introduce its use in the services of the church. We ought to have at least that number for the use of strangers and those who cannot afford to buy them for themselves.

S. JOHN'S GUILD has recommenced its meetings with a very good attendance, forty-six members being present on a single night. It is proposed this winter to engage a regular trainer for those using the gymnasium and taking part in the sports.

The following preamble and resolution were adopted at the regular business meeting of the Guild last month, in reference to the death of one of its members.

WHEREAS, Our Heavenly Father in His wisdom hath removed from us our late beloved friend and brother, John Hunter, member of S. John's Guild of the Church of the Ascension, and a good athlete of the parish, therefore,

Resolved, That it is the sense of the members of this Guild to convey to the family of the deceased the assurance of their heartfelt sympathy as well as their most sincere sorrow and sense of loss; to testify their appreciation of his pure, Christian character and the bright example of his faith, patience and amiability, and to express their confidence that his soul has entered into that perfect rest which God hath promised to them that love Him.

W. REYNOLDS CLARK,
E. LINCOLN GILCHRIST,
SAMUEL MCCRACKEN,
Committee.

REDUCTION OF DEBT.—We were much gratified last month by the reception of a check for one thousand dollars towards the reduction of our church debt, from the estate of Mrs. Philippa E. Brown. Mrs. Brown had formerly been a member of our parish, though at the time of her death she was attending the Church of the Holy Trinity. It is very pleasant to thus have remembrances even of those whose connection with our parish has ceased, and the gift is a very substantial help towards removing the burden of our debt.

THE SERVERS' OUTING was not a success. It was arranged that they should all go down with the Assistant Minister to Cape May, on the Steamer Republic, and have a dip in the ocean. But only one of them appeared at the appointed time, so he and Mr. Lanpher had the excursion all to themselves. The others did not reach the wharf until the boat had sailed. This should be a lesson to teach punctuality and early rising.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions to the NEWS have been received:

Miss Mary A. Pierce	Mr. F. B. Thompson
Miss A. Haynes	Miss Anna Wilson
Miss A. D. Butler	Mrs. Walter Cox
Mr. Thomas Robb	Mr. Henry L. Kelley
Mr. E. L. Teakle	Mrs. M. E. Carman

Mrs. C. H. Darlington.

Acknowledgment of Gift of Pulpit.

S. Stephen's P. E. Mission.
Norwood, Pa., Sept. 12, 1893.
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,

Dear Sir:—At a meeting of the governing committee, I was directed to acknowledge officially the pulpit so kindly presented to our Mission through Mr. Chas. Lynch. We will prize the gift very highly, and hope soon to have a proper building in which to place it. At present it it stored in a private house.

Please convey to the proper officers of your church our thanks for their kindness, and believe we are grateful to them and particularly to you personally.

Sincerely yours,
B. M. NEWBOLD, Clerk.

CHURCH BOOK STORE.

We are glad to call the attention of our congregation to the fact that we have once more in this city a church book store. It has been opened by Mr. Geo. W. Jacobs, at No. 103 S. 15th St. It is certainly a great convenience to have a store where you can get all sorts of Prayer Books, Hymnals, Church and Sunday School Books, Papers, etc. We trust the members of our congregation will patronize it.

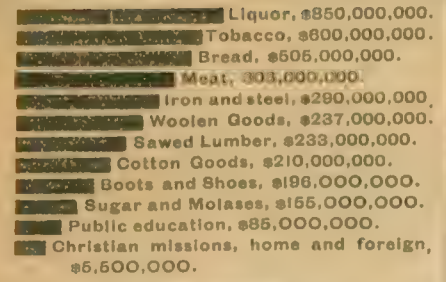
DO SOMETHING.

Each member of a Christian Church should be a worker for Christ. Our Lord has never granted a dispensation to a single one of us; would any of us desire that He should? His vows are upon us all without exception. Are we each obedient to His word: "Occupy till I come?" Are we putting out our talents to interest? If we are not doing so, we can never enter into rest. Rest implies previous labor. We are bidden by the Holy Spirit to labor to enter into the rest of God; it is the way thereto. Idlers are unrestful, fidgety, worried and worrying, fretful and fanciful, troubled and troublesome. They are happiest who are most completely consecrated to the service of God and most fully absorbed in obedience to His will.

O that all our Church members were constrained by Divine Grace to do their utmost for the Lord! There would then be no lack of laborers; no vine would be left unpruned, no wheat ungarnered. Under God we have in the Church all that is needful for her great work; it only needs bringing out and setting in order—perhaps we ought to say arousing and quickening. The world is full of stir—social, political, scientific, selfish—and shall the Saviour's household be given to slumber? Heaven can be no heaven to us if we do not labor here, by either doing or suffering the Divine Will.—*The Church Advocate.*

STRIKING COMPARISONS.

The following chart illustrates the comparative cost of intoxicating drinks and other items of expense in this country. There is not merely a volume but a whole library in these figures. We commend them especially to (1) those who want to know why there is so much poverty in the country in the midst of an abundance, and (2) to those who think too much is contributed to Christian missions. See what is expended for liquor and tobacco, and think what that expenditure involves. Compare with it what is contributed to missions and think what that money does.



CHURCH GROWTH.

The progress of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States is very marked. This growth is not merely in the newly settled States and Territories. In the old States like Connecticut, Maryland and Georgia, in ten years the Communicants have increased 30 per cent. In California, Colorado, Arkansas, Dakota, Florida, Minnesota, Montana and Nebraska, the Communicants were more than doubled. In Illinois and New Jersey the increase was 75 per cent; in Kentucky and Massachusetts, 60 per cent. In Alabama, Indiana, Iowa, New York, Ohio, Rhode Island and West Virginia, the increase was 50 per cent. These facts are the more significant taken with the percentage of increase in the population of the United States for ten years, which was less than 25 per cent. In forty-two States and Territories, our increase has been from 40 to more than 600 per cent.

THE KYRIE.

IN saying the *Kyrie*, as now directed when the Commandments are not read, at the beginning of the Communion Service, it is desirable that its ancient liturgical nine-fold form should be used thus:

Priest. Lord have mercy upon us.
People. Lord have mercy upon us.
Priest. Lord have mercy upon us.
People. Christ have mercy upon us.
Priest. Christ have mercy upon us.
People. Christ have mercy upon us.
Priest. Lord have mercy upon us.
People. Lord have mercy upon us.
Priest. Lord have mercy upon us.

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KALENDAR.—NOVEMBER

1 All Saints
3 Friday—Fast
5 Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity
10 Friday—Fast
12 Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity
17 Friday—Fast
19 Twenty-fifth Sunday after Trinity
24 Friday—Fast
26 Sunday next before Advent
30 S. Andrew

GUILD MEETINGS.

6 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild
7 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
14 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
28 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3.00 P. M.
Mothers' Meeting, Fridays, 7.30 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. F. E. Remont.
Mr. Edward Carpenter.
Secretaries—Mr. Louis M. Remont.
Mr. James Dunlap.
Mr. Reynolds Clark
Treasurer, Mr. Carroll Hodge
Librarians, Mr. C. Thacher Pfeiffer
Mr. Harry Ellis

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THE CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

The Christian Ministry is of Divine institution. It is no human device. We do not owe it to human wisdom or ingenuity. It was directly ordained by God to provide for human necessities and bring to men benefits they could gain in no other way. Our Blessed Lord did not simply teach a doctrine or inculcate a philosophy; He came to earth to found a society, to establish a kingdom, to unite to Himself and to each other in a real and visible bond, those whom His Spirit could influence and who were capable of becoming like Him. This is evident from His not only teaching and sending others to teach, but from His institution of the Sacraments of Baptism and the Eucharist, and commanding their universal observance, things which were only of use as modes of entrance and continuance in a visible organization.

And if Christ thus founded a society, it was essential to its maintenance and propagation that it should have officers. These He provided by first choosing twelve whom He called Apostles, and afterwards other seventy also, whom He sent to discharge lesser functions in the same organization. These He endowed with the same plenitude of authority He had Himself received, "As My Father hath sent Me even so send I you. Receive ye the Holy Ghost, whosesoever sins ye remit they are remitted unto them, and whosesoever sins ye retain they are retained."

And it is evident that this was not a special endowment for one set of men, or generation, from His promise to be with His disciples to the end of the world. So the commission which they received, they could in time commit to others. And it has thus been handed on from age to age. The Church has not hesitated to use as her ordination formula, these words: "Receive the Holy Ghost," thus claiming the fulfilment of Christ's promise that His Spirit will act through the Ministry of His appointment.

This Ministry thus ordained and equipped is able to perform, and is necessary for, certain offices which are essential for man's highest welfare. It is not something thrust in between God and man to make their approach more difficult, as some imagine, but on the contrary is intended to bring God and man nearer together and make their approach easier. There are those who say they believe in no earthly priesthood, no intervention between God and the human soul. But while it is true that there can be a certain intercourse between God and the individual soul, still the distance between God and man is so great, and the difficulty of raising man to

God so enormous, that it is universally acknowledged that the services of a mediator, the God man, are needed. And so under Him, and by His appointment, the services of other agents are needed to carry on His work and discharge in perpetuity His offices for men.

It would have been possible, doubtless, for God to have inspired all men with a knowledge of His Will, but He saw best to employ a few, Prophets, Apostles and Evangelists, and make them the channels for the communication of His Will in the books we call the Bible. So it has pleased Him to use the offices of a special Ministry to be perpetually the teachers, reprovers and exhorters of men, to speak and act on His behalf.

So it might be possible for each man to offer for himself the sacrifice of prayer and praise and worship which is God's due, but how few would do it, or are capable of offering even the personal sacrifice they should offer? They need some one trained and educated to do it, and when the great mass of the Christian community acts as a body, it must have some agents to represent it. So there are always these two classes of offices requiring a ministry, the acting as God's agent and representative to men and as man's representative in his approach to God.

But the Church is more than a school or a society. There is a mystical element in it. Christ says it is His Body, the outward organism in which His Spirit dwells and by which It works. So there are the special acts performed in it which we call Sacraments, through which His grace and influence is given, and which require a Ministry for their performance.

These are the great purposes of the Christian Ministry: (1) The government, continuance and extension of the Christian organization. (2) The speaking and acting on God's behalf and authority to men. (3) The acting as man's agent in discharging his service to God. (4) The performance of the acts ordained by God as the means of dispensing His grace to men.

Hence its necessity for all men, the need of every one sustaining a personal relationship to it and using its offices. The Church is not to be looked upon merely as a benevolent or asthetic society —very useful and improving, if one has the time and taste for it, but as that which is vital for the spiritual welfare of every one, without whose agency man cannot receive the benefits God is ready to bestow upon him, or discharge the obligations he owes to God. As the child needs a guide and teacher, as the sick need a physician, as the famishing need food, so do all require the offices of the Christian Ministry to gain the benefits and enjoy the blessings which our religion can alone bestow.

[Substance of a sermon preached by the Rector on the morning of the third Sunday in October. We propose to print a synopsis of the remaining sermons of this course, which will be delivered on one Sunday morning of each month, in the same way.]

FASTING AND EVENING COMMUNIONS.

A correspondent asks us to explain why, if "we want to do in the Holy Communion what our Blessed Lord did," we are opposed to Evening Communions, and advocate the reception of the Sacrament fasting, since our Lord instituted it, and administered it to His disciples in the evening, after supper.

The answer is, that the Holy Communion is not celebrated in commemoration of its own institution, of the fact that our Lord ate a last supper with his disciples, but it is itself the memorial of another event, the death of Christ upon the cross, which took place not in the evening, but on the morning of Good Friday.

That death was to be a sacrifice and propitiation for all human sin, to fulfil the purpose of the typical animal sacrifices of the old Dispensation. And those sacrifices were not celebrated at night, but in the day. They were the great acts of religious worship naturally offered at an hour which would give them the greatest prominence and importance. So the Eucharist, which took their place, commemorating what they typified, is naturally celebrated at the same time of the day. This has been the universal instinct of Christians. Everywhere, from the earliest times, the Holy Communion has been celebrated in the morning, made the chief act of religious worship of the day.

For a short time at the very first, while the Jewish sacrifices still held their ancient position of being offered in the morning, it seems to have been celebrated in the evening in connection with what the early Christians called the Agapæ or Love Feast. But this led to disorders which S. Paul so sternly reproves in 1 Cor., xi. On this account the Apostles—and they certainly had received from our Lord full authority to act in such a matter—apparently separated the Eucharist and the Love Feast, and celebrated them at different hours. Certainly there can be no question about the universal use of the Church from Apostolic times in regard to Morning Communions, and that ought to be sufficient for any loyal churchman. Moreover, practically the purposes for which the Eucharist was instituted, of being a means of grace, a help to right living and religious feeling, are far better answered by its being made to begin the day with, so that we can carry its effects with us through the day, instead being placed at the end, after which we immediately go to sleep and forget all about it.

As to receiving the Communion fasting, we have the same authority. It was the universal use of the Church for centuries. S. Augustine says: "It seemed good to the Holy Ghost that for the honor of so great a Sacrament, the Lord's Body should enter the mouth of the Christian before any other food, because for this purpose this custom is kept up throughout the world."

And it certainly is more natural and reverent and tends more to devotion that we should so receive it, than that we should come to it after we have been eating and drinking and enjoying other food.

At the same time, as this is a matter of discipline and not a moral precept, we do not "insist" upon it, as our correspondent alleges, but allow exceptions where age, sickness, infirmity or other impediments make the maintenance of a strict fast impossible.

Record for October.

Baptisms	5
Marriages	2
Communicants added by removal	20
Removed	6
Burial	1

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$445 33
" the Poor	24 26
" Diocesan Missions	9 50
" Year Book	4 40
" Ladies' Aid	5 00
" The Schools	3 25
Of the Sunday School	7 88
Total,	$ 499 62

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Two linen corporals, embroidered; a mahogany table with marble top; 35 books for Sunday School library; 7 books for parish library; quantity of papers and magazines for do.; 4 bags for collections; 3 small prayer books. The Rector has purchased out of some money given him nearly a year ago for that purpose, two very handsome copies of the new Prayer Book for the chancel, having waited until now to do so that he might select the best edition published. A lady has also presented a very handsome new Litany book to take the place of the one stolen some time ago from the Litany desk. The two new clere-story windows, spoken of in our September issue, have been received from England and put in position. They are very satisfactory and add to the completeness of the church. Would we could fill all our windows in the same way. Any one wanting to put up an inexpensive memorial to a loved one, might adopt this way, which thus at the same time adds to the permanent adornment of the church.

WANTS.—The superintendent of the Sunday School tells us that he has not a sufficient number of hymn books for the use of the Sunday School, and wants to know if there are not some in the congregation who would contribute some copies of the new hymual for this purpose. They cost twenty cents a piece. He would be glad also for copies of children's books to supply the places of books that have been lost or used up.

Will not our people remember these needs, and also the wants of the poorer members of the parish. At this season when wardrobes are being overhauled, articles of clothing of any description can be sent to the church and profitably disposed of.

ENTERTAINMENT. — An entertainment is to be given on the evening of the second of this month at the new Century Club, for the benefit of our church. It has been arranged by Miss Elise B. Heywood, who, though not a member of our parish, has assisted us on other occasions, and is going to give the members of S. Mary's Guild instructions in the Delsarte system this winter. She contributes her own services and secures free of expense the other talent that will appear, the church only being responsible for the rent of the hall.

We are certainly much indebted to her, and we trust a nice sum will be realized. The particular purposes to which the proceeds will be devoted is to be decided by S. Mary's Guild, under whose auspices the entertainment is gotten up.

ROBBERY.—We are sorry to say that for the third or fourth time the alms chests in the vestibule of the church have been robbed. This time the attempt was made during the celebration of Divine Service on a Sunday morning, the man being detected in the act by the watchful eye of one of our vestrymen, who was sitting in the back part of the church; who, with the assistance of the sexton, secured him and handed him over to the police, by whom he was committed to prison. We trust this example may prevent the occurrence of such a thing in the future.

RECOMMENCING WORK. — The Industrial School, Mothers' Meeting, Ladies' Aid and Embroidery Class, all recommence with this month. We need new workers in all these departments, and we trust new persons coming into the parish, as well as our old members, will volunteer to work in one or the other of these departments.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions to the NEWS have been received:

Mr. L. Barry
Mrs. Wm. Anable
Miss L. M. Bloomer
Miss M. E. Bloomer
Miss N. L. Bloomer
Miss F. Drinker
Miss E. Kerr
Rev. G. Woolsey Hodge
Mrs. G. Woolsey Hodge
Mr. Carroll Hodge
Miss M. M. Menah

Third Annual Report of the Kindergarten.

We have begun our fourth year's work in the Kindergarten, with Miss Alice Spear as teacher, and a list of twenty-five children enrolled upon the books. Our Kindergarten was open daily last season; with the exception of six weeks in the midwinter, from October until July. The children were well behaved and always happy, and took a great interest in the beautiful work that was provided for them. At Christmas they were given a festival and were then allowed to take home their handiwork as presents for the family. A picnic was given them in May by St. Mary's Guild, and at the closing exercises in June the teachers provided refreshments and also gave each child a few wild flowers to carry home. The cost of conducting the work last season was largely decreased, by the teachers who volunteered their services through May and June, and also by our closing the school for six weeks in the winter. In this way expenses were reduced to something less than $100, which is certainly a very modest sum when one considers all the benefit and enjoyment it afforded.

In consequence of the objections made, it has been decided not to take any more colored children into the Kindergarten this season, and we hope that all those in favor of this movement will further us in the work.

We also hope that all those who have aided us in the past will continue to do so, as we depend entirely for the support of the Kindergarten upon the voluntary subscriptions. As the teacher's salary for the month of October is now due, we earnestly request our subscribers to send in their donations as soon as possible. They may be sent either to the Treasurer, Miss Pauline Neidhard, 1511 Arch Street, or to Rev. G. Woolsey Hodge, 334 South Thirteenth Street.

We are glad to acknowledge the receipt of the following subscriptions which have been sent to us during the past year.

Contribution from the Kindergarten Children	$17 50
Mrs. Francis Keese	5 00
Mrs. W. F. Smith	1 00
Miss Maria Gilpin	1 00
Mrs. W. Logan Fox	5 00
Mr. S. Decatur Smith, Jr.	2 00
Mrs. Wm. Platt Pepper	2 00
Miss Marie Harrison	2 00
Mrs. Chas. Whelen	1 00
Mrs. Chas. Hiester	1 00
Mrs. W. Platt Pepper	5 00
Mrs. John Holme	5 00
Miss Helen Longaere	1 00
Mrs. James Bonsack	5 00
Mrs. Chas. Neidhard	1 50
Miss Williamson	6 00
Mrs. Theodore Butler	2 00
Miss Butler	2 00
Miss E. Gilpin	1 00
St. Mary's Guild	5 00
Mrs. J. W. M. Newlin	1 00
Mr. Cope	1 00
Mrs. H. L. Carson	1 00
Miss Tatham	1 00
Miss Wurts	1 00
Cash	1 00
Mrs. A. Jackson	2 00
Mrs. G. W. Hodge	2 00
Mrs. Edw. Carpenter	1 00
Miss Parmelee	1 00
Miss Neidhard	6 00
Miss Hoy	2 00
Total	$90 00

Donation of Fruit at Christmas, Mrs. Francis Keese.

Christmas Cake, Miss Alice Spear.

Board of Managers for 1893-94.—Mrs. Louis A. Lanpher, Mrs. Francis Keese, Mrs. W. F. Smith, Mrs. James Bonsack, Mrs. John Mason, Miss A. Chamberlaine, Miss Clara Williamson, Miss Rosalie Grubb, Miss Ella Williamson.

Officers:

Secretary, Miss Elizabeth Gilpin.
Treasurer, Miss Pauline Neidhard.
Teacher, Miss Alice Spear.

Spurgeon says a man dies worth just what he has given away. If this be so, what a host of people are not worth anything.

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The Ascension News.

VOL. VI. PHILADELPHIA, DECEMBER, 1893. No. 10

Church of the Ascension.

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ALL SEATS FREE.

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334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. LOUIS A. LANPHER.
1229 Locust St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
DAVID JAYNE BULLOCK

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2022 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.

Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.

Choral Evening Prayer, 4.00 P. M.

Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:

Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8.00 P. M.

DAILY:

Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR.—DECEMBER

1 Friday—Fast
3 First Sunday in Advent
8 Friday—Fast
10 Second Sunday in Advent
15 Friday—Fast
17 Third Sunday in Advent
20 Ember Day—Fast
21 S. Thomas
22 Ember Day—Fast
23 Ember Day—Fast.
24 Fourth Sunday in Advent
25 Christmas Day
26 S. Stephen
27 S. John Evangelist
28 Holy Innocents
29 Friday—Fast
31 Sunday after Christmas

GUILD MEETINGS.

4 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild
5 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
12 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
26 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3.00 P. M.
Mothers' Meeting, Fridays, 7.30 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. F. E. Remont.
Secretaries { Mr. Edward Carpenter. Mr. Louis M. Remont. Mr. James Dunlap.
Treasurer, Mr. Carroll Hodge
Librarians, Mr. C. Thacher Pfeiffer. Mr. Harry Ellis
Organist, Mr. G. W. Hawkins,

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS, 3 P. M.

For Young Men, Mrs. Lanpher.
" Ladies, Mrs. Hodge.

KINDERGARTEN.

Daily, except Saturdays, from 9 A.M. to noon.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

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Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

THE BISHOP.

The Christian Ministry being a Divine institution, and existing for human benefit, what are the functions of its various Orders? First, what is a Bishop?

There are, it is true, in modern times some Christian bodies which hold that there are no different Orders of Christian ministers, but that all are equal. This is disproved by the appeal in the preface to our Ordinal, that "it is evident unto all men, diligently reading Holy Scripture and ancient authors, that from the Apostles' time there have been these Orders of Ministers in Christ's Church—Bishops, Priests and Deacons."

It is evident from the Scriptures, that there were different Orders, having different functions during the Apostles' time, and that the Apostolic office was not a temporary one is proved from the fact of the election of S. Matthias to fill the first vacancy, and the addition of SS. Paul, Barnabas, Timothy, Titus and others to the original twelve. And there can be no question of the historial fact that from the time of the Reformation back as far as authentic ecclesiastical records go, the Church always and universally was governed by Bishops. No exception can be found until at the time of the Reformation, a supposed necessity led to the invention of different forms, those of Congregationalism, Presbyterianism, etc.

As, therefore, we find the Church constituted in Scripture and universally ever afterwards, we cannot but believe that our Lord so intended it should be always. It is true that the names applied to the different offices varied at first, the term Bishop being used for a time to designate both the first and second Orders, but after the death of the original Apostles, it became confined to the first Order. But of the differences of Orders from the beginning, there can be no doubt. What then are the functions of the different Orders? The Bishop is the highest and includes all the others, he can do all they can do, but differs from them chiefly in two things. First, he alone can ordain. As Christ sent the Apostles as God had sent Him, so they in turn can send others as they were sent. S. Paul commands S. Timothy, a Bishop, to ordain Presbyters in every city. Though the Priests may have taken part in the ordinations with the Bishops, no case can be shown in Scripture or early history of any ordination without a Bishop. So it was that during the two hundred years which elapsed from the discovery of America until there was a Bishop in this country; all in America who wanted to enter the Ministry had to cross three thousands miles of water to receive ordination from the hands

of a Bishop in England. The Bishops therefore alone can propagate the Church. So it belongs alone to them to administer Confirmation, which is in a sense the ordination of the laity.

Secondly, the Bishops are superior to the Clergy in jurisdiction or government. They are the rulers of the Church, the Pastors of the flock. S. Paul says, "take heed to the flock over which the Holy Ghost hath made you Bishops, to feed the Church of God."

They are the source of all authority. Priests are only their agents and representatives, authorized to act for them in the sphere, or parish, assigned them. The Bishops are their pastors as they are the more immediate pastors of the people.

So the Bishops are the lawmakers—no law can have any force in the Church unless sanctioned by them. So they are the teachers—they decide what doctrines are to be taught, and all disputes must be referred to their decision.

But these powers are not given to each Bishop separately by himself, so that each Bishop is an independent and infallible Pope, but to the whole body of Bishops collectively. So that in case of any difference or dispute it must be referred to all the Bishops meeting together in councils. Though each Bishop has his own sphere or jurisdiction, called a Diocese, in which he rules, subject to the control and discipline of his fellow Bishops, yet although all Bishops are equal in Order, for the sake of presidency and appeal, there are differences in rank, some being Primates or Archbishops, Metropolitans or Patriarchs. But none is supreme over others, universal Bishop of Bishops, as is falsely claimed by the Bishop of Rome. A Bishop distinguished among others is only *primus inter pares.*

So the Church is constituted; it is no democracy, in which the rulers receive their powers from the people. It is a constitutional monarchy, in which authority and grace have been handed on from age to age from our blessed Lord Himself by means of Holy Orders.

If our people were taught and understood the divine constitution of the Church, they would be saved from the danger of schism, the setting up of altar against altar, the dividing of the one body of Christians into diverse independent and antagonistic fragments, which so weakens and retards the progress of the faith. So would they be delivered from the danger of heresy, which is the teaching of the opinions of individuals as doctrines, instead of the one Catholic faith held by all Christians.

Never let any one call himself an "Episcopalian," as if he was a member of an Episcopal sect, one out of many which he happens to prefer, but look upon himself as a member of the one Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church, subject to the legitimate Bishop in whose diocese he is living, who has the rule over him, by Divine authority, whom it is a sin to separate from or disobey, to whom it has been entrusted, with his fellow-

Bishops, to teach and feed the whole Christian flock, as God led His ancient people Israel "by the hand of Moses and Aaron."

OUR FINANCES.

At a meeting of the Finance Committee of the Vestry, after hearing a statement by the Accounting Warden, it was resolved "That the congregation be asked to contribute before January 1, 1894, the sum of $1,500 to meet the interest on the mortgage due this month, the salaries of the clergy, choir, etc., and some necessary repairs to the Church."

To fulfill this request it will be necessary that our offerings for the five Sundays in December should average $100 each, which is about what we receive at this time of the year, and that on Christmas Day $1,000.

As the offerings at Christmas for the last two years have been a little over $800, it will necessitate an extra effort to make it $1,000 this year, especially as many persons have less money this year than usual. Will not all give as largely as they can, and those who are not affected by the hard times, give more liberally than usual, to make up for those who cannot give as much.

Record for November.

Baptisms	5
Marriages	4
Communicants added, new	1
" by removal	15
" removed	5
Burial	1

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$375 37
" the Poor	21 73
" the Schools	1 10
For the Kindergarten	36 00
" the Episcopal Hospital	32 33
" General Missions	7 50
" Diocesan "	1 35
" the Church Debt	25
Of the Sunday School	7 03
	$ 482 66
Proceeds of Entertainment by S. Mary's Guild for Church Debt	59 15
Total,	$ 541 81

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Four books for Sunday School library. Photograph of Rev. Henry M. Stuart, a former Rector of the parish. A cotta for server embroidered. Pair of chickens, two baskets of potatoes, twelve tons of coal for the poor, fruit for Thanksgiving Day. Two of the members of St. John's Guild have made and presented to the Church, a sounding board for the punch bag in the gymnasium.

THANKSGIVING.—Each of the members of our Mother's Meeting, some eighteen in all, received at Thanksgiving, through the kindness of some members of the parish, a fowl, bag of potatoes, quart of cranberries, pound of sugar, a ton or half ton of coal. Some of the fruit from the Altar was sent to some of our sick members, and the rest distributed among the choir boys.

OUR BENEVOLENT WORK.—In view of the special distress which will probably be experienced this winter and the many applications received by the Clergy for aid, it is proposed to extend the benevolent work connected with our Mother's Meeting by giving out sewing to needy women. Plenty of such work can be obtained from the various hospitals in the city. All we should have to do will be to pay the women who do it. But to do this will require a large increase in our Poor Fund. To pay twenty women 50 cents each a week, we would need $10, which for four months would amount to $180. Are there not some in the congregation who will make special donations for this purpose?

PARISH VISITING.—Since early in October the clergy have been visiting throughout the parish. But as there are now some three hundred families regularly connected with the church, beside many others connected with the children in the schools, choir, etc., whom it is the aim of the clergy to see, and these are scattered all over the city, it is manifest that it requires considerable time for all to be seen.

The Rector finds that he cannot, with his other engagements, pay more than three visits a day, on an average, such visits as he wants to pay. And as he cannot pay any on Sunday, except in extreme cases of illness, that makes only eighteen a week, at which rate it requires four months of steady visiting every day but Sunday, to get round the parish once. So if any think that the Rector is neglecting them, let them remember what he has to do, and have patience, and he will get to see them in time.

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL. — Our Christmas music this year will include Calkin's Festival Te Deum and Gounod's S. Cecilia Mass. This will be repeated on the morning of the Sunday after Christmas, and in the afternoon will be sung Tour's Festival Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis. The anthem will be, "For unto us a Child is born," from "Handel's Messiah."

Special offerings to provide the usual Christmas festival for the children of our Sunday School and the decorations for the Church and school building can be placed in the alms box in the vestibule, which will be marked for that purpose.

THE YEAR BOOK for 1892-3 is now out and can be had from the Sexton.

NEW HYMNALS.—We are promised this month a donation of new Hymnals for the Church, and if the different members of the congregation would give as a Christmas present a copy of the new Hymnal to the various members of their family, we shall be able to introduce its use in the services of the Church by the beginning of the new year. All kinds of editions of the new Hymnal, or new Prayer Book and Hymnal together, can be had at any of the book stores.

SINGING GUILD.—We want to thank the young women of the parish who have joined the Singing Guild, and express our appreciation of their services in leading the music at the Sunday and Wednesday evening services. But we hope to see a great many more in the Guild. To be as effective as we want it to be, it should be a great deal larger. We are sure it will be a great opportunity for improvement in singing to any who will join it, as well as a way in which they can make themselves useful to the parish.

SPECIAL SERMONS.—The third sermon by the Rector in the special course on Social Subjects, will be preached on the evening of the third Sunday of this month on "Marriage," and the third in the course on the Christian Ministry on the morning of the fourth Sunday, on "The Priest."

The Rt. Rev. Leighton Coleman, D. D., LL. D., Bishop of Delaware, will preach on the morning of the third Sunday.

S. JOHN'S GUILD.—The first autumnal exhibition of indoor

sports of St. John's Guild was held on Monday evening, November 13. The gymnasium was well filled with friends of the guild; the referee was Mr. Edward S. Van Leer, who discharged his difficult duty with tact and good nature, which latter quality stood him in good stead among the crowd of excited and disputing contestants.

The first event was the running high jump, in which David Patchell was the victor, jumping 4 ft. 7 in., although in regard to points, it was a tie between Hindermeyer and him, on account of Hindermeyer's handicap. The next event was a junior wrestling match between Hindermeyer and McConaghy, which did not result in a fall. The 15 yds. dash was won by Frank Shelton.

The standing vault on the horizontal bar was won by David Patchell, who vaulted 6 ft.

The 15 yds. run-on-all-fours was won by Harvey Hindermeyer.

The Indian-club race and the dumb-bell race were both wildly exciting and noisy; the former, won by Reynolds Clark, and the latter, by Charles Manypenny.

The standing broad jump was won by Hindermeyer. The sports ended by a friendly wrestling match between Manypenny, the champion bantam-weight wrestler, and Patchell, resulting in a victory for Manypenny.

Three prizes were offered to the three best all-round athletes, and were awarded to Hindermeyer, first; Patchell, second; Manypenny third.

These sports showed conclusively the need of more practice and training on the part of the various contestants. The winners in each event were those who have done the most faithful work in the class exercises, under the able leadership of Mr. Hammond, the gymnasium instructor.

We hope that the members of the Guild as a whole, will take more interest in the class work, and avail themselves of its training, so that a better showing can be made in future sports.

The foot ball team of the Guild played a match on Nov. 17 with the team of the Episcopal Academy, which they won by a score of 4 to 0.

They also went on to New York on Thanksgiving Day and played with the Athletics, whom they beat 10-0.

They have won games with S. Mark's team, 28-0, and Llanwellyn, 10-8.

THE NEWS.—Our business manager informs us that we shall want about $15 to meet the expenses of this paper for the current year. Are there not some members of the congregation who read it and realize how useful it is for the parish, who are not subscribers to it, who will become so, or get us some new advertisements, or who will make a donation towards the above amount which we require?

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

On the first Sunday in September the school numbered 37. On December 1st, the total number on the rolls was 205.

Five boys, four girls, three teachers and two officers have not missed a session since the school opened in September.

The banner band of the school for punctuality is No. 55, Dept. 3, Miss Schell.

The school begins at 3 o'clock, immediately after a service in church at half-past 2. Visitors will be gladly received.

For the Christmas festival $50.00 will be needed. We ask the members of the congregation not to forget the little ones at the happy festival, and hope they will of their charity, contribute generously, that the children may have a joyous and pleasant time. Put your offerings in an envelope, marked S. S. Festival, and hand to the rector or place in the offertory.

Wants: A binding fund is badly needed for rebinding 30 or more volumes of library books, which cannot be used until repaired. Small sums are asked for—put in an envelope, marked S. S. Binding Fund, and place in offertory.

We also want new or second-hand books for the library, embracing books of travel, adventure or biography; bound volumes of Chatterbox, St. Nicholas, Harper's Young People, etc.

Dear reader, if you have any books which will entertain, improve and instruct the children, you will perform an act of charity by donating them to the children's library. Notify the Rector, Sexton or Superintendent, and they will be sent for and duly acknowledged.

Through the kindness of the Rector, Miss Holbrook and some unknown friend, more than 25 volumes have been received for the library.

We need copies of the new Hymnal and Prayer Book. Who will donate one or more copies?

The children's Christmas service will be held on the afternoon of Sunday, December 31st, at half-past 2 o'clock, when the festal choral service will be sung. The creed will be Stainer's. The chants to the psalter will be Kettle and Humphreys; the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, Caleb Simper in F.; the Ascription at the offertory, "Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power," Gilbert.

Five carols by the main school and one by the infant school will also be sung.

It is hoped the congregation will encourage the children by being present at this service.

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DAILY:

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Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR.—JANUARY.

1 Circumcision.
5 Friday—Fast.
6 Epiphany.
7 First Sunday after Epiphany.
12 Friday—Fast.
14 Second Sunday after Epiphany.
19 Friday—Fast.
21 Septuagesima.
25 Conversion of S. Paul.
26 Friday—Fast.
28 Sexagesima.

GUILD MEETINGS.

3 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
8 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild
9 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
23 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

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Secretaries { Mr. Edward Carpenter. / Mr. Louis M. Remont. / Mr. James Dunlap. / Mr. Latimer P. Smith.
Treasurer, Mr. Carroll Hodge
Librarians, Mr. C. Thacher Pfeiffer. / Mr. Harry Ellis
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Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

THE PRIEST.

The Priesthood is the second Order in the Christian Ministry. It derives not only its power and authority from the first Order—the Bishop—through ordination, but its jurisdiction as well. That is, it can only exercise the functions conferred on it by ordination, in the particular sphere assigned to it by the Bishop, or in the sphere assigned to some other Priest on his invitation. He does not receive a roving commission, to be exercised any where at his will. He can only officiate in the parish or cure to which he has been instituted by the Bishop. And in that cure he acts as the agent and under the direction of the Bishop, though his rights are guarded and his powers defined by the canons or laws which the Bishop has set forth for the government of his Diocese.

The functions of the Priest are various; he is a preacher and instructor of his people, their pastor and councilor, and the ruler of his parish. Of these functions we shall treat separately. Now let us consider only the strictly sacerdotal functions.

What is the primary office of the Priest? He "is ordained," the Scriptures tell us, "in things pertaining to God." That is, he is to deal with men and act for them in religious matters. He has two distinct classes of duties. (1) He acts as the agent and representative of God in his dealings with men. (2) As man's representative in his approach unto God.

In the first of these capacities he administers the sacraments. He baptizes, presents candidates for confirmation, gives the communion, pronounces absolution and benediction, confers the blessing in marriage, ministers to the sick, etc. All these are divinely ordained instrumentalities by which Divine Grace and assistance is given to men, and the Priest is the agent by whom they are performed. And the efficacy of these acts depends not upon the Priest's personal character, or abilities, or virtue, but upon his commission. Just as the acts of a governor of a State, or other executive officer, depend not on his personal traits, but on his official position; so you may have an ignorant, stupid or even vicious priest, and still derive benefit from his official acts. As one of our articles teaches "the unworthiness of the Ministers hinders not the effects of the sacraments."

The second class of duties of the Priest is in acting for men towards God, presenting to Him "gifts and sacrifices" on their behalf. There is a natural debt which man owes to God. The debt of prayer and praise and substantial gifts to God's service to testify man's interest and zeal

in His cause. As well might a child live in his father's house and never speak to him, as a man live on God's earth and never think of or approach Him. It is true, men can make a certain personal approach to God in private prayer and praise, but that is imperfect and insufficient. Men need a trained and cultured class to present in a fitting way this great obligation of worship, and they need the help and inspirations which comes from public worship. And in all such corporate acts, the mass must be represented by agents, duly trained and commissioned for the purpose. So the Priest acts and speaks for the great body of the faithful, his deeds and words are those of the people he represents.

Above all there is the great act of sacrifice, which is the special function of the Priest to perform. This is an innate, universal idea among men. All nations have had a priesthood. Men have always felt that sin needs to be atoned for, and that atonement can only be accomplished by the shedding of blood. This idea was sanctioned and provided for by God in the animal sacrifices of the old dispensation. So when Christ came into the world to be the great High Priest for men, "it was necessary that He also should have some what to offer." That sacrifice was His own body on the Altar of the Cross. So that this universal want might be provided for in all time, our Lord instituted the Holy Communion to be the perpetual memorial sacrifice of His one oblation. And by the universal prescription of the Church, the offering of that sacrifice has been confined to this one Order—the Priesthood.

Some deny this and say that there is no Priest, Altar or Sacrifice in the Christian Church. But they are contradicted by the fact that in every Church in Christendom from the earliest extant down to the time of the Reformation, there was an Altar, that the universal name, by which the Holy Communion was known in the early Church, was "the Sacrifice" and that they who offered it were called "Priests."

Is it conceivable that it should have been left for a small body of separatists after fifteen hundred years of Christian history, to discover for the first time what was the true conception of the Christian Ministry and Christian worship? And why should any one wish to eliminate the idea of sacrifice from Christian service? What is it but the giving of something on behalf of another, in this case, of interposing the death of Christ for us between a justly offended God and our sins.

Religion is not simply ethics. There is this element of sin in us, which must be atoned for, and our need of Divine help to overcome it. The Holy Communion is the way appointed by which the perfect sacrifice of Christ is set forth and pleaded before God, and by which its benefits are communicated to us, and the Priest is the person authorized to celebrate it.

These are the practical purposes of the Priesthood, apart from those of which we shall speak hereafter, the acting as God's agent in ad-

ministering the sacraments and speaking in His name, and as man's representative in offering to God the prayers and praises, the gifts and sacrifices we owe to God. So it is an office from whose acts all may receive benefit, and whose offices all should use.

Record for December.

Baptisms	3
Marriage	1
Communicants added, new	12
" by removal	2
" removed	7

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$1194 82
" the Poor	13 36
" Christmas Decorations and Festival	40 05
" General Missions	3 10
" Diocesan "	30
" the Schools	5 70
" the Kindergarten	5 00
" Ascension News	5 00
Of the Sunday School	10 78
Total,	$1277 91

PARISH NOTES.

CHRISTMAS.—We always give an account of the way in which the great Festivals are kept in our parish, not only for the benefit of those of our readers who for any cause were prevented from being present at the services, but as a matter of record for comparison year by year.

We were favored this year by very good weather on Christmas day, though we know a great many were kept at home by the prevailing influenza. Still we had good congregations for a week day. We were especially gratified by the increased attendance at the early celebrations, being 185 against 122 last year, and of the 238 Communions made, all but 56 were at the early services.

The choir discharged their part most creditably, and we think their training appeared to greater advantage from their not being accompanied with instruments. In fact the general impression seemed to be a preference for the service without that accompaniment.

The offerings on Christmas day amounted to $630. Almost $200 less than last year. But as Christmas came then on Sunday, that included the regular Sunday's offerings. Our total offerings for current expenses for the month of December this year has been $1194.82 against $1243.73 last year. So there has not been much falling off, though from the hard times we were afraid there would be. Still we need the amount asked for by the Finance Commitee of the Vestry, $1500 for the month, and the congregation must remember that this amount must be made up sooner or later, as we can hardly cut down the expenses of the Church, on the contrary they ought to be increased with the growth of the congregation.

CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL.—The usual festival for the Sunday School children took place on the evening of Holy Innocents' day. After the service in the Church, consisting of the singing of Christmas hymns, with some prayers and an address on the teachings of the season, the children were provided with a treat in the school building in which a live Kris Kringle presented each scholar with a box of candies, an orange and a piece of cake, and the children of the Infant School with toys. The children themselves added to the entertainment by a number of recitations.

On the evening of the Friday after Christmas the members of the Mothers' Meeting were given a special tea, and the choir boys provided with a treat of ice cream and cake.

The special Christmas Service of the children took place on the afternoon of the Sunday after Christmas at 2.30 P.M. It consisted of full Evening Prayer entirely sung by the children, including an anthem Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis. The singing was with much expression and showed the careful training of the Superintendent of the School, Mr. F. E. Remont. A special programme had been prepared embracing several Christmas Carols.

The address at the service was made by the Rev. H. C. Mayer, late of Paris, France, who also kindly assisted the Rector at the early Celebrations on Christmas day.

There was a good attendance of those interested in the School, in addition to the scholars.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Since our last issue there has been received a violet silk stole, embroidered; six new Hymnals for the Church; one do for the chancel; 8 coal orders of half ton each for distribution among the poor, and some poultry, etc., for Christmas dinners; cake for Festival; papers and magazines for Guild room. The Altar Guild donated a cassock to a church in Ocoee, Florida, where our former parishioner, Mr. Harry R. Carson, is serving temporarily as lay reader.

CONFIRMATION.—The Bishop of the diocese has notified the Rector that he has appointed the evening of April 4th to administer Confirmation in this parish. We trust that all who have not been Confirmed, will look forward to being presented at that time. The preparatory instructions will begin early in Lent.

SPECIAL SERMONS.—The subjects for the special sermons this month will be on the evening of the second Sunday, the 14th, on social subjects—"Education," and on the morning of the third Sunday, the 21st, on the Christian Ministry—"The Preacher."

S. MARY'S GUILD.—The members of S. Mary's Guild are enjoying greatly their regular monthly instructions in the Delsarte system. We would like all the young women in the parish to have the benefit of it. They are looking forward to giving a public exhibition in the spring.

S. JOHN'S GUILD.—As the first Monday in this month is New Year's day, the regular business meeting of the Guild will take place on the second Monday instead. The members of this Guild are very anxious to do something to make money as a contribution towards the enlargement of our Parish Building, which is so much needed. They may give some kind of an entertainment for this purpose later in the season.

PRAYERS FOR BEFORE AND AFTER SERVICE.—The Episcopal Tract Society have printed some very suitable prayers to be used before and after service, some of which we have had for distribution. They are so arranged that they can be pasted in the front or back of a Prayer Book.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions to the NEWS have been received:

Mrs. J. B. Read	Mr. Thomas Neilson
Miss Pemberton	Mrs. Theo. H. Butler
Mrs. Henry Lehman	Mr. F. S. Keese
Mrs. Isaac Starr	Mrs. J. E. Carpenter
Mrs. M. Manley Brown	Miss Parmelee
Miss W. F. Newsum	Mr. Henry C. Kerr
Mr. Jas. M. Sayers	Miss Reb'ca McIlhiney
Mrs. A. Jackson	Miss K. G. Pomeroy
Mr. Wm. Platt Pepper	Miss E. C. Zamzinger
Mr. Robt. Armstrong	Miss M. Gilpin
Miss E. H. King	Miss Rosalie Grubb
Miss M. H. White	Mrs. H. C. Pollock
Miss Isabel Schell	Miss M. G. Harper
Miss Sarah Vogdes	Miss M. W. Harper

The Sunday School.

The school opens immediately after the Children's Service, which begins at 2.30 P. M. We are always glad to receive visitors.

The exercises being largely musical, the parents and friends of the children, and young people in general, may find it profitable to spend a half hour with us. Come, and welcome.

On rolls Dec. 1st, 205; new members, 12; left, 4. Total on rolls Jan. 1st, 213.

The beautiful Christmas service was held on the afternoon of the Sunday after Christmas, and was finely rendered. The children sang the service and hymns with rare expression and feeling, which was directly traceable to the hard training to which they so cheerfully submitted for nearly three months, and reflects much credit on their patience and industry.

The Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, which are really difficult pieces of music for Sunday School children to sing, were rendered with a precision and exactness, and with such expression and feeling as would do credit to a trained choir; while it may be questioned if any of our choirs could excel the manner in which the Psalter was chanted.

It is to be regretted that so few of the members of the congregation were present at this service.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: 50 cts. from a gentleman for the "binding fund." Thank you, sir. Will other kind friends who may not be able to spare so much, help the fund along with dimes or nickels? Put in an envelope, mark it "binding fund" and put into the offertory.

From a lady of the congregation a box of mixtures for the "poorest child that could be found." They were given to one at 7th and Lombard Sts.

A box of things for the decoration of the Christmas tree.

Two books were sent to the library by one of the teachers.

Dear reader have *you* any books to spare for our library? If so, send them to the sexton or notify the Rector and they will be sent for.

We did not receive any hymnals in response to our appeal last month. Perhaps some good friend will think of us *this* month.

Church Training and Deaconess House.

The Rector has received the following letter from the Bishop of the Diocese:

Philadelphia, Nov. 13, 1893.

Rev. and dear Brother: May I call your attention to the opportunity afforded in the Church Training and Deaconess House of the Diocese of Pennsylvania, 708 Spruce street, for ladies who desire to qualify themselves for more efficient service in teaching in Sunday Schools, or in any kind of woman's work in the Church.

The Training House is intended to afford instruction to special students in any particular course of study, as well as to those who desire to become Deaconesses. I send you with this, the scheme of studies for the coming year. Students are received for any of these courses on the payment of $5.00 a year. I would commend especially the courses in Church History, the Prayer Book, and the study of the Bible.

It may be in your congregation there are some who would like to take one or more of these courses, and would greatly profit by them.

More particular information can be obtained from Miss Caroline H. Sanford, Deaconess in charge of the House, 708 Spruce Street.

Faithfully yours,

O. W. WHITAKER.

COURSES OF INSTRUCTION.

FIRST YEAR.

MONDAY.—A. M., 10-11: New Testament Use of the Old Testament—Rev. Dr. Perry. 11-12: Pastoral Theology—Rev. Dr. Rumney. Business Methods—Rev. Dr. Paddock. P. M.: Practical Training.

TUESDAY.—A. M., 11-12: Life of Christ.—Miss Aertsen. P. M., 2-3: History of Prayer Book.—Rev. L. M. Robinson.

WEDNESDAY.—A. M., 10-11: Acts of the Apostles—Miss Coles. 11-12: Christian Evidences—Rev. Wm. Ely. P. M.: Practical Training.

THURSDAY.—A. M., 10-11. 11-12: Hygiene and Home Sanitation—Seneca Egbert, M. D. P. M., 2-3: Ancient Church History—Rev. R. S. Eastman. 3-4: I and II Corinthians—Prof. Micou.

FRIDAY.—A. M.: Practical Training. P. M.: Practical Training.

SATURDAY.—A. M., 9: Missions.

SECOND YEAR.

MONDAY.—A. M., 10-11: The Collects—Rev. Wm. Ely. 11-12: Church History—Rev. J. R. Moses. P. M.: Practical Training.

TUESDAY.—A. M., 10-11: Bible Class Teaching—Miss Biddle. P. M., 3-4: Liturgies—Rev. L. M. Robinson.

WEDNESDAY.—A. M., 10-11: Thirty-nine Articles—Rev. Wm. Ely. 11-12: St. Paul' sEpistles—Miss Coles. P. M.: Practical Training.

THURSDAY.—A. M., 10-11: Emergencies, (Advent Term)—Seneca Egbert, M. D. P. M., 2-3: General Epistles.—Prof. Micou. 3-4.30: Old Testament—Prof. Batten.

FRIDAY.—A. M.: Practical Training. P. M.: Practical Training.

SATURDAY.—A. M., 9: Missions.

Other Courses of Instruction to be given during the year, will be hereafter announced.

To the giver shall be given!
If thou wouldst walk in light,
Make other spirits bright:
Who, seeking for himself alone, ever entered heaven?
In blessing we are blest,
In labor find our rest;
If we bend not to the world's work heart and hand and brain,
We have lived our life in vain.

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The Ascension News.

VOL. VII. PHILADELPHIA, FEBRUARY, 1894. NO. 2

Church of the Ascension.

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ASSISTANT:
REV. LOUIS A. LANPHER.
1229 Locust St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
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ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
DAVID JAYNE BULLOCK

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2022 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4.00 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8.00 P. M.

DAILY:
Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

DURING LENT: Confirmation Instructions, Mondays, 4. P. M. Thursdays, 8 P. M. Lecture after Evening Prayer on Fridays.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR.—FEBRUARY.

2 Purification B. V. M.—Fast.
4 Quinquagesima.
7 Ash Wednesday.
11 First Sunday in Lent.
14 Ember Day.
16 Ember Day.
17 Ember Day.
18 Second Sunday in Lent.
24 S. Matthias.
25 Third Sunday in Lent.

All days in Lent except Sundays are fasts.

GUILD MEETINGS.

6 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
12 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild
13 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
27 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3.00 P. M.
Mothers' Meeting, Fridays, 7.30 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent, the Assistant Minister.
Secretaries { Mr. Edward Carpenter. Mr. Louis M. Remont. Mr. James Dunlap. Mr. Latimer P. Smith.
Treasurer, Mr. Carroll Hodge
Librarians, Mr. C. Thacher Pfeiffer. Mr. Harry Ellis
Organist, Mr. G. W. Hawkins,

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS, 3 P. M.

For Young Men, Mrs. Lanpher.
" Ladies, Mrs. Hodge.

KINDERGARTEN.

Daily, except Saturdays, from 9 A.M. to noon.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, Room 1022 Betz Building.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

THE PREACHER.

In considering the characteristics of the Second Order in the Ministry, we dwelt last month only on its strictly sacerdotal functions. Let us speak now of the duty of the Priest as a Preacher. This is inherent in his office. The Third Order, the Deacon, can only preach if specially licensed thereto by the Bishop. But it is the right and the duty of the Priest to preach, because having the care of a parish, he must both be able, and it is an obligation upon him, to discharge this office for his people. Yet it is not strictly a priestly act, because others than Priests can preach. And one may be a very valuable and able Priest and Pastor, and yet not be of much use as a Preacher, because the efficiency of this office depends, not as do the sacerdotal functions, upon the office itself, but upon personal qualifications. A man must have a natural or acquired fitness and ability to be an able preacher.

But it is the duty of every parish priest to discharge this duty to his congregation, either personally or by a substitute, because one of the primary commands laid upon the ministry is to "preach the Gospel," to "reprove, rebuke, exhort." Christianity is a revelation. It must be made known to men; and the clergy are the appointed agents for its communication. And the duty is not to be discharged by one proclamation of it to individuals or a people. It is so deep and vast, so constantly and vitally affecting the life of every one, that there is need of its continual enforcement, and explication and application. To fully understand the doctrines and precepts of religion requires special education, and the clergy are taught and trained, that they in turn may teach others.

They are to see that their people are instructed in the truths of religion. They must begin with the young; teach them either personally or by agents the things which a Christian ought to know and believe, and catechise them to see that they are learning.

They must teach the adults as well, by classes, or courses of instructions or sermons upon different subjects.

Then the truth thus taught needs to be constantly applied to daily life. It is not easy to practice the teachings of our religion even when you know them. There is a law in our members contrary to them, leading us to oppose them. So all men need constantly to be exhorted, rebuked, warned against evil doing, urged, incited and inspired to do right, to persevere in the Christian course, to make progress, to cultivate the spiritual life, the finer virtues.

This is the use and power of the pulpit. The best instructed Christian needs to be ever learning. The best and holiest man has his trials and temptations, is liable to become cold and indifferent and careless. So all have need of preaching.

It is said, that while this may have been the case formerly, now that books are so plentiful and every one can read, it is no longer necessary, that the press has superceded the pulpit. But, while the press should be used and regarded as a larger and supplementary pulpit, still many men do not read regularly, nor are they apt to read just the books they need, and even if they did, there is a power in the living voice and direct address, the written page does not possess. Few books can influence and enthuse men as the fervent speaker.

Again, it is said there are so few good preachers. Many are dull and uninteresting. True, but we must remember the message itself is divine, and though it is most effective if powerfully or clearly enforced, yet there is always something to be learned from every honest attempt to proclaim it.

Then there are difficulties the preacher has to contend with. One is the lack of intimate knowledge of the people he addresses, their wants and difficulties and trials. All preaching is more or less in the dark. All the preacher can aim at is the teaching of those things which ought to be known and believed, and the exhortation to the performance of evident duty. Then there is the temptation to the preacher to seek popularity and gain a reputation as a beautiful writer or fluent speaker, and to avoid those subjects which are disagreeable and might create trouble, only to speak smooth things. But he should aim to be plain and direct, to declare the whole Council of God, teach and preach all that he believes to be right and to be needed. One of the advantages of extemporaneous preaching is in its simplicity and directness, avoiding the danger of writing only beautiful essays, which may be very finished compositions, but are not the food people need to live by.

Another difficulty in preaching, is the knowledge of the preacher that he himself needs to be preached to, the seeming arrogance of setting himself up to teach and exhort others. Preachers feel this and it makes them hesitate to say all they should, knowing they are not perfect themselves.

Many long for opportunities to hear others, instead of always preaching themselves.

But the people should remember the message and forget the man. The message is from God, the preacher is only the human agent that brings it.

So this office of the preacher, while depending largely upon human ability for its effective discharge, is still one which is always needed, which the people should gladly receive and by which they can always be profited.

Record for January.

Communicants added, new	1
" by removal	10
" removed	2
" died	1
Communions of the sick	2
Burials	3

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$351 11
" the Poor	8 51
" General Missions	2 50
" Diocesan "	50
" Ascension News	9 25
" Hymnals	4 00
" Church Debt	1 25
Of the Sunday School	7 12
Total,	$384 24

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Four and a half tons of coal for the poor, thirty new Hymnals, seven books for Sunday School library. Clothes for missionary box and poor.

CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTIONS will be given every Monday at 4 P.M., and every Thursday evening at 8 P.M. during Lent, in the Parish building. All desiring to be confirmed are expected to attend one of these courses. The Confirmation will take place on April 4th at 8 P.M. The clergy affectionately urge all attending the Church, who have not yet been confirmed and are of sufficient age, to avail themselves of this opportunity.

LENTEN LECTURES.—A course of lectures will be delivered by the Rector after Evening Prayer on each Friday during Lent, except Good Friday, the subject being "Sin." The first will be "The Fact of Sin." Second, "Original Sin." Third, "Actual Sins of Commission." Fourth, "Of Omission." Fifth, "Habitual Sin." Sixth, "Remission of Sins." The boys of the choir will sing at the daily evening service at 5 o'clock during Lent, and there will be a special offertory on Friday afternoons to defray the expense.

SPECIAL SERMONS.—The subjects of the special sermons this month will be on the evening of the second Sunday, the 11th, on social subjects—"Business," and on the morning of the third Sunday, the 18th, on the Christian Ministry —"The Pastor."

LENTEN WORK.—The members of the Ladies' Bible Class and of S. Mary's Guild will meet every Thursday evening during Lent in the Guild room to sew for a missionary purpose. The Ladies' Aid will sew for "the Sheltering Arms."

SPECIAL ENVELOPES.—We want particularly to call the attention of the congregation to the duty of returning the special envelopes for benevolent purposes, which are sent out every quarter together with the regular envelopes. The congregation must remember that in churches where the pews are rented, there are in addition, collections at least *twice a month* for charitable purposes—once for the poor, and once for some missionary or other object. In a free church, what one agrees to give through the envelopes takes the place of pew rents in supporting the church, and the extra envelopes are to take the place of the charitable collections. We have only four of these in the year: those for the Poor, the support of the Sunday and Industrial School, General Missions—Domestic and Foreign, and Diocesan Missions. All these envelopes should be filled up and returned at some offertory during the quarters in which they are sent out. No church can be conducted unless money is provided for its work among the poor, and for the carrying on of its schools. And no congregation is doing its duty if it does not contribute towards the general missionary work of the church, as well as for its own support.

The special envelope for this quarter is for Diocesan Missions, that is, for the carrying on of the work of the church in the poorer and newer portions of our own Diocese. For this purpose our parish is asked and expected to contribute $75. As this amount has been reduced from $100 which we have been assessed before, because we failed to give that much, we trust the full amount asked this year will be contributed. In addition to this we are assessed $34.76 for the Sustentation fund, which is a part of the same work. It puts both our own parish and the free church system in a bad light, if these amounts are not paid.

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY.—The congregation should understand also that in addition to the offerings through the envelopes which go to the work of the regular Boards of Missions, the women of the parish make contributions to the work of the Women's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions. Two of our ladies represent the parish on each of the four committees, and they ask the female members of the congregation to contribute towards their work. Collections for the Domestic Committee were made in January, for the Freedmen will be made in February, for the Foreign in March, and for Indian Missions in April.

NEW HYMNALS.—We have several times asked for donations of new Hymnals. We have so far received some 30 copies. We have in addition 75 copies which were purchased for the use of the Sunday School. These will pretty well supply the church. But in addition to these we should have musical copies for the choir, and the new book cannot be entirely adopted until the choir is thus supplied. It would require in the neighborhood of $50 to purchase them. Are there not members of the congregation who will make contributions for this purpose?

S. JOHN'S GUILD.—There will be an exhibition of athletics by S. John's Guild on Monday evening, February 5th, at 8 o'clock. There will be eight events, and three special exhibitions of high kicking, contortionism, and club swinging. The friends of the Guild are cordially invited to be present; a small admission fee will be charged. The business meeting will be on the 12th.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions to the NEWS have been received:

Miss H. Dickerson	Mrs. Henry C. Mayer
Mrs. David Carstairs	Miss Anna Macartney
Miss Casey	Mrs. M. L. Volmer
Mr. C. L. S. Tingley	Mrs. R. H. Larzelere
Mr. Richard Gilpin	Mrs. Hulings
Mrs. N. S. Jensen	Mr. Jas. Lescure
Miss E. D. Colley	Mrs. H. Connelly
Mr. W. M. Newman	Mrs. Wm. Waterall
Mrs. J. P. Eyre	Mrs. C. L. Leiper
Mr. Geo. A. Nicholson	Mr. David Rea
Mrs. Geo. A. Nicholson	Miss Wagner
Mrs. John Alexander	Miss Wurts
Miss A. H. Chamberlaine	Miss Barrington

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

RESIGNATION OF SUPERINTENDENT.—We regret very much to announce the resignation of our Sunday School Superintendent. Mr. F. E. Remont. This has been due to a difference of opinion between Mr. Remont and the clergy, and most of the teachers in the school, in regard to the length of time required for the session of the school and the method of conducting it. Mr. Remont felt that the hour between the close of the Children's Service and the 4 o'clock Evensong, was not long enough for the purposes of the school. He has there-

fore been prolonging the school considerably after the 4 o'clock service began.

This prevented the teachers, who wished to do so from attending that service, and it was in their judgment, and in that of the clergy, too long a session for the children. And as Mr. Remont felt that it was impossible for him, consistently with his plans, to reduce the length of the session, he has felt it necessary to resign. We deeply regret this, as from his character, experience and ability, Mr. Remont was admirably qualified for the position. The thanks of the parish are due to him for the labor and zeal he has expended in the work, and it is unfortunate that his connection with it should have been so brief.

The Assistant Minister will for the present act as Superintendent of the school, and its session will extend from the close of the Children's Service until five minutes of four o'clock.

LENTEN OFFERINGS.—The offerings of the school during Lent will be given as usual to Missions. In addition to the offerings in the church, each child will be provided with an alms box to take home to fill up and return by Easter Sunday.

A QUIET DAY FOR WOMEN.

A QUIET DAY FOR WOMEN, to be conducted by the Rev. W. F. Bodine, D.D., Rector of the Church of the Saviour, will be held in S. James Church, Walnut and Twenty-second Streets, on the second Thursday in Lent, February 15th; services beginning with Holy Communion at 10.30 A.M. till 1 P.M. and from 2.30 to 4.30 P.M.

THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF CHURCHWOMEN will be held in Holy Trinity Parish House, Twentieth Street below Walnut, on Friday, February 16th, from 10.30 A.M. till 1 P.M., and from 2.30 till 4.30 P.M. Topics: Morning Session—"The Church's Opportunity in Relation to Wage Workers," "The Responsibility of the Church towards the Foreign Elements in our City." Afternoon Session—"The Ideal American Home," "The Spirit of Work."

WHAT I LIVE FOR.

I live for those who love me,
For those I know are true;
For the heaven that smiles above me,
And awaits my spirit too;
For all human ties that bind me,
For the task my God assigned me,
For the bright hopes left behind me,
And the good that I can do.

I live to learn their story,
Who've suffered for my sake,
To emulate their glory,
And follow in their wake;
Bards, martyrs, patriots, sages,
The noble of all ages,
Whose deeds crown history's pages,
And time's great volume make.

I live to hail that season
By gifted minds foretold,
When men shall live by reason,
And not alone for gold.
When man to man united,
And every wrong thing righted,
The whole world shall be lighted
As Eden was of old.

I live to hold communion
With all that is divine,
To feel that there is union
'Twixt nature's heart and mine:
To profit by affliction,
Reap truth from fields of fiction
Grow wiser from conviction—
Fulfilling God's design.

I live for those that love me,
For those that know me true,
For the heaven that smiles above me,
And awaits my spirit too;
For wrongs that need resistance,
For the cause that needs assistance,
For the future in the distance,
And the good that I can do.

Contributed *G. L. Banks.*

LENT.

Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a Fast.
Joel ii; 15.

THE ORIGIN OF LENT.

Moses, giver of the Law, fasted forty days in the mount. Elijah, chief of the prophets, fasted forty days in the wilderness.

So Christ, "of whom Moses in the Law, and the prophets did write," fasted forty days.

Philo, contemporary with the Apostles, in his account of the Christians of Alexandria, refers to their keeping Lent. Irenaeus, ninety years after St. John, mentions this season. Tertullian, a short time after Irenaeus, avers that it was the general belief of the Church that Lent was of Apostolic authority. Constantine, in the year 325, speaks of it as the season "which we have kept from the first day of our Lord's Passion to the present times."

From those days the observance of Lent has been universal in all Churches of Apostolic lineage.

SUGGESTIONS FOR LENT.

1. To give much time to Prayer, Sacred Reading, and Attendance at Church.

2. To be more rigid in self-examination; to discover the besetting sin, and determine to give it up.

3. To deny self in some way: in food, in amusements, in dress, in reading, in social gratifications: so as to be strengthened in the contest with sin, and drawn nearer to Christ.

4. To attend the Holy Communion; to meditate often upon the "Way of the Cross;" and to make at least one careful Communion during this Holy Season, besides our Easter Communion.

5. To keep before us the image of Jesus crucified; to remember that He died for us, and that He says to each, as a return for such love,

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The Ascension News.

VOL. VII. PHILADELPHIA, MARCH, 1894. No. 3

Church of the Ascension.

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CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2022 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4.00 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:

Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8.00 P. M.

DAILY:

Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

DURING LENT: Confirmation Instructions, Mondays, 4. P. M. Thursdays, 8 P. M. Lecture after Evening Prayer on Fridays.

CONFIRMATION:

April 4th, 8 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR.—MARCH

4 Fourth Sunday in Lent.
11 Passion Sunday.
18 Palm Sunday.
19 Monday before Easter.
20 Tuesday before Easter.
21 Wednesday before Easter.
22 Maunday-Thursday.
23 Good Friday.
24 Easter Even.
25 Easter Day, Annunciation B. V. M.
26 Monday in Easter Week.
27 Tuesday in Easter Week.
30 Friday—Fast.

All days in Lent, except Sundays, are fasts.

GUILD MEETINGS.

5 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild
6 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
13 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
27 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3.00 P. M.
Mothers' Meeting, Fridays, 7.30 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent, the Assistant Minister.
Secretary, Mr. Edward Carpenter.
Treasurer, Mr. Carroll Hodge
Librarians, Mr. C. Thacher Pfeiffer.
Mr. Harry Ellis

BIBLE CLASSES. 3.00 P. M.

SERVICES IN HOLY WEEK.

7½ A. M., daily, Holy Communion.
10 A. M., daily, (except Good Friday) Morning Prayer and Holy Communion.
5 P. M., daily, Evening Prayer.
8 P. M, daily, Sermon on the Passion.

GOOD FRIDAY:

11 A. M., Morning Prayer, Litany and Singing of the Reproaches.
12 to 3 P. M., Preaching of the Cross.

NOTE.—Copies of the words of the Reproaches will be distributed to the congregation at the service. Persons who may not be able to remain during all of the service and preaching on Good Friday, can come or leave the church at any time during the singing of the hymns with which the preaching will be varied.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to Mr. William H. Cope, Room 1022 Betz Building.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

THE PASTOR.

The Pastoral Office is an intrinsic part of the function of the Priesthood. The name and the conception are taken from the common Eastern spectacle of the shepherd tending a flock of sheep. There is no animal so requiring human care for its protection and development as the sheep. So they are arranged in flocks, each of which has its shepherd, who goes before it, whose voice they know, and whom they follow, who leads them where there are good pastures, waters them, defends them from wild beasts that prey upon them, puts them in fold, watches over them by day and by night, carries the young, tends to the sick and weakly. This is the simile by which our Lord and His Apostles describe the relation which should exist between the clergy and their people.

It is not simply the duty of the Priesthood to administer the Sacraments, to celebrate the Divine Offices, or to preach the Word—they should sustain this relationship of personal leadership of the company of Christians; they are to be themselves examples, models of what true Christians should be; they are to watch over, defend, befriend, counsel, comfort and support those who have been entrusted to their care, as they may have occasion. They must begin with the young, must feed the lambs of the fold, see that children are brought to baptism and that they are taught the principles of the Christian faith. Though parents and sponsors should teach their children, still the clergy must see that they are taught, and give them that technical instruction they only are qualified to give.

So they are to prepare and present children for Confirmation and their first Communion, and then ever after follow them up to see that they are leading Christian lives and performing their religious duties; and they should reprove, rebuke and exhort those who are not doing so. They should personally minister, and carry the consolations of religion, to the sick and the dying, comfort the afflicted, support and guide those in troubles and difficulties.

In every life questions arise as to duty and what is right to do under certain circumstances, and men need the wisdom and discretion of one trained to decide such questions. So there are those who fall and wander away altogether from the right way, whom the good Pastor should go after and plead and expostulate with, that, if possible, he may reclaim them.

Such is this Office, such its necessity and value. But it is most difficult to perform, because first, it depends for its success not upon its official commission or the possession of a single aptitude, as that for preaching, but requires faithful, loving, self-sacrificing, patient, tender, wise, tactful qualities. Secondly, it necessitates personal knowledge of, and intercourse with, the members of the flock, which is difficult on account of the shyness and inaccessibility of many persons, and their absorption in worldly pursuits. It requires constant visiting which involves time and labor, and the difficulty of finding people, and at leisure. Thirdly, it is rendered difficult from the inappreciation of the value of spiritual things or the need of this Office, from people's reticence in speaking about spiritual things, and from their confidence in their own judgment and righteousness, and again from persons constantly removing from one parish to another, or neglecting all church relationship.

The ideal of the Church is that every soul in Christendom should have the advantages of this Office. All the territory of every Christian State should be divided into Dioceses over which Bishops are set as the Chief Shepherds of the flock. And each Diocese should be sub-divided into parishes, in which each Bishop is to see that there are sufficient Priests to look after every soul therein. If this could be carried out, how would it not only provide for the spiritual guidance and assistance of all, but how would it solve those social and economic questions which we find now so difficult of solution.

And why can it not be carried out? Solely on account of the divisions among Christians, all are not willing to have the same Pastor, and this so weakens the church that a sufficient number cannot be provided for all the different kinds of Christians. So multitudes go uncared for. The clergy can only regard as their parishioners those who voluntarily come to them, make themselves known and desire their Offices. Yet is it not most valuable for all to have some one to stand in this relation to them, to take an interest in them, to whom they can go in doubt or difficulty, who will be a friend to them?

The clergy are willing and bound to perform this Office, though of course imperfectly and with varying ability. It is for the laity to see to it that they avail themselves of it, that they *always belong to some parish*, are known to some one who regards himself as their Pastor, and that they make it at least easy for him to minister to them. Do not put the burden of approaching all on one side. Do not hesitate to apply for his Offices when you need them; and yet at the same time do not be too exacting or expect too much. Remember he has duties to others beside you, and that he is weak and fallible, he cannot know your wants and troubles by intuition. You must go to him and seek his help.

But if a Priest has any idea of his duty, and you seriously seek to benefit by the Offices he is ready to perform for you, you will find this relationship in which you can stand to your parish Priest, one of the most endearing and useful, connected, with the Christian Ministry.

Record for February.

Communicants added, new	1
" by removal	6
" removed	3

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$380 94
" the Poor	41 54
" Sunday School	6 25
" Domestic Missionary Box	66 50
" Diocesan Missions	27 10
" General Missions	5 55
" New Hymnals	5 00
Of the Sunday School	7 01
Total,	$539 89

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Nine books for the parish library, seven books for Sunday School, magazines and papers, two pieces of flannel for benevolent work, two pieces of muslin, four cottas for servers, same embroidered. Three old cottas were presented to a mission church in Central Pennsylvania.

MISSIONARY BOX.—Our ladies completed last month a very nice missionary box valued at $140. It contained all the clergyman had asked for, including a clerical suit and some valuable books.

The following letter of acknowledgement has been received.

Pittsburg, Kansas,
Feb. 21, 1894.

Dear Mrs. Gilpin:

The well-stored box for the comfort of myself and family from your auxiliary came to-day.

I can hardly tell you how much we enjoyed opening it and taking the things out one after the other, and how much we thank all the ladies who have aided in making it up. The children were delighted with all that was for them personally. Mary was pleased with *her doll*. She says, "tell the ladies I am glad to have the games and doll."

I thank you for the books for my use. I had nothing like them and they will be very useful to me, and I am certainly grateful for the articles of clothing for me. They will *all* be of service to me. The suit of fine goods will last me for several years.

The box will assist in clothing my family for a long time, and for the goodly number of articles not clothing we heartily thank you.

Very sincerely yours,
Hudson Sawyer.

THE NEW HYMNAL.—Our appeal for money to provide the choir with copies of the New Hymnal having been responded to by some members of the congregation, they will now be purchased, and alone used in the church. The numbers placed on the hymn boards will be taken from this book. We are sure the congregation will find it a great improvement over the old one.

SPECIAL SERMONS.—The subject of the course of sermons on the Christian Ministry to be delivered on the morning of the second Sunday of the month, the 11th, will be, "the Rector," and of that on social subjects to be delivered on the evening of the same day will be, "Amusements."

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER.—Our extra services for the Passion tide will be as formerly: the procession of Palms before the second Celebration on Palm Sunday, and two Celebrations each day in Holy Week except Good Friday, when there will be after Morning Prayer and Litany at 11 A. M., the singing of the Reproaches and the preaching of the Cross from 12 to 3 P. M. There will be also a sermon on the Passion each night in Holy Week at 8 P. M. And on Easter Day, Celebrations at 6.30 and 7.30 A. M. as well as at mid-day, and the Children's Special Service at 2.30.

EASTER MUSIC.—The choir will repeat on Easter the music so successfully given on Christmas, namely: Gounod's S. Cecilia Communion Service, entire, and Calkins' Festival B flat Te Deum.

There is no service so beautiful as the S. Cecilia, and none more suited to a perfectly organized boy choir, like ours.

On Easter afternoon the music will all be new. The Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis will be Tours' in B flat. This service was composed by Dr. Tours for the festival of the choirs of London in 1889, and is of unusual brilliancy and beauty. Both the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis contain solo, trio and quartette work, that is certain to show the resources of our choir to their best advantage.

The Anthem will be Arthur Sullivan's "I will Mention the Loving Kindness of the Lord;" it is oratorical in style, containing arias and recitative for the tenor, and concerted, chorus and chorale work. It is the favorite Easter Anthem in England to-day.

EASTER OFFERINGS.—The Finance Committee of the Vestry have been considering the needs of the church, and find that we shall require about $1500, in addition to the ordinary offerings, to meet our expenses up to May 1st, the end of our financial year. For this we must look to the Easter offering.

The congregation must remember that the Christmas offering was not as large as it should have been, and that we have been carrying a deficit of some $200, on from previous years. This makes the necessity of a specially large offering this Easter.

Will not *each* member of the congregation make an effort to give as largely as he or she can, that we may be enabled to make our ends meet by May 1st, and go on without a miserable indebtedness carried on from year to year. We are doing here the splendid work of a free church, but that it may be successful, the members of the congregation must be conscientious in giving liberally to its support. Do not take advantage of its being left to yourself to determine what amount you shall give, to make it small and niggardly, out of proportion to your means. Let each feel his responsibility of doing his share to the extent of his means.

BENEVOLENT CONTRIBUTIONS.—The Rector recently made an appeal to the congregation, to use more fully the envelope system, which has been adopted by the Vestry as the regular means for the support of the church, no matter how small the weekly contribution may be. And this includes the return of the various special envelopes for benevolent purposes which are sent out each quarter. The church must have money for its work among the poor, the carrying on of its schools, and for missions, and if *every* member of the congregation would make a special offering once a quarter for one of these purposes, the money would be forthcoming. We beg our people to be conscientious in this as well as in making and fulfilling their pledge for the support of the church. $36 are still needed this quarter for Diocesan Missions.

OUR WORK.—A person who comes to church but once a week of a Sunday morning and never at any other time, sees and knows but little of what is going on in the church. He does not realize what the attendance at the other services on Sunday is, the twenty to fifty people present at the early Communion, the hundred to one hundred and twenty-five children with their teachers at the

Children's Service at 2.30 P. M., and the about equally good congregations we have in the afternoon and in the evening. Then there are the Sunday School and Bible Classes, occupying all the rooms in the parish building, including the choir room and extending even into the church, where one class has to meet. So much for the Sunday work.

Then there are the daily prayers every morning and evening, with second evening service on Wednesdays and an early service every Holy Day. In addition to which there is something going on every evening in the week but Saturday. On Monday a boys' Guild with an attendance of about forty exercising in the School room, or having their service in the church, and business meeting in the Guild room. On two Tuesdays in the month, the girls' Guild of about thirty members having their business meeting or Delsarte exercise, and on another Tuesday, the meeting of the Chapter of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew, composed of some fifteen of the more earnest workers of the parish, consulting how they may advance its interests. On Wednesday after the Church Service, the rehearsal of the Singing Guild is held, and the parish library is open. On Thursdays during Lent, one room in the parish building is filled with some thirty members of S. Mary's Guild, and the female Bible Class sewing for the Sheltering Arms, and in another room a Confirmation Instruction is being given by the Assistant Minister to a class of twelve or fifteen. On Friday evenings the Mothers' Meeting is going on, over twenty women receiving and returning work for which they are paid, or sitting down once a month to a very bounteous tea, provided for them by the ladies having it in charge. While the general choir practice is held in the church or school room, two other practices being held on other evenings. Then on Monday afternoons is the Rector's Confirmation Instruction. On Thursday mornings the Embroidery Class meeting, and in the afternoon the Ladies' Aid. On Friday morning the ladies of the Mothers' Meeting are preparing their work for the evening, and on Saturday mornings we have the boys and girls of the Industrial School, about 150, attending the ten o'clock service and receiving an instruction from the Rector, and afterwards until a quarter of twelve, filling each of the rooms in the parish building, and the entry in addition, with their various classes in sewing, drawing, painting, wood carving, etc. This is the regular routine of work at this time of the year. Then we have extra meetings, entertainments and festivals, with the necessary rehearsals, preparations, etc.

We mention these things in order that the members of the congregation, who do not see it for themselves, may get some idea of what is being done in the parish, the way in which we try to utilize the plant we have, and that they may feel their responsibility in aiding and supporting the work.

We want them also to feel that if the plant could be enlarged, the work could be further enlarged.

S. JOHN'S GUILD.—The winter exhibition of athletics was given by S. John's Guild, on the evening of Monday, February 5th. The hall was comfortably filled, and the audience was a most appreciative one.

The running high jump was won by Samuel Alcorn at 4 ft. 7 in. The 15 yds. dash by David Patchell. The race on all fours by Harvey Hindermeyer. The bar-vault by Hindermeyer. The dumb-bell race by David Patchell. The Indian-club race by Robert Stewart. The sack race, in which the prize was a huge decorated cake, donated by Miss Gilpin, was won by Harvey Hindermeyer.

During the evening, John Dotterer gave an exhibition of high kicking, and Charles Moore twisted himself into almost impossible positions, giving a wonderful exhibition of contortionism.

S. MARY'S GUILD.—The meetings for sewing of the members of this Guild, and the Ladies' Bible Class on Thursday evenings during Lent, have been very well attended. The sewing is for the Sheltering Arms. One or more of the ladies in charge reads or talks while the sewing is going on, and earlier in the evening a tea is provided for those living at a distance, to save their having to go home and return.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions to the NEWS have been received:

Mr. F. R. Stevenson	Mrs. M. F. Roberts
Mrs. J. G. Johnson	Mrs. M. S. Shapleigh
Mr. J. M. Harris	Mr. J. H. Botwright
Miss Mary C. Smith	Mrs. J. H. Botwright
Miss Leiberick	Mrs. Thos. H. Helsby
Mrs. J. C. Pemberton	Mrs. S. Hiller
Miss McCauley	Mrs. Milliken
Miss F. E. Smith	Mrs. Andrew Miller
Miss Goodman	Mrs. D. P. Dieterich
Miss Jackson	Mrs. F. S. Geiger
Miss Rousseau	Miss Lavinia Smith
Miss F. C. Cooper	Mrs. C. Grimball
Mr. Jos. N. Price, Jr.	Mrs. J. M. Wirgman

Penna. Branch of Woman's Auxiliary.

A general Missionary Meeting will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Nineteenth and Walnut Sts., on Thursday, March 8th, at 2.30 P. M. Bishop Whitaker will preside.

Address from Bishop Talbot, "The Indians;" Bishop Barker, "Missions in the West;" Rev. J. T. Cole, "Foreign Missions;" Rev. C. B. Wilmer, "The Freedmen."

The offering will be equally divided between the Committees having charge of this work.

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Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR.—APRIL.

1 Low Sunday.
6 Friday—Fast.
8 Second Sunday after Easter.
13 Friday—Fast.
15 Third Sunday after Easter.
20 Friday—Fast.
22 Fourth Sunday after Easter.
25 S. Mark, Evangelist.
27 Friday—Fast.
29 Rogation Sunday.

GUILD MEETINGS.

2 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild
3 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
10 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
24 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent, the Assistant Minister.
Secretary, Mr. Edward Carpenter.
Treasurer, Mr. Carroll Hodge
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Mr. Harry Ellis

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS, 3 P. M.
For Young Men, Mrs. Lanpher.
" Ladies, Mrs. Hodge.

KINDERGARTEN.

Daily, except Saturdays, from 9 A. M. to noon.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

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THE RECTOR.

The Office of the Priest not only includes the celebration and administration of the Sacraments and Divine Offices, and the acting as a Pastor, but he has also the care and government of the parish. The term Rector means ruler. So the word Parson, by which he is sometimes described, comes from the Latin word *persona* signifying the Person, he who is the head and representative of the parish.

The Bishop is, of course, the supreme ruler and source of authority, but as he cannot look after all the details of every portion of his diocese, he divides it up into parishes, over each of which he places a priest, giving him the charge and government of it under himself. The laity, by building, endowing or supporting a church, acquire the natural right of presenting or nominating the one who is to fill the benefice—as it is called,—but the Bishop alone can institute the person thus nominated and give him the authority to execute the Office.

The Rector, therefore, under the Bishop, is the head or governor of the parish, as such he has control of the church and other buildings belonging to the parish. When he is instituted, the key of the church is presented to him, in token of this right; he can say when the church is to be opened and what services, and of what kind, are to be held in it. So he has the direction as to the furniture and ornaments of the church, especially of the chancel. He appoints the persons to officiate or assist in the services, and directs what they are to do. He appoints the persons who are to conduct the music of the Church, and prescribes what they are to sing and what shall be the character of the music. So he has the control of all the schools connected with the parish, appoints their officers and teachers, prescribes their courses and methods of study. So he has the organization and oversight of all the benevolent and charitable societies connected with the parish, decides how they are to be constituted, for what purposes and by what methods they are to work. He has to select the persons who are to have charge of all the different departments of work, and he supervises them and sees that the work is done, and well done. And as we have to depend generally upon volunteers, it is often very difficult to secure the right persons for these various positions, or even any who will undertake them. And as they are persons of widely different characters and temperaments, it is no less difficult to secure their working together amicably and harmoniously. It is to the Rector that all complaints and differences are brought, and he has to

decide and adjust them, and secure things moving along smoothly and successfully. So he has to obtain the funds needed to carry on all these works and see that they are properly expended.

In this country he has indeed largely to bear the financial burden of the whole parish. In England where the Churches are generally free from debt and endowed, the Rector has the free hold, his own income is provided for, and all expenses of the parish raised by rates, etc. But here the clergy often have to collect the funds to build churches or remove debts or make improvements. It is indeed the duty of the Vestry to attend to the finances of the Church, yet the Rector knows that their success ultimately depends upon him. If he is popular, and his administration successful, the pews are rented or the offertories are large. But if he is not successful, the money does not come in and the church cannot be maintained. This constitutes a great strain upon the clergy to which they should not be subjected, and which prevents their attention to their purely spiritual work.

In addition to this government of his parish, the beneficed clergy have duties in the diocese at large; they have to assist the Bishop in his plans and instrumentalities for carrying on his work, to serve as general Diocesan Officers, and on Boards, Committees, etc., requiring often a great deal of time and labor.

Such are the duties of a parish priest in addition to his merely spiritual functions, duties which require a great deal of administrative ability and tact, as well as involving constant anxiety and work. They ought to be understood, in order that his rightful position and authority may be recognized, his hands upheld, and that he should be furnished with the means needed to carry on his work.

They who think that a clergyman's duties consist simply of conducting a couple of services, and preparing one or two sermons a week, and making a few pleasant visits, have very little conception of the constant burden that is resting upon him, of successfully managing, providing for and carrying on a parish in all its various departments, a burden which is ever increasing with the natural increase of our population, and the complications of our modern social life and the effort of the Church to meet them. The clergy have not only to be Priests and Preachers and Pastors, but business men and disciplinarians as well.

Record for March.

Baptisms, adults	5
Communicants added, new	3
" by removal	6
" removed	4
" died	1
Communion of the sick	1
Burials	2

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$1152 42
" Diocesan Missions	23 30
" General Missions	1 75
" Support of the Schools	13 00
" the Poor	33 17
" the Unemployed	11 00
" New Hymnals	26 00
" Flowers	39 70
" Prayer Book Society	15 00
" Church Debt	50

Of the Sunday School	6 40
" " Easter Offering for Missions .	55 42
Total, ...	$1377 71

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Forty copies of Hutchins' New Musical Hymnal for the choir, fair linen cloth with elaborate open work ends and hemmed stitched, several dozen Bermuda lilies and other flowers for Easter, and cakes for Festival of the Industrial School.

St. John's Guild has purchased a very fine 'Buck' for the gymnasium.

MISSIONARY WORK—The Ladies' Aid, and the members of S. Mary's Guild, and the Ladies' Bible Class, made up during Lent, a very large and substantial box of children's dresses and other clothing for the Sheltering Arms.

The Ladies' Aid also collected enough second-hand clothes, to make up a good size box for the French Mission in this city.

One of the Sunday School Classes made up 57 garments for the Italian Mission.

The Embroidery Class made and presented to the Church at Mechanicsburg, in the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania, a handsome white silk super frontal for Altar with corresponding hangings for lectern and litany desk, all embroidered in colors. Also a linen corporal embroidered. The Rev. James M. Blackwell, who went into the Ministry from our parish, is in charge of this church. The Rector has received a letter from him acknowledging their receipt, in which he thanks the ladies of the Guild for taking so much interest in his Mission, and says the articles "far exceeded his expectation, made a beautiful effect, and were greatly admired by every one."

LENT AND HOLY WEEK.—The services during Lent and Holy Week were especially well attended this year. We were particularly pleased at the attendance at the early daily Celebrations during Holy Week. There was also a goodly number present at the sermons each night during that week and during the three hours on Good Friday. The Rector preached the latter, and the Rev. Mr. Halsey, of Roxborough, on the night of Good Friday. We trust they will have the effect of increasing the devotional life of those who attended them.

EASTER DAY.—The attendance on both Palm Sunday and Easter taxed the seating capacity of the church, and the services were certainly very attractive on both occasions. The music on Easter Day was very fine, it being universally admitted that the choir sang better than it did on Christmas. The number of Communicants was 366, of which only 74 were in the middle of the day, and the whole number was over forty more than last year. Nothing pleases us more than the steady increase in the number of our Communicants.

OUR MUSIC.—The choir in its entirety was used on Easter and Low Sunday, as also on Palm Sunday; there were twenty-six sopranos and altos, eight tenors and eight basses.

As is well known, our festival services are rendered without any assistance from female voices, and the even balance of the voices is invariable remarked upon by critics. This is, in a large measure, due to the excellence of the altos.

An English lady of musical prominence, attended our service on the afternoon of February 25th, and pronounced the music, the best she had heard in America. Coming from such an authority, we have every reason to be proud of this compliment.

Owing to the various drains on our parishioners this year, we did not employ orchestral instruments on Easter. Indeed, most of the congregation expressed the belief that the music was better than ever before, owing to the absence of accompaniment other than the organ. The shading and precision of the choir is certainly better brought out.

OFFERINGS.—The Easter offerings amount to about $825. This is more than we received last Easter, and over $200 more than the Christmas offering. Still it is not all we need to meet our current expenses for the financial year which ends with this month. We need *seven hundred* dollars more, in addition to the ordinary offerings for the month. How is this to be made up? It is ruinous to go on carrying it forward from year to year, even if we are able to borrow it. We noticed in the offerings on Easter Day that while there were a great many one dollar, five dollar and even ten dollar offerings, and one of twenty dollars, and one of twenty-five dollars, there were only four offerings over those amounts. Now are there not more than four persons in our congregation who are able to make an offering of over $25, once or twice a year to their parish church, to enable it to meet its absolutely necessary obligations? We beg every member of our congregation conscientiously to ask themselves, whether they are giving as much for the support of the church, as they would have to give if the pews were rented. Of course, those who are attending here who could not afford to rent a pew in any church, are welcome to our services freely or for whatever they can afford to give. But those who can contribute to the support of the church ought to do so. And it ought not to be necessary for us, or for the clergy, to be making constant and piteous appeals for money. There is nothing we dislike more to do, and it should not be necessary. Our people should give spontaneously and liberally. We hope the money required will be forthcoming this month. We also still need $12.20 to make up our assessment of $75, for Diocesan Mission, and $34 for the Sustentation Fund. Will not those who have not yet returned their envelopes for Diocesan Missions, do so in sums sufficient to cover the above amounts?

VESTRY ELECTION.—At the election held on Easter Monday, the following gentlemen were elected to serve for three years: Mr. Francis S. Keese, Mr. Thomas Robb, Mr. David Jayne Bullock, and Mr. E. W. Greenough.

We regret very much that Mr. William H. Cope declined a re-election to the Vestry this year. This was owing to his removal from the city. Mr. Cope has been connected with the parish since 1882, and has been one of the most active and useful members we have had. He has served continuously on the Vestry since that date, during the larger part of which he has been Secretary of the Vestry. He rendered most important services during the building of our new church, and has been Chairman for a number of years of the Committee on Buildings. For a long time he sang in our choir and frequently assisted the Rector as a lay reader. In addition to this, he has been the business manager of this paper since the beginning of 1889, and has so successfully conducted it, that we have been able to do, what very few parish papers can do, make our

ends meet year after year. Our warmest thanks are due to Mr. Cope for all these services, and it is with the deepest regret that we part with him. Our best wishes accompany him to the parish to which he has removed, Christ Church, Media, Pa.

Mr. E. W. Greenough has been elected in Mr. Cope's place on the Vestry. Mr. Francis S. Keese takes his place as Secretary of the Vestry, and Mr. John H. Mason as the business manager of this paper. Mr. Mason's address is 611 Chestnut St., where all communications may be addressed, and subscriptions paid.

SPECIAL SERMONS.—The sermon in the course on the Christian Ministry this month, will be preached by the Rector on the morning of the second Sunday, April 8th, on "The Deacon," and that in the course on social subjects on the evening of the third Sunday, April 15th, on "The State."

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FESTIVAL.—The sessions of the School closed with the annual festival on Saturday, March 31st. It consisted of the distribution of the prizes, and Easter eggs and cards in the church, and the consumption of ice cream and cake, and a fish pond in the school room. The festival was well arranged and much appreciated by the children.

DEDICATION FESTIVAL.—As Ascension Day occurs so early this year, the first Thursday in May, which will be before our next issue is out, we now remind our readers that we shall follow the order of previous years, viz: two Celebrations of the Holy Communion on the morning of Ascension Day, with Choral Service and Anniversary Sermon at night. The annual Guild Service on the evening of the Sunday after the Ascension with a Special Sermon, and the Parish Tea on Monday evening, May 7th.

ENTERTAINMENTS.—A "clipping party" will be held under the united auspices of S. John's and S. Mary's Guilds, in the parish building, on the evenings of April 16th and 17th. And a concert will be given on the evening of April 30th, by the members of our Glee Club, assisted by Mr. Jos. C. Williams, Miss Bernard and Miss Chyne under the direction of Mr. Edwin S. Gault. The proceeds will be for the benefit of the fund for the enlargement of the parish building. Tickets 25 and 50 cents, to be had from the Sexton.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions to the NEWS have been received:

Miss L. F. Carter	Mr. Wm. H. Cope
Mrs. E. L. Mintzer	Mrs. Wm. H. Cope
Miss A. M. Holbrook	Mrs. Snyder
Mr. Sam'l Wetherill	Miss A. S. Skerrett
Rev. L. A. Lanpher	Dr. Thos. R. Neilson
Mr. Thos. Sinnickson	Mr. C. J. Yost
Mr. Chas. E. Bonnet	Mr. Jos. Hartshorne

THE BISHOP'S FUND.

The following Report of the Committee on Increase of the Bishop's Fund was read at the last Diocesan Convention:

"The Committee is unanimously of opinion that this Fund needs only to be more widely known to secure for it larger contributions, and it is clearly the duty of the Convention to make it known to the Church.

The matter cannot be better stated by us than it was stated by the Bishop himself, in his address to the Convention, in 1891, as follows:

'What the Communion Alms are to the Rector of a Parish, the Bishop's Fund is to him; and when it is considered how large is his constituency, an adequate idea may be obtained of the opportunities which come to his knowledge and appeal to his sympathies where,

with a little money, he can change discouragement into hope, and loneliness into a sense of brotherhood in Christ.'"

The Convention heard from the Bishop on Tuesday that he received 2000 visits in the course of the year. While it is no doubt true that the large majority of these visits pertain to the current affairs of the Diocese, we cannot doubt but that a very considerable number of them must be on sad business. It is a well-known fact that those who most need help are generally least likely to apply for it. Every Rector knows plenty of such cases; how many more, then, must come under the notice of the Chief Pastor of the Diocese! It is the custom of many Parishes to put at the disposal of the Rector a discretionary fund, to be used by him as he sees fit. It is clearly the duty of the Diocese to put into the Bishop's hands a considerable sum of money to be used in like manner. The Committee therefore recommends the passage of the following resolution:

Resolved, That a copy of so much of the Bishop's Address as refers to the Bishop's Fund be sent to all the Rectors of Parishes in the Diocese, with the request that they will bring the subject to the attention of their respective congregations, in such manner as they may deem proper.

On motion, the resolution recommended by the Committee was adopted.

Work of the Clergy—Truth and Not Satire.

Some one describes the duties of the modern parish priest after the following almost comical manner: "The parson now-a-days is expected to visit the sick like a doctor and the well like an industrial insurance collector, to counsel like a lawyer, to talk like a public lecturer, to study like a professor, to pray like a Monk, to financier like a bank cashier, to play at being editor, and last but not least, attend and direct about half a dozen lodge meetings each week technically called Guilds."

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The Ascension News.

VOL. VII. PHILADELPHIA, MAY, 1894. No. 5

Church of the Ascension.

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ASSISTANT:
REV. LOUIS A. LANPHER.
1229 Locust St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
DAVID JAYNE BULLOCK

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2022 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4.00 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:

Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8.00 P. M.

DAILY:

Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR.—MAY.

1 SS. Philip and James.
2 Rogation Day.
3 Ascension Day.
4 Friday—Fast.
6 Expectation Sunday.
11 Friday—Fast.
13 Whitsunday.
14 Monday in Whitsun-Week.
15 Tuesday " " "
16 Ember Day.
18 " "
19 " "
20 Trinity Sunday.
25 Friday—Fast.
27 First Sunday after Trinity.

GUILD MEETINGS.

1 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
7 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild
8 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
22 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.
Mothers' Meeting, Fridays, 7.30 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent, the Assistant Minister.
Secretary, Mr. Edward Carpenter.
Treasurer, Mr. Carroll Hodge
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Mr. Harry Ellis

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS, 3 P. M.

For Young Men, Mrs. Lanpher.
" Ladies, Mrs. Hodge.

KINDERGARTEN.

Daily, except Saturdays, from 9 A. M. to noon.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to John Hazelhurst Mason, 611-613 Chestnut Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

THE DEACON.

The Diaconate is the third great Order in the Christian Ministry. It is a distinct Order, because its functions and powers are different from those of the others. It was instituted not by our Lord Himself, but by His Apostles, which shows the plenitude of power with which the Church had been endowed. Experience had shown its necessity. From the account of its institution, given in the Acts of the Apostles, we learn that a dispute having arisen in the Christian Community, in regard to the distribution of alms among those of different nationalities, the Apostles determined that special officers should be appointed to attend to this work, that they might not be hindered in the discharge of their more important functions as Apostles. So seven godly and well reputed men were duly elected for the purpose, and solemnly ordained by the Apostles.

It is evident from the history, that their duties were not confined to superintending the benevolent work of the Church, but that they acted as general assistants to the Apostles and Presbyters. Thus, when SS. Paul and Barnabas went on their first missionary journey, they had with them John Mark, "to their Minister" or assistant. And afterwards, when they separated, they each took with them an attendant. So they are constantly spoken of in the New Testament as a distinct Order of the Ministry, and so it has always continued in the Church.

The functions of the Deacon are, first, to assist the Priest in the celebration of the Holy Communion. He arranges everything for the celebration, and when it begins, brings the alms of the people and the sacred vessels and elements to the Priest to be consecrated, and after the consecration, he assists the Priest in the administration, communicating the laity with the chalice. Formerly both the elements were entrusted to the Deacons to carry to the sick in their homes. And in the age before books were used, the Deacons gave the various directions needed in the service, and arranged the worshippers in their places. Secondly, he assists in the other offices of the Church, which do not involve priestly functions. Thus he can say Morning and Evening Prayer, but he cannot pronounce the Absolution or Benediction. Thirdly, though it does not pertain to the office of the Deacon in itself to preach, yet he may be specially licensed thereto by the Bishop, and it is his duty to instruct and catichise the young. Fourthly, he looks after the poor and needy, and aids the Priest in the details of the general working of the parish.

Thus though he cannot have the sole charge of the parish itself, his aid is indispensable, especially if the parish be a large one, to the Priest who has the charge.

The office of a Deacon may be held for life, or after one has served in it a time, according to our Canons, at least a year, he may be advanced to the Priesthood. As this advancement, however, almost always takes place, and the period of the Diaconate is so short, it is often said that though this is theoretically an office in the Church, yet practically, we have no Deacons, and the actual number in our dioceses is very small. But it must be remembered that we have a large number of persons who, though they are in Priests' Orders, are discharging the duties of the Deacon, by acting as assistants to Rectors of parishes. One in a higher office can always discharge the duties of a lower office. Thus when one Priest assists another in the celebration of the Holy Communion he is called the Deacon of the Mass. So in large parishes it is convenient to have Priests as assistants, that there may be more frequent celebrations of the Holy Communion, and the performance of other priestly functions, but at the same time they do the work of the Deacon. And there should be at least one such in every Church, and in large parishes, a number, so that the people may be looked after, many services maintained and charitable and educational works carried on.

And a great deal of the weakness and inefficiency of our Churches is due to the fact that they are not provided with these officers. One clergyman is expected to do, single handed, the work which could only be properly done by several, working together under one head.

There is no system so perfect and effective as that of the historic Christian Ministry, if properly carried out.

An Archdeacon is one who acts as an assistant to the Bishop, as the Deacon is the assistant to the Priest, though he is always in Priests' Orders, because he has, under the Bishop, the supervision of the Priests of the Diocese, as well as the Deacons.

He is called the Bishop's eyes, he investigates abuses, holds visitations, and can superintend any particular department of work, though he cannot perform any Episcopal function.

Record for April.

Baptisms	3
Confirmations	28
Communicants added, new	8
" " by removal	1
" removed	7
" died	1
Burials	1

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$502 79
" Diocesan Missions	11 05
" General "	1 25
" Foreign "	30 00
" Domestic "	5 00
" Indian "	33 75
" Freedmen	23 50
" Support of Schools	75
" Poor	102 33
" Tract Society	10 00
" Altar Chapter	73 15
" Church Building Fund	1 00
" Church Debt	25
At Discretion of Rector	5 00
Of S. School and Bible Classes	21 67
Easter Offering do. for Missions additional	11 17
Total	$832 66

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Very fine linen surplice for the Rector, eleven books for parish library, bundles of clothing for poor.

MISSIONARY WORK.—The following letter has been received in acknowledgement of the box sent to the French Mission :

Parish Building,
22d and Delancey Place.

Dear Mrs. Nicholson.

Allow me to thank you, as well as the ladies of the Ascension, for the nice box of most useful clothing received a few days before Easter. I will take pleasure in distributing the articles among the poor people whom I know to be the most deserving, and I feel sure that many mothers and children will be made happy by those dear little dresses and the nice shoes. The man's suit we gave yesterday to an old man, who fully appreciated it. Again thanking you in the name of our little church, I am,

Faithfully yours,
Julia Percy Miel.

A card was also received acknowledging the receipt of the box sent to the Sheltering Arms.

CONFIRMATION--Our annual Confirmation took place on the evening of April 4th, twenty-eight being confirmed. It was a class in which the proportion of grown persons was unusually large. Still, there are many other grown people in the parish, to say nothing of younger ones, who should have been in it, but were not.

DEFICIT.—In spite of the frequent appeals of the Rector and our statements in this paper, we find ourselves, at the end of our financial year, with a deficit in our current expense account of some $800. This has been due to the hard times, and especially to the fact that several persons who have been contributing handsomely heretofore, have not been able to do as much this year. This sum also includes $200 brought over from the previous year. We do not know what the Vestry will do about this, but we think it ought to be made up, as it will not do to allow such deficiencies to accumulate. And we certainly cannot cut down our expenditures without crippling our work. On the contrary, they ought to be increased. If we could only get rid of our mortgage debt, we would be in a much better condition.

THE LADIES' AID has closed its meetings for the winter. It has done a good deal of work in making and repairing cassocks, etc., in executing orders, and in work for the Sheltering Arms and French Mission.

DEATH OF MR. SINNICKSON.—One of our oldest Vestrymen, Mr. Thomas Sinnickson, died very suddenly on the morning of April 23d. He had been connected with the parish since April, 1881, and though he seldom attended of late years, any service but the early Communion, he was never absent from that a single Sunday, summer or winter, unless when he was away from the city or sick. The day before his death was only the second Sunday he had missed this winter. He was also faithful in his attendance at Vestry meetings. In his earlier life he had taken an active part in church matters, singing in a church choir, etc. His funeral took place in S. John's Church, Salem, N. J., the interment being in the adjoining church yard, the Rectors of the Ascension and S. John's Church officiating, Salem having been his home for many years. He was 75 years of age. R. I. P.

SPECIAL SERMONS.—The last sermon of the course on the Christian Ministry will be preached by the Rector on the morning of Sunday, May 6th, the subject being "The Minor Orders."

The annual Guild service will take place on the evening of that day, the sermon being preached by the Rev. Mr. Blanchard, Rector of S. James' Church. The members of the different parish Guilds will assemble in the parish building and enter the church in procession.

The sermon in the course on social subjects will be preached on the evening of Whit-Sunday, the 13th, the topic being "The Church and Society."

PARISH TEA.—Our annual Parish Tea will take place, not as announced in our last issue, on Monday, the 7th, but on Thursday, the 10th, being the octave of the Ascension, so as not to interfere with the regular meeting night of S. John's Guild. We hope to see all our parishioners present on that occasion, and we specially hope that those who have lately come into the parish, will give us this opportuneity of introducing them to our older members. Tickets may be had from the Sexton.

THE CLIPPING PARTY AND CONCERT given last month, by the members of S. John's Guild, both proved successes. The former extended over two nights, and realized some $40. This is to be used in fitting out the base ball team for the season. The proceeds of the concert go towards the fund we are trying to accumulate for the enlargement of the parish building. The success of the concert was largely due to the efforts of Mr. Edwin S. Gault, a member of our choir, in training and directing the singers. Our thanks are due to him, and to the talent outside of the parish, who kindly contributed their services.

THE BASE BALL CLUB of the Guild has been organized as follows: Catcher, Hazlitt; Pitchers, Picherd and Van Lear; 1st Base, Picherd and Van Lear; 2d Base, Van Lear; 3d Base, Calhoun; Short Stop, Glass; Left Field, Harris, Sylvester; Right Field, Hindermeyer and McConaghy.

They have taken part so far in the following games in each of which they were victorious: Clover A. A., 7; Ascension, 22: Sigma Chi Alpha, 2; Ascension, 5: Picked Nine, 11; Ascension, 17.

On the evening of May 21st, another exhibition of indoor sports will be given in the parish building.

THE RECORD of our offerings this month contains a number of offerings which have extended over the whole year, as those for the different departments of Missions which have been collected by the members of the Women's Auxiliary, and part of those for the poor, and for the Altar Chapter of the Women's Guild. The latter amount includes the expenditure for the washing of the surplices of the clergy and choir, and the altar linen, and providing the flowers for the altar throughout the year. Many members of the congregation contribute a small sum towards this weekly.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—Will not all the members of the parish aid the management of this paper by subscribing to it, or securing some additional advertisements? The following subscriptions were received last month :

Mr. Thomas Robb	Mr. D. J. Bullock
Miss Miles	Mrs. Minshall
Mrs. Diehl	Mrs. Barrett
Mr. Jno. Barton	Mrs. Brown

Mrs. Thos. S. Parvin

PRAYER BOOKS.

The Rector has received the following appeal which he brings before the congregation in this way, as we cannot have a special offering for the purpose.

To the Reverend G. W. Hodge.

Dear Sir: At a recent meeting of the Trustees of the "Prayer Book Distribution Society," held in New York, a series of resolutions was adopted urging upon the clergy and laity of the Church renewed efforts for "putting the Prayer Book into the hands of all people who are strangers to it."

To this was added the suggestion that the clergy throughout the country should, on the coming Whitsunday, "take offerings in their congregations to aid in Prayer Book distribution."

The Managers of the BISHOP WHITE PRAYER BOOK SOCIETY deem it a duty as well as a pleasure cordially to second this proposal of the new Society established by the General Convention. They have directed their Executive Committee to make the appeal which they now address to the Rectors of the Parishes of this Diocese, asking that on Whitsunday, if possible, a collection may be made in aid of the funds of the Society. If other arrangements should make this time unsuitable, it is earnestly requested that the Society may hope to have some day assigned for an annual collection in every Parish. Or, in cases where even this is impossible or very inconvenient, the Board will feel greatly obliged to Rectors who will urge their people to become Annual Subscribers to the amount of Five dollars, and thus partake themselves in the management of the Society.

During the year ending the 1st of April we have distributed more than 12,500 Prayer Books, a larger number than in any one year of our history.

We shall hope to double this number if our brethren of the Clergy heartily respond to this appeal.

Joseph D. Newlin,
James M. Aertsen,
Thos. H. Montgomery,
R. Francis Wood,
Jas. S. Biddle,
Executive Committee.

I cordially commend the foregoing appeal to the Clergy of the Diocese. In no other way can we so effectively disseminate sound Church teaching—than which there is no greater need at the present time—as by the distribution of the Prayer Book. The Bishop White Prayer Book Society is admirably managed, and will wisely use whatever is contributed to its treasury.

O. W. WHITAKER.
Philadelphia, Apr. 23, 1894.

Contributions may be sent to Mr. William B. Whitney, Treasurer, 137 South Second Street.

PRAYERS.

To be used daily in Ember-Week.

O LORD Jesus Christ, who at thy first coming didst send thy messenger to prepare thy way before thee; Grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at thy second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who hast purchased to thyself an Universal Church, by the precious blood of thy dear Son; Mercifully look upon the same, and at this time so guide and govern the minds of thy servants, the Bishops and Pastors of thy flock, that they may lay hands suddenly on no man, but faithfully and wisely make choice of fit persons, to serve in the sacred Ministry of thy Church. And, to those who shall be ordained to any holy function, give thy grace and heavenly benediction; that both by their life and doctrine they may show forth thy glory, and set forward the salvation of all men: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified, Receive our supplications and prayers, which we offer before thee for all estates of men in thy holy Church, that every member of the same, in his vocation and ministry, may truly and godly serve thee; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Daily Prayer for the Parish.

Almighty and Everlasting God, Who dost govern all things in Heaven and earth: Mercifully hear our prayers, and grant to this Parish (*and this Diocese*) all things that are needful for its spiritual welfare; Schools in which to bring up the young in Thy Faith and fear: more Ministers to labor in this portion of Thy Vineyard: Churches perfected and maintained in the Beauty of Holiness: Endowments for all the necessary purposes of Religion: Strengthen and increase the faithful; visit and relieve the sick; comfort the afflicted; turn and soften the wicked; rouse the careless; recover the fallen; restore the penitent; remove all hindrances to the advancement of Thy Truth; and bring all to be of one heart and mind within the Fold of Thy Holy Church: to the honour and glory of Thy ever Blessed Name; through JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. Amen.

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The Ascension News.

VOL. VII. PHILADELPHIA, JUNE, 1894. No. 6

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. LOUIS A. LANPHER.
1229 Locust St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
DAVID JAYNE BULLOCK

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2022 Evergreen St.

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Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.

Children's Service, 3.00 P. M.

Shortened Evening Prayer and Address, 7.00 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS, 10.00 A. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR.—JUNE.

1 Friday—Fast.
3 Second Sunday after Trinity.
8 Friday—Fast.
10 Third Sunday after Trinity.
11 S. Barnabas.
15 Friday—Fast.
17 Fourth Sunday after Trinity.
22 Friday—Fast.
24 Nativity of S. John Baptist.
29 S. Peter—Fast.

GUILD MEETINGS.

4 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild
5 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
12 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
26 8 P. M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent, the Assistant Minister.
Secretary, Mr. Edward Carpenter.
Treasurer, Mr. Carroll Hodge
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Mr. Harry Ellis

KINDERGARTEN.

Daily, except Saturdays, from 9 A. M. to noon.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to John Hazelhurst Mason, 611-613 Chestnut Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

THE MINOR ORDERS.

In addition to the three great Orders of the sacred ministry, of which we have been treating, Bishops, Priests and Deacons, to whom the government of the Church and the ministration of sacred things belongs, and whose whole lives and energies must be devoted to this service, there are other offices in the Church, which have been known as the Minor Orders, which occupy a subordinate position, and may be discharged by persons who are also more or less occupied with secular concerns.

The Scriptures speak of others beside those in the three great Orders who held offices, some permanent and some temporary, in the Church. Thus S. Paul in I. Cor. xii : 28, says : "God hath set some in the Church, first, Apostles ; secondarily, prophets ; thirdly, teachers ; after that miracles, then gifts of healing, helps, governments, diversity of tongues." And in the early Church we find these offices distinctly recognized and their duties prescribed. They were called sub-deacons, readers, singers, acolytes, exorcists, door-keepers, etc., each discharging subordinate but essential functions in the Church.

And they have always obtained since, though they have varied, in different parts of the Church, in number and the names by which they have been described. Thus in the Greek Church to-day there is nominally only one such Order, that of readers, though practically they have others. And in the Roman Church, since the twelfth century, the sub-deaconate has been reckoned as one of the Holy Orders.

In the English Church, since the Reformation, some of these offices have been exercised, though the name Minor Orders has not usually been applied to them. Thus in the Cathedral and Royal and College Chapels, there have always been the singers, who have been called "clerks," worn the clerical dress, the long coat or cassock, and surplice, and been seated in the chancel, leading the musical devotions of the people. And in both England and America, of late years, not only has this Order been largely revived and extended to parish churches, but we have had also our lay readers, who have assisted the clergy in conducting the worship of the Church, or conducted it entirely—except the essentially priestly functions—in their absence ; acolytes, who have served as attendants of the clergy at the Altar ; sacristans, who have had charge of the sacred vessels, vestments, etc. ; catechists, who have acted as teachers in our schools ; vergers, who have served as door-keepers, attended to the seating of the people, care of the church, etc. In some places those discharging these offices have been set apart with solemn services, even with a laying on of hands. Thus the present Bishop of London has in his diocese an Order of readers who are admitted to the reading of the Church service, and exhorting even, in missions and other places, by a solemn laying on of hands. This laying on of hands by the Bishop does not constitute ordination, any more than confirmation does. It was frequently used in the early Church, and a special Greek word, different from that used for ordination, was employed to describe it. As therefore we have these offices in the Church to-day, it were well if the term Minor Orders was used to describe them, and that admission to them should be by a solemn form, in order to impress upon those undertaking them, their obligations and importance, make them feel that they are actual officers in the Church.

And these Orders might be much further revived and extended among us. There has been a great deal of talk at times of our having a lay diaconate, but objections have been brought against it, that it would tend to lower the estimation in which the clergy are held. But if it was called a sub-diaconate, and not regarded as one of the Holy Orders, that objection would be obviated. So our recently instituted Brotherhood of S. Andrew is the practical setting our laymen to discharging the work of some of these offices, which might be more distinctly recognized and conferred.

The Church is God's great army for the carrying on of His work, fighting the powers of evil, strengthening and upbuilding His servants in holiness, and its organization should be made as extensive and perfect as possible. Each member of the Church should recognize his position as a member of that army and have a special duty and service assigned to him.

All the burden of the work of the Church should not be thrown upon the higher officers, but there should be these Minor Orders as well, who would be to the Church what the captains, lieutenants, sergeants, corporals, quartermasters, commissaries, paymasters, etc., are to an army, necessary to its efficiency and support.

The reason the Church is not more effective, is because its lay members are not alive as they should be to their calling and responsibility to serve it. They leave all the work to the clergy. But there is a place for each, and work for each, and all should feel the imperative duty, and high honor and privilege of serving, either in one of the Orders of the Sacred Ministry itself, or in one of these Minor Orders, which are so essential to its efficiency.

Record for May.

Baptisms	2
Communicants added, new	10
" " by transfer	4
" removed	2
Communion of the sick	1

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$406 22
" Deficit in "	105 00

For the Poor	22 56
" Support of Schools	4 50
" Parish Tea	11 50
" Diocesan Missions	1 10
" General "	1 25
Of the Sunday School	3 59
Total,	$555 72

PARISH NOTES.

OUR DEDICATION FESTIVAL was observed as usual this year. The number of Communicants at the early service on Ascension Day was good, but the attendance at the mid-day service was much interfered with by the fact that S. Mark's Church has chosen that day for a grand musical service, which we know attracted away a good many of our people. We wish very much we could afford to have a great service on that day, which should be the greatest day in the year for this parish. At the service at night, the attendance was good for a week day, and we had an unusually good attendance of Vestrymen, as the semi-annual Vestry meeting was held immediately after the service. The Rector preached his anniversary sermon, reading the annual report, which we publish in full in this issue, and commenting on it. He showed that the increase to the communicant list of the parish during the past year had been larger than that of any other except the first of his Rectorship, when large accessions were received from another parish. The receipts also have been larger than last year, in spite of the financial stringency, though we still have a deficit of $800 as we had at the beginning of the year.

The annual Guild service was only marred by the absence of the members of S. John's Guild, except the banner bearer and servers. The Rector subsequently received a letter of apology and explanation of this fact, which was due we understand, in measure at least, to misunderstanding on the part of some and lack of notice to others. We trust such a thing will not occur again as it put the Guild in a very bad light.

Our usual annual Parish Tea was a very pleasant occasion to all concerned. The ladies who prepared it were most generous in their contributions, and the provision for all present was lavish. The tables looked very prettily with their lighted candelabra and flowers. The latter were all wild flowers which had been picked and donated for the occasion by Miss Clifford Pemberton Newbold in the neighborhood of her father's house at Fox Chase. The members of S. Mary's Guild contributed to the occasion by an exhibition of the Delsarte practice they have been taking during the winter, their instructress, Miss Hayward, aiding by a recitation. The Rector made a speech welcoming those present, and urging them to united interest and work for the parish, pointing out the special principles for which it stood. Two other speakers whom he had invited were prevented from coming.

SUMMER SERVICES.—As usual with this month we change our Sunday services for the Summer by omitting the 4 and 7.45 P. M. services, and substituting the twilight service at 7.00 P. M. The daily and Wednesday evening services are also stopped, and prayers said only on Wednesdays and Fridays and Holy Days at 10 A. M. The Celebrations of the Holy Communion continue as usual on all Sundays and Holy Days. The children's service on Sunday afternoons during June and September will be at 3 P. M., followed by the Sunday School. Both it and the Sunday School will be discontinued during July and August.

THE CLERGY.—The Rector has removed with his family to Beverly, N. J., for the summer. The Assistant Minister will be in town during June and September. He expects to spend July and August in England. Either the Rector or Assistant can be found at the Church every Sunday, Wednesday and Friday, and Holy Day during the summer. In cases of emergency the Rector can be addressed as above.

OFFERINGS.—Persons expecting to be away during the summer are requested to put in the Offertory *before they leave*, the amount of their offerings for the number of Sundays they expect to be away, as only so can the Church meet its expenses during that period.

THE DEFICIT.—The Vestry have passed a resolution that the present deficit in our current account should be made up, and calling upon the women of the congregation to assist them in their efforts to do so. Responses from women of the congregation have been received so far amounting to $105. Are there others who will aid? And what will the men do?

THE DEATH OF MR. SINNICKSON.—At a meeting of the Vestry held May 3d, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Vestry has heard with great regret of the sudden death of Mr. Thomas Sinnickson, and places on record its appreciation of his personal worth, the purity and simplicity of his character, his devotion to the Church, and his fidelity in the discharge of his duties.

Resolved, That a copy of this minute be sent to the family of Mr. Sinnickson and published in THE ASCENSION NEWS.

Attest:
FRANCIS S. KEESE,
Secretary of the Vestry.

Mr. Stevenson Hockley Walsh, who has been attending the Church for some three years past, was elected a member of the Vestry in Mr. Sinnickson's place.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF HOSPITAL WORK.—

1604 Walnut St., May 29, '94.
My Dear Miss Mason:

I desire to thank you for the Children's Hospital, for your great kindness in having so much sewing done for the Hospital during the winter, by the women at the Church of the Ascension. It has been the greatest help to us and we are very grateful. Our store closets are fuller than they ever could have been without this help. I hope that another winter we may again co-operate.

Very truly yours,
F. F. CALDWELL.
Secretary Ladies' House Committee.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF BOX FOR THE SHELTERING ARMS.—

124 S. 19th Street.
My Dear Mrs. Carman:

I fear you merely had a formal acknowledgement of the most generous donation sent in March by the Ladies' Aid and St. Mary's Guild of the Church of the Ascension to the Sheltering Arms.

Will you thank them for me, and assure the ladies of the Aid and Guild that nothing could have been more welcome than the articles sent. Such garments for the babies are always needed, and the large number of white dresses was received with especial pleasure. We are always glad to have anyone interested in the Home visit it at any

time and see to what good use their kind donations are put.

Yours truly,
R. S. INGERSOLL,
Chairman Committee on Donations.
May 4th.

OLD SUNDAY SCHOOL BOOKS.—In rearranging our Sunday School library this winter, 150 books were laid aside as being in too bad a condition to be used. Recently the Rector received an appeal for books or papers of any kind for a Mission Church in the South; in response we sent these books, the acknowledgement of which we publish, which shows how things can be utilized.

Hagood, S. C., June 3d, 1894.
Mr. Hodge,

Dear Sir :—I received the box of books in due time, and thank you very much for them.

They are such nice selections, and I am sure will be appreciated and enjoyed more than I can tell you, for I know from my own experience good books in a Sunday School sometimes do more for children than the text books, and there is nothing that helps more to build up a Sunday School than a good library, and you have given us such a generous beginning.

Our Church has the same name as yours, so you see how nicely the books will serve us. I must also thank you for the two church hymnals, which were so much needed. We shall always remember and appreciate your kindness.

And again thanking you, I remain, Very truly,
Ellen Ellerbe.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The subscriptions to the ASCENSION NEWS for the past month are :

Mrs. Anderson
Mrs. C. F. Leaming
Mrs. Gray
Mrs. Selby
Mrs. Mason
Mrs. J. H. Mason
Miss M. S. Brotherhead.

REPORT.

The following is the report of the Parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop :

Baptisms—adults, 5, infants, 23; total, 28. *Confirmed*—males, 9, females, 19; total, 28. *Communicants* added—new 38, by transfer 64, died 5, removed 38, present number 479. *Marriages*, 11. *Burials*, 16. *Public Services*—Sundays, 287, on other days, 540; total, 827. *Celebrations of Holy Communion*—Public, 173, in private, 6; total, 179. Number of Communions made, 3465. *Sunday Schools*—Officers and teachers, 38; scholars, male, 93, female, 114. Bible classes 2, teachers 2, scholars 23. *Other Parish Agencies*—Industrial School : teachers 18, scholars 170; Kindergarten: teacher 1, scholars 35; Mothers' Meeting: members 34. Men's Guild, the male Communicants, Women's Guild, the female Communicants, Young Men's Guild, S. John's : members 100; Young Women's Guild, S. Mary's : members 51; Chapter Brotherhood of S. Andrew's : members 16.

Money receipts — Offerings in church and subscriptions, $6619.61; donations, $1661.47; investments, $538.87; other sources, $134.44; Sunday School, $155.38; Woman's Auxiliary, $159.75; other societies, $73.15. Total, $9344.67.

Expenditures—Parochial, current expenses (including salaries of ministers, music, fuel and lighting, care of church building and grounds and ordinary repairs of the same), $5470.13; improvements, $297.87; payment of debt, $1000; interest on mortgage, $1192.64; support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools, $176.74; for the poor, $428.41; miscellaneous, $460.84. Total $9026.63.

Diocesan—Episcopal and Convention Fund, $102.08; Diocesan Missions, $82; Episcopal Hospital, $32.33; unemployed, $11. Total, $227.41.

General Missions—Foreign, $73.22; Domestic, $114.72; Indian, $34.75; colored people, $23.50; Church building, $2; Prayer Book and Tract Societies, $25. Total, $273.19. Total for all objects, $9527.13.

Financial Condition—Aggregate value of property of the Parish, real and personal, $80,000; incumbrances, mortgage on the church edifice, parish building and ground, $23,000. Endowment fund, $9525.

Report of the Mothers' Meeting from May, 1893, to May, 1894.

Weekly meetings were held regularly from November to May. Number of women on the roll, 34; regular attendants, 25.

Number of garments made for the members of the meeting, 78; for the Children's and other Hospitals, 508. Total, 586.

Half-worn garments given away or sold for small sums varying from 1 ct. to 50 cts., 505.

A Tea was given monthly furnished by the ladies in charge; average attendance, 30.

Number of tons of coal distributed, 16.

A Thanksgiving dinner was provided for 20 women, the others receiving same from individual members of the Church.

Early in December it was arranged to secure sewing from Hospitals and Homes. Two or three garments a week were given to each member for which she was paid 50 cts. This has proved a great assistance this winter when so many were out of work.

MONEY RECEIPTS.

From the Poor Fund		$141 75
" Donations		16 30
" Sales		33 58
Balance on hand May, 1893		4 00
		$195 63
Expenses	$195 14	
Balance	49	
		$195 36

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KALENDAR.—SEPTEMBER

2 Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity.
7 Friday—Fast.
9 Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity.
14 Friday—Fast.
16 Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity.
19 Ember Day—Fast.
21 St. Matthew. Ember Day—Fast.
22 Ember Day—Fast.
23 Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.
28 Friday—Fast.
29 S. Michael and All Angels.
30 Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.

GUILD MEETINGS.

3 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild
4 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

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Secretary, Mr. Edward Carpenter.
Treasurer, Mr. Carroll Hodge
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Mr. Harry Ellis

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OUR PARISH.

The Church of the Ascension differs from most of the other Churches in our Diocese in several important particulars, and we want our people to understand and appreciate what those are:

First, it is a free Church, that is a Church in which none of the seats are sold or rented, in which any one who enters the Church at any service is at liberty, and has the right, to take any seat he chooses, that is not occupied at the time. A free Church does not mean one in which there is no need of contributing any thing to its support. Because all Churches have to be supported, and it is the duty of every one to give towards the support of the Church all he can. But it is one in which those who contribute to its support do not require as an equivalent that a special seat be reserved for them whether they are there or not, and that the best seat their money can buy. We hold that a Church ought to be free to every one whether he has much to give, or little, or nothing at all, that the Church's privileges should be given equally to all, and that persons should contribute towards the support of the Church, not in proportion to the accommodation afforded them, but in accordance with their ability to give. "He that hath much should give plenteously, and he that hath little should do his diligence gladly to give of that little."

This we consider a very important principle. We believe that one great reason so many people have become alienated from the Church, and seldom if ever attend its services, is because of the system of renting and selling pews, which has conveyed the idea that the Church is not for all men, but only for those who can afford the luxury of a pew. We believe that it has done much harm by introducing into the Church social distinctions, which have no place there, seating and grading people according to their wealth, and making Church-going a matter of fashion and display. We don't believe the Church can ever do its work of reaching and blessing all sorts and conditions of men, unless it throws its doors wide open and invites all without distinction and without price. And we are proud that our Church is one of the few, at least in the central portion of our city, that is conducted on this principle, and we want our people to be determined to make it a success.

Secondly, we go on the principle of having services at all hours to suit all people, and to enable the Church to do all the good it can. We think that it is very little use to make of a Church to have it open for services only once or twice a week.

And we know that it is not convenient for all persons to go to Church at one time. Some can go better in the early morning, some in the middle of the day, and some only in the afternoon or evening. So we have services on Sundays at all these hours, so as to give every one the opportunity of going to Church at least once every Sunday, and to reach all classes of people. This of course gives the clergy a great deal more work than if they had only the ordinary two services, but they are willing and glad to do it, if thereby they can make the Church more efficient in doing its blessed work.

Thirdly, we have services of different kinds, some are plainer and some more ornate, some musical and some with little or no music. This we do because we believe that the mode of conducting worship is largely a matter of taste and habit. Some prefer and are helped by plain services, and some like more ritualistic ones. So we have both, and each can attend the service he likes best. Ritual is not a thing to contend about, as so many people do. It is for edification, and as some are helped by more ritual and some by less, so in a large parish where there are people having different tastes, there should be different kinds of servioes to suit all.

Fourthly, we believe in this parish of carrying out the full provisions of the Prayer Book, of having all the services and affording all the privileges which that book intends. We believe it was our Lord's intention, as shown by His Words and actions, and those of His Apostles and the unvarying use of the whole Catholic Church, that the Holy Communion should be the great distinctive act of public worship with which every Lord's Day and Holy Day at the least should be hallowed. So we have Celebrations of the Holy Communion on every such day for which the Prayer Book makes a provision by appointing a special Collect, Epistle and Gospel. And we make it, as it should be, the chief service on those days, not treating ordinary morning prayer and a sermon as if they were of more importance. So too, through the greater portion of the year at least, we have the daily service, morning and evening, that the Church may teach the people the duty of daily worship, and make the fullest provision for it.

Fifthly, the Church is always left open for private prayer, that when any one is passing it he may enter and seek grace and help, and so the Church be used to the very fullest extent possible.

These are the principles which distinguish our parish, which we would like to see in all our parishes. But until they are so carried out in all, we think our people ought to feel that they have privileges here they do not generally find elsewhere, and that this ought to make them deeply attached to this parish, and resolved that they will try to profit by the advantages it gives them, that they will see that the Church has all that it needs for its support and carrying on, and that they

will try and extend those characteristics to other parishes as they may have the opportunity of doing so.

Record for June, July and August.

Baptisms	8
Communicants added, new	2
" " by transfer	2
" died	1
" removed	4
Burials	3

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$921 83
" the Deficit	77 00
" " Church Debt	50
" " Poor "	32 61
" " Schools	1 10
" " Altar Fund	10 25
" Diocesan Missions	51
" Server's Outing	1 00
Of the Sunday School	2 43
Total	$1047 23

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Two carpets, four dozen palm leaf fans, large quantity of magazines and pamphlets, a meat chopper.

SUMMER SERVICES.—We are sorry to say that our congregations during this summer have not been as large as usual. Whether this has been because we have not been advertising our services, or because it has been an unusually hot summer, we do not know. But we do know that there have been a good many of our people in the city all or most of the summer, who have not been coming to Church, or coming very seldom. How conscientious Christian people can thus neglect their religious duties for three or four months together we do not understand. And our congregation has less excuse than almost any other for staying away from Church on account of the heat, as we have two services at least every Sunday when it is always pleasant to go out, the 7.30 A.M. and 7.00 P.M. Still, in spite of the above fact, we suspect the attendance at our Church during the summer, has been better than that in most others.

SAINTS DAYS.—We are sorry also to note the neglect of the Holy Day Services. Some times during the summer there has not been a single person at the early service on Saints Days, except the sexton and caretaker. Now we should think that in all our congregation there would be some who would not only feel the duty, but value the privilege, of attending these services. As they are provided for out of the pockets of our clergy when one of them is away on his holiday, it would seem hardly worth while their doing so if they are not better appreciated.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.--The Children's Service and Sunday School recommence with this month, and we hope all the children and the teachers who are in town will be in their places. The Assistant Minister will have charge of both of them as before, and continue the system which worked so well last winter.

DEATH OF A TEACHER.—We are very sorry to record the death of Miss Anna Holbrook, one of our most faithful and successful teachers, which occurred in July. She had not been in Church since Christmas Day, being sick in bed from a few days after that until her death. At one time it was thought she would recover, but she finally succumbed to her long illness, which she bore most patiently. Many of her class, which was composed of the choir boys, went constantly to her house to inquire about her, and several of them were present at her funeral. We shall miss her very much in the school. R. I. P.

OFFERTORIES.—Though our congregations have not been as large as usual this summer, our offertories have been larger. This has been due to the fact that more of our people use the envelopes than formerly, and that many paid up for the summer months before they went away.

CHURCH DEBT FUND.—We have been glad to notice among the envelopes, contributions now and then for the Church debt. Some give regularly every month a special offering for this purpose. If all would do this, a considerable amount of our indebtedness might be paid off every year. We shall speak more at length on this subject in our next issue.

WINTER SERVICES.—The full complement of our winter services begin next month, that is, the 4 P.M. and 7¾ P.M. Sunday services, and the daily and Wednesday night services. We shall depend as last winter for the music at the Sunday and Wednesday night services on the Singing Guild, and we hope all the old members will be on hand, and we shall be glad if others would join the Guild.

REMOVALS.—We have had an unusually large number of communicants leaving our parish this summer, owing to removal from this part of the city. We trust that others will be coming in to take their place. Do not our people know persons living in their neighborhood whom they could invite to come to the Church?

STAMPS.--Our accounting warden says: "I think it would be a good thing if people who write to me for information or who want receipts, would send a stamp for reply. The Church bills for postage amount to $10.00–$15.00 per annum, and the above requests alone amount to several dollars. The Church can ill afford to waste this money and I do not feel bound to spend it out of my own pocket. Some one recently sent me a postal card asking how much she would owe to Sept. 1st. It seems to me people, with even a slight education, can count the number of Sundays in July and August without danger of brain fever."

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—We are sorry to say we are behind hand in paying what we owe our printer. Will not all whose subscriptions are due make a point of paying them up?

Some Rules of Church Etiquette.

1. Never come late to church, but for a real necessity. Try to be there at least five minutes before service begins.

2. Enter quietly, and kneel for silent prayer before taking your seat. The Church is the palace of the Great King. Pay Him due reverence, as you come into His presence.

3. Do not look about, smile, or whisper, during any part of the service. The Lord is in His holy temple; keep silence before Him.

4. The members of a family should keep together as nearly as possible. Adult worshippers who have no children of their own, perform a deed of real piety and love when they take gentle charge of any little ones whose parents do not attend the Church.

5. Look out for strangers: make them welcome; give them good seats; see that they are provided with books; and, if need be, find the places for them. Brotherhood men are not to monopolize these acts of brotherly love and courtesy.

6. Respond audibly, saying or reading in distinct tones all that is apppointed for the people to say. It is *Common Prayer.* And sing, if you can, especially the hymns. The best service of song is congregational singing. Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord.

7. If the congregation does not fill the Church, let *the vacant pews* be those nearest the door. It is no compliment to the priest and preacher that the people remove far from him. Rather would the pastor see and feel his friends near and close about him.

8. Conform to all the postures—standing, kneeling, sitting — as printed in the rubrics, or practised by instructed and devout church people. It is good manners to follow the family customs where one is a guest. So high an authority in politeness and reverence as St. Paul, gives this rule of behavior in the Church: "Let all things be done decently and in order."

9. After the service, "depart in peace" and in quietness. Make the interchange of friendly greetings in few and whispered words. If more is to be said, choose the porch rather than the pew or aisle for saying it.—*S. Mary's Chimes.*

SHORT PRAYERS.

The following Short Prayers for daily use at Morning, Mid-day and Evening, are suggested for busy people and for children.

MORNING.

When awake, adore God saying:

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

When dressed, kneel and say:

✠ In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

AN ACT OF SELF-OBLATION.

My God, I offer thee to-day,
Whate'er I think and do and say:
Teach me, dear Lord, thy holy will,
Help me my duty to fulfill.

AN ACT OF FAITH.

O my God, I believe all the truths thy Holy Catholic Church doth teach, because thou hast revealed them and thy Word is true.

AN ACT OF HOPE.

O my God, I hope for the pardon of my sins, the help of thy grace and everlasting life, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

AN ACT OF CHARITY.

O my God, I love thee above all things, with my whole heart and soul, because thou art infinitely perfect and good. And I love my neighbor as myself for the love of thee.

AN ACT OF CONTRITION.

O my God, I am heartily sorry for all my sins, because they have offended thee; and I firmly resolve, by the help of thy grace, to forsake them and to sin no more.

Our Father, etc.

✠ May the Cross of Christ defend me this day from all evil. Amen.

MID-DAY.

Remember that God was made Man for you, and say:

The Word was made Flesh and dwelt among us.

LET US PRAY.

We beseech thee, O Lord, pour thy grace into our hearts, that, as we have known the incarnation of thy Son Jesus Christ by the message of an Angel, so by his cross and passion we may be brought unto the glory of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

EVENING.

Before undressing, kneel and say:

✠ In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

AN ACT OF THANKSGIVING.

O my God, I thank thee for all the blessings thou hast sent me this day and through my whole life.

Make Self-Examination, asking yourself:

Have I missed my prayers to-day?
Have I stayed away from Church?
Have I disobeyed those over me?
Have I given way to any bad thoughts?
Have I said any bad words?
Have I done any bad deeds?
Have I left any duty undone?

AN ACT OF CONTRITION.

O my God, I am heartily sorry for all my sins, (especially———), because they have offended thee; and I firmly resolve by the help of thy grace, to forsake them and to sin no more.

O God, bless my father and mother, brothers and sisters (———), relations and friends (———), and thy holy Catholic Church and the Clergy; and to all the dead in Christ grant eternal rest and peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OUR FATHER.

✠ Let thy holy Angels, O Lord, dwell in this house, to keep us in peace, and let thy blessing be always upon us. Amen.

Before sleeping, say:

Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

NOTE.—Let parents and others, when helping children to say their prayers, kneel and say the devotions with them.

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The Ascension News.

VOL. VII. PHILADELPHIA, OCTOBER, 1894. No. 8

Church of the Ascension.

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FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
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SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.

Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.

Choral Evening Prayer, 4.00 P. M.

Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:

Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P. M.

DAILY:

Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR.—OCTOBER.

5 Friday—Fast.
7 Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.
12 Friday—Fast.
14 Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity.
18 S. Luke, Evangelist.
19 Friday—Fast.
21 Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity.
26 Friday—Fast.
28 SS. Simon and Jude. Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity.

GUILD MEETINGS.

1 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild
2 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
9 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
23 8 P.M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
29 10½ A.M., Annual Meeting of Women's Guild.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent, the Assistant Minister.
Secretary, Mr. Edward Carpenter.
Treasurer, Mr. Carroll Hodge
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Mr. Henry Ellis

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS 3 P.M.

For Young Men, Mr. W. George Read.
" Ladies, Mrs. Hodge.

KINDERGARTEN.

Daily, except Saturdays, from 9 A. M. to noon.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to John Hazlehurst Mason, 611-613 Chestnut Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

OUR DEBT.

At the beginning of another winter we want to say a very serious word to our congregation in regard to our mortgage debt.

It now amounts to $23,000. There are only two other churches in this diocese which have a debt at all approaching this. One has a debt of $23,500, and the other one of $22,000; and in both cases their property is much more valuable than ours, and they are churches sustained by pew rents. We are suffering, therefore, under a greater burden in carrying on our church work, than any other church in the diocese. The amount we have to pay for interest every year is $1150. This has to come out of our weekly offerings, and of course diminishes by so much our ability to give to other objects. Practically it is taken from the amount which should go to the Rector and the Choir. For coal and gas, and other things needed to maintain the church, cost a certain definite amount, and have to be paid no matter what they cost. But the Rector's salary and what we expend on the music, depends on what is left over after other expenses are paid for. Now, is it fair to our Rector, thus practically to make him pay the interest on our mortgage? And if for any reason he left us, could we get the sort of man we ought to have for Rector for the sum our present Rector has been willing to receive? Can we feel that we have really built our church until it is all paid for? It cannot be consecrated until it is out of debt, for the ecclesiastical authorities rightly refuse to consider a church property as given to God while there is still danger of its being alienated through debt. And no church is in a prosperous or even safe condition which is burdened with debt. We reprint in this issue a recent editorial in *The Churchman*, which shows what is the opinion of the leaders of church thought on this subject.

It is all very well at the beginning of a church enterprise, as of any business operation, where there is not much capital to start with, to borrow money for a time if there is a reasonable prospect of being able to pay it off. But regular provision should be made for paying it off, and it should be accomplished as soon as possible.

Have we not reached such a position in our church life that we ought to take steps for the removal of our debt as speedily as we can? In the last two years we have paid off $2000; that is, $1000 each year. Shall we not at least keep up that ratio? Though at that rate it will take us twenty-three years to get rid of it altogether, unless some of our members who may be called to their rest within that time, should remember this object in their wills.

As we have not many in our congregation who can give large amounts we can only hope to accomplish this purpose by the accumulation of small offerings.

The management of this paper will do all they can to further this project. We propose to keep it constantly before our people and every month we will acknowledge any contributions which may be received. Our finance committee have directed that additional envelopes be printed marked for "the church debt." Numbers of these will be sent out once a year to those who use envelopes, and others will be left in a rack at the bottom of the church, so that any time if any one has an offering to make, they can be filled and placed in any offertory or in the alms box in the vestibule.

If our members will thus constantly from time to time as they may be able to do so, make a special offering for this purpose we shall soon be able to accumulate quite a sum.

We have the privilege of paying off $500 on account of the debt at any time, and we have now over $300 on hand waiting to be made up to this sum. We hope, too, that the proceeds of any entertainments that may be given this winter by our Guilds, or others, may go for this purpose. But all making offerings for this purpose must always remember that they must be *in addition* to their ordinary offerings for the support of the church, as the current expenses of the church are all the time going on and must be met. But while doing this let all resolve that we must get rid of our debt.

Record for September.

Burial	1

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$192 11
" the Poor "	47
" " Deficit	30 00
General Missions	25
Of the Sunday School	2 51
Total	$225 34

PARISH NOTES.

WINTER SERVICES.—With this month we begin the full routine of winter services. The children's service on Sundays will begin at 2.30 P.M. There will be our popular choral evening song at 4 P.M., and shortened evening service and sermon at 7.45 P.M. The daily service at 10 A.M. and 5 P.M., and Wednesday service and lecture at 8 P.M. Let all resolve to avail themselves of these privileges. Every Christian in good health, and unless unavoidably prevented by pressing duties, should attend two services every Sunday: a Celebration of the Divine Mysteries in the morning and a vesper service in the evening. And if he cannot attend regularly the daily service, he ought to make it a rule to go to at least one service a week in addition to the Sunday services. What a difference in the religious life and character of our people would such a practice make.

OUR GUILDS have begun their winter sessions. S. John's Guild is for the young men of the parish, and S. Mary's for the young women. All young men or women belonging to the parish who have been confirmed can join the Guilds at any of their meetings. Others who have not been confirmed, or who do not

belong to this parish, may be elected to membership after a nomination made a month before. The design of these Guilds is to bring together the young people of the parish and interest them in it and in each other, and contribute both to their spiritual and social edification. Let all our young people join them.

WOMEN'S GUILD.—The chief departments of the work of the Women's Guild do not begin until next month, viz: the Mothers' Meeting, the Industrial School, the Embroidery Class and the Ladies' Aid. But we hope all who are willing to work in these different ways will be promptly on hand and determine to do faithful and real work during the winter. It is not much that any one can do at the best, so let that little be as good and full as it can be. As the anniversary of the Guild, SS. Simon and Jude's day, occurs this year on Sunday, we hope all the members of the Guild will attend one of the Celebrations of the Holy Communion on that day with a special intention for the success of the Guild and seek personal guidance as to duty in regard to it, and grace to fulfil their duties. The business meeting of the Guild will be held on the next day, Monday, when the annual report of the Guild will be read and work for the coming year apportioned.

All the female communicants of the parish are members of this Guild.

THE DEFICIT of $800 in our current expense account which we had at the beginning of our financial year, May 1st, we are sorry to say, has only been partly made up, so that we have been much embarrassed during the summer. The Rector's salary is in arrears, and unless the offerings are very large this month we shall not have funds to meet our expenses. The only way in which the amount can be made up is for each one to contribute his share. It is not fair that it should be thrown upon one or two persons, and in fact we have no persons in the parish who are willing thus to make up deficits. But we have people in the parish whom we are convinced do not do their full share towards its support. Let these do their duty and we shall have no trouble in making our ends meet. We still ask for special subscriptions for this purpose.

MEMORIAL WINDOWS.—We want to call the attention of the parish to the fact that by the passage of the new tariff bill, stained glass windows from England are now admitted free of duty. This removes the large addition of 45 per cent. to the cost of our windows which formerly had to be paid. We hope, therefore, there are some in the congregation who will avail themselves of this reduction to put in one or more new windows. We are particularly anxious to see at least the two windows in the chancel to the right of the Altar filled. As this would add not only to the beauty but to the symmetry of the chancel, two on one side of the central window being now filled and not those on the other. The designs adopted by the building committee of the Vestry for these two windows can be seen at any time in the Vestry, and the Rector will be very happy to receive orders for them. There are also designs on hand for several of the smaller clerestory windows.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS.—We have lost during the summer, through death and removal, several of our Sunday School teachers. We are therefore very much in need of others. Are there not those in the parish, both men and women, who will respond to this call and make the exertion and sacrifice of devoting an hour on Sunday afternoons to this most charitable work? There are children here who will come to be taught if any one will teach them. Shall they be allowed to grow up without religious knowledge because none will take the trouble to impart it to them?

OUR BIBLE CLASSES recommence their sessions with the first Sunday of this month. Mrs. Hodge takes again the class for ladies, and Mr. W. George Read takes that for young men. Mr. Read had charge of this class some years ago, and we gladly welcome him back. He is now a student in the General Theological Seminary in New York, and therefore is most competent to instruct a Bible Class. We hope the young men of the parish will avail themselves of this opportunity for learning something on subjects in regard to which we fear they are lamentably ignorant.

SPECIAL SERMONS.—The Rector proposes to preach a course of sermons on one Sunday evening of each month during this winter, on the history of the Church of England. He has found that the courses of historical sermons that he has preached at different times, have proved useful, and he thinks there is nothing on which information is more needed than in regard to the history of our own Church, which is often so much misunderstood, and which is destined to have so large an influence on the future of the Christian Church.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—Will not all in the parish subscribe to this paper, and those in arrears pay up? We owe our printer over $30.

The following have renewed subscription to the NEWS since the last list printed in the June number.

Mrs. W. P. Chandler	F. B. Thompson
Mrs. J. L. N. Smythe	Miss A. Haynes
Theo. Ladd	Mrs. Metcalf
Mrs. Darlington	W. H. Metcalf

H. L. Kelly.

MORTGAGED CHURCHES.

It is not, perhaps, so fully realized as it should be, that the financial condition of a congregation or parish very directly and powerfully affects its spiritual life and growth. Where there is a heavy incubus of debt, Church activities are interfered with and impeded in every direction. The income—and money, in religious effort as in everything else, unquestionably constitutes the sinews of war—is in part diverted to the meeting of the inexorable interest-payments, and, when practicable, also to the reduction of the debt itself; a use of funds, of course, is not only commendable but necessary, where debt exists; but which, just so far, lessens the working efficiency of the parish, hampers its growth, and often gradually deadens its ambition. A case in point is seen in the history of some of the Brooklyn parishes. The twenty-five years just completed since the erection of the Long Island diocese, and the consecration of its able and honored Bishop, have not witnessed a growth of the Church in the city commensurate with its increase in wealth and population. For the first part of this period, especially, progress seemed at times almost to have ceased. Why? Because the most of the then existing parishes were struggling with a load of debt. Mortgages, at that time, too great for their strength, had been laid upon their churches. All their energies, all the increment of wealth and prosperity, were absorbed in

meeting and in reducing these debts; until at length, with hands freed for aggressive action, the Church once more went forward, and is now yearly making greater strides.

There is a tendency, when the erection of a new church building is seen to be necessary, whether on the old site or on a new one, not only to recognize the actual growth and wealth and importance of the parish, and embody this in the new structure, but to anticipate also its future growth and wealth and importance. This is perfectly proper, and a wise business policy within limits, but it is often erroneously assumed that such growth will continue in the same or an accelerated ratio, when it may, in fact, have already reached its natural limit. Plans will be made for a costly church structure, too costly for the parish, as it is, to pay for, but to be reclaimed from debt in the future as the parish grows still more rich and prosperous. There is a natural pride, too, in the matter, which is easily to be understood. A mortgage does not show, and a handsome church does; and the result may be years of impaired efficiency in growing up to the standard of size and financial outlay thus set.

Where the burden of a large debt can possibly be avoided, even though this involve a few years more of patient waiting and slower growth in the old church homestead, a mortgage should be looked upon as a heavy, dangerous and even crushing burden; a burden which cannot be put off at will, and is therefore not inconsiderately to be put on.—*Editorial The Churchman, July 30th, 1894.*

Dare to be singular, when you see all around you to be wrong: say, "So did not I, because of the fear of God."

CHURCH MONEY.

This church depends upon the free-will offerings of its worshippers and friends for its maintenance. The "envelope system" has been adopted, not as a legally binding pledge, but as an excellent plan to stimulate regularity, and conscientious thoughtfulness in giving—that the offerings may not depend upon chance or feeling, but may be carefully adjusted to our means. The collection of the offerings is made a part of the worship, at each service.

Envelopes, marked with a certain number, are furnished to the members of the parish, "and to all others applying." A list of persons holding these envelopes, with their respective numbers, is kept by the Warden.

As the offerings are given under cover, absolute secrecy is obtained; and strict Christian duty may be fulfilled, without exciting comment, either in the way of praise or blame. Regularity is secured, so that the church does not suffer from the enforced absence of its members, on the account of illness or inclement weather. If every one will adopt and conscientiously carry out this system of giving, our current expenses can be met fully and promptly, without difficulty or delay.

"DO THEY WANT TO DEPRIVE ME?"

A Clergyman in England says that in one of his parishes a good man regularly gave, every Sunday, one pound for the support of the church. A poor widow was also a member of the same church, who supported herself and six children by washing. She was as regular as the rich man in making her offering of three pence per week, which was all she could spare from her scant earnings.

One day the rich man came to the minister, and said that the poor woman ought not to pay anything, and that he would pay the three pence for her every week.

The pastor called to tell her of the offer, which he did in a considerate manner. Tears came to the woman's eyes as she replied, "Do they want to take from me the comfort I experience in giving to the Lord? Think how much I owe Him. My health is good, my children kept well, and I receive so many blessings that I feel I could not live if I did not make my little offering each week." How many there are who know nothing of the privilege of regularly giving something to the Lord's work, because they have never tried it.

Small Coins.

A demand has arisen in New England for a restoration of the half cent to our national coinage. For many well-to-do persons who now have to give a cent it would fill a long felt want when the contribution plate is passed.

Why the Lower Classes do not go to Church in America.

[The following is a translation of an article which has recently appeared in *The Nation's Friend*, a leading Japanese monthly published in Tokio. The article was written by Professor K. Ukita, of the Doshisha College, which was founded in Kyoto by Dr. Neesima. Professor Ukita has been studying for the last two years in Yale University.]

Since I came here I have been surprised to find that the lower class of people do not attend church. This is not a phenomenon of one district only. After noticing the real condition of society, I have found that there is a proper cause for this phenomenon. That is, there is a custom in this country that the seats in the religious temple are restricted and sold to certain persons, and, even in the churches with free seats, it is generally the custom to take up collections for the maintenance of the services; and, moreover, it is the custom for ladies to wear fine dresses. Such being the custom, those who have not much money and wear coarse clothes are ashamed to enter the churches.

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The Ascension News.

VOL. VII. PHILADELPHIA, NOVEMBER, 1894. No. 9

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. LOUIS A. LANPHER.
1229 Locust St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
DAVID JAYNE BULLOCK

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2022 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.

Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.

Choral Evening Prayer, 4.00 P. M.

Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P. M.

DAILY:
Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR.—NOVEMBER.

1 All Saints.
2 Friday—Fast.
4 Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity.
9 Friday—Fast.
11 Twenty-fifth Sunday after Trinity.
16 Friday—Fast.
18 Twenty-sixth Sunday after Trinity.
23 Friday—Fast.
25 Sunday next before Advent.
30 S. Andrew. Friday—Fast.

GUILD MEETINGS.

1 Anniversary of Men's Guild.
5 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild
6 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
15 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.
27 8 P.M., Recreation Meeting of S. Mary's Guild.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent, the Assistant Minister.
Secretary, Mr. Edward Carpenter.
Treasurer, Mr. Carroll Hodge
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Mr. R. Lee Anderson.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3.00 P.M.
Mothers' Meeting, Fridays, 7.30 P. M.

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS 3 P.M.

For Young Men, Mr. W. George Read.
" Ladies, Mrs. Hodge.

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Saturdays, 10 A.M.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

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A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

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SUPPORT OF THE CHURCH.

We spoke in our last issue of our church debt, and we follow it in this by speaking of the support of the church, because we believe that these are the questions which are pressing upon our parish at this time.

After all that we have done in this parish, in moving out of Lombard St., where it would have been impossible to have supported the church at all for any great length of time, and building our present attractive church, accumulating the property we have, and gathering our present congregation, we are not going to give up now. We must not only maintain ourselves, but we must go on and make further progress. We have a capital situation for church work; and the position is going to improve as time goes on, but at the same time it will require effort and liberality and sacrifice even upon the part of the present members of the congregation to put our church upon a perfectly sure and solid foundation. It is evident that our income is not sufficient to meet our present rate of expenditure, as for the last two years we have had a deficit each year of about $800. And we have found each year that it has been difficult to get rid of that deficit, and if it is not gotten rid of, it will soon roll up into such a sum that we could not carry. Yet we certainly cannot maintain the church as it is now carried on at any less cost. We can hardly expect to have the entire services of two clergymen at lower salaries than we are now paying, or as good music as we have at less cost, and the other expenses of fuel, lighting, etc., must always remain the same.

What then are we to do? Give up one of our clergymen? That would mean cutting the work of the parish down one half, and changing the whole character of the church, for we could not then have so many services as we do and so could not reach so many people. Shall we cut down our choir? That would destroy the attractiveness of our services and so diminish our congregation.

The only other way we see of increasing the amount we would have to pay for our current expenses, is by getting rid of our debt, as we have to pay annually the interest on it which amounts to $1150. If that were saved we would not only have no deficit, but could increase, as we should, our expenditures. As we tried to show last week, no church is in a safe condition, or has a fair show, or can do the charitable work it should, that is burdened in this way. We have not completed the work we undertook of building a church in this locality until it is all paid for, and it is not all paid for so long as there is a debt upon it. Therefore it seems to us that we must bend all our energies to getting rid of this debt, and that this question of church support is dependent upon this. Give us a church free from any encumbrance, and we believe our congregation can, not only support itself, but that it will be able to help others also.

But to pay off our debt will require, as we have said, effort and sacrifices on the part of our members. They showed themselves willing to make such efforts and sacrifices when we were building this church. We sold our property in Lombard St. for $17,000. Now we have a property worth $80,000 less the $23,000 mortgage which is on it. And the $40,000 difference has been chiefly the gifts and donations of our own people. Now those gifts must not stop. We must not think that because we have got our church built and furnished, that therefore we need do nothing more. It is not really ours until it is all paid for, out of debt. So we must all feel the same necessity of exerting ourselves, and making and securing donations, as we did when we were building the church. We have a congregation now far better able to give than we had then, and if we raised $40,000 then, we ought to be able to raise $23,000 now.

It is to secure offerings for this purpose that the accounting warden has had printed envelopes marked especially for the church debt. These will be sent out from time to time to all the members of the congregation, and numbers of them also left in a rack at the bottom of the church. We hope they be all returned with as large contributions as possible—which must always be *in addition* to what is given regularly for our current expenses as they are always going on and must be met—so that we may get rid of this incubus of debt and be able to meet our expenses easily, to increase our salaries and to have money for other things.

Record for October.

Baptism	1
Marriage	1
Communicants added, by transfer	4
" died	1
" removed	3
Burials	2

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$287 41
" the Poor "	4 19
" " Schools	3 60
" " Sunday School	2 00
" General Missions	25
" Foreign "	1 00
" Diocesan "	3 00
" the Tract Society	2 00
" " Deficit	6 00
" " Mortgage Debt	10 10
Of the Sunday School	4 54
Total	$324 09

PARISH NOTES.

WINTER WORK.—All our departments of work recommence this month. The Industrial School on Saturday mornings, the Mothers' Meeting on Friday evenings, the Embroidery Class on Thursday mornings and the Ladies' Aid on Thursday afternoons. And the other branches of work, the collections for missionary purposes, the making up of missionary boxes, etc., must also get under way. In all these departments we need new workers. We have lost quite a number of our old teachers and workers this year through removals,

and we want new ones to come in and supply their places. Who will volunteer? In all the different kinds of work we have going on, there is place for every one. And how shall we answer for it if we have had the opportunity and the call, and we have not responded, if through indolence or indifference we refuse or neglect to do the good we might?

NEW MEMORIAL WINDOWS.—We are glad to announce, that our calling attention in our last number to the fact that stained glass windows made abroad are now admitted into this country free of duty, has resulted in our receiving orders for two more windows, one for the chancel and one for the clere-story. Of course it will be some months yet before we can get them, but we are very glad to know they are ordered.

Is there not some one who would like to give an order for the remaining one to the right of the altar which is so needed to complete the semi-circle and balance those on the other side? If ordered at the same time as the others it will be cheaper, as it will save boxing and freight, all coming together.

S. MARY'S GUILD.—The members of S. Mary's Guild are thinking of having regular weekly instructions this winter in gymnastic exercises, and also an occasional tea or other entertainment. Let all the young women of the parish join them.

ENVELOPES.—In sending out the envelopes for the coming quarter, the warden will include in them not only the envelope for the debt of which we have spoken in our editorial, but also one for the Christmas offering. We have always asked from the congregation special offerings at Christmas and Easter. And it is only by the large contributions that we receive at those times that we have been able to maintain ourselves. They make up for the rainy Sundays and the summer season, when so many of our people are out of town. The object of having a special envelope for this purpose is not only to remind our people of the duty of making a special Christmas offering, but also to avoid confusion. We have found that persons are very apt to put a special offering at Christmas in their regular numbered envelope, and the warden has not known whether to credit them with the amount as part of their regular contribution or not. A special envelope for this purpose will avoid this confusion.

The warden also sends out the beginning of this month a statement of the amount due from those who are behind hand in their payments.

A number of the pledges remain unpaid, owing, probably, to the absence of parishioners from the city, and similar causes. As we stand in need of money for current expenses, it is absolutely necessary that all persons should be prompt in meeting their pledges.

ADDRESSES.—The Rector would be glad to receive the names and addresses of people who have been attending our services lately, and are still unknown to him. Often people may come to this parish, whose names it is impossible for the Rector to learn unless they will make themselves known.

ST. JOHN'S GUILD.—The members of this Guild are much occupied with a foot ball team they have organized. They practice almost nightly on the ground to the south of the church, by the light of the electric lamp lately placed on Kater St. Mr. Edward Van Lear has been elected captain, and Mr. Carroll Hodge has been coaching them. They have played games with the teams of Temple College, the Episcopal Academy, the Covenant Guild, etc., several of which they have won.

WOMEN'S GUILD.—As the anniversary of the Women's Guild of the parish, SS. Simon and Jude's Day, occurred this year on Sunday, the Rector preached a sermon on the morning of that day on the duty of engaging in benevolent work and the special needs of our parish. The annual business meeting was held after Morning Prayers on the following day; some thirty ladies were present. The reports of the work for the past year were read, which made a good showing. They will be published in the new year-book which will be issued the first week in Advent. Volunteers for service for the coming year were called for and the work apportioned. There is still a special need of teachers in the Sunday School. Those in charge of the missionary box will begin at once to make their collections for it, and it is hoped this year to get it off before the severe winter weather sets in, when it is most needed.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The management of the "NEWS" earnestly ask the co-operation of all the members of the congregation in making the paper self-supporting. Surely there are many who do not subscribe, but could easily afford to pay the small sum of fifty cents. The following have renewed their subscriptions:

Rev. G. W. Hodge	Mr. L. Barry
Mrs. Hodge	Mrs. Wm. Anable
Mr. Carrol Hodge	Mr. H. C. Kerr
Mrs. Walter Cox	Miss M. E. Bloomer
Miss E. Kerr	Miss N. L. Bloomer
Mr. W. P. Pepper	Miss L. M. Bloomer
Mrs. Price	Miss M. M. Menah
Miss Revel	Mr. E. W. Greenough

Donation towards deficiency in printer's account: Mr. W. P. Pepper.

THE DIOCESAN HOUSE.

We publish the following statement in regard to the Diocesan House, because our Rector is chairman of the committee charged with the erection of that house, and as he is asking other Rectors to bring the subject to the notice of their congregations, he does not like to fail to do in regard to his own congregation, what he is asking others to do to theirs. It is a matter in which all the people of the diocese should be interested, and if each one gave a little, the whole amount needed could be readily raised.

Statement by the Convention Committee on the Diocesan House.

The Committee on the Diocesan House has paid for the lot at the north-east corner of Twelfth and Walnut streets, and has contracted for the building as approved by the last convention (except as to plastering, inside finish, and some other special items), with provision for completing the stores by March 1, 1895.

The total cost of the building ready for occupancy will be $81,000. By omitting some decorative features and the elevator, the payment of about $3,700 of this amount may be postponed; but the omission would be unfortunate. The approximate cost reported to the last convention was $72,500, although the committee at that time had no bids at hand. After careful consideration it was deemed wise to adopt fire proof construction throughout, which entailed an additional expense of $4,000, and increases the first estimate to $76,500. This will be exceeded in actual outlay by only $4,500, or less than six per cent. After paying for the land, together with the taxes for the current year, and interest on the purchase money

from May 1 to August 9, as also for the removal of the old building (amounting in all to $2,300), the funds in the hands of the committee, together with the balance of the sum borrowed on mortgage, is $55,500. The committee, therefore, needs $25,500 to complete the building.

After the adjournment of the last convention, the committee was confronted with two propositions; first, to wait until all the money needed was raised, and carry the large lot of ground at great expense to the diocese; or secondly, to proceed with the erection of the building and trust to raising the small balance needed to complete it. The committee had no hesitation in choosing the latter alternative, and for this balance it must rely upon the co-operation of the churchmen and churchwomen of the diocese. Their co-operation and aid it now invokes. While it is evident that every communicant, of whom there are forty thousand in the diocese, has or should have a common interest in the completion of this work, it is a fact that only about three hundred of them, and very few of the parishes, have up to this date contributed. It is most important that the amount required should be subscribed within the next two months, otherwise certain bids now made will not be binding, and the completion of the building must be put in abeyance, until the necessary funds are forthcoming.

All contributions should be sent to B. G. Godfrey, Esq., 1102 Walnut street, Treasurer of the Diocese.

G. Woolsey Hodge,
Robert E. Dennison,
Joseph N. Blanchard,
James Haughton,
J. Vaughan Merrick,
George B. Bonnell,
James Logan Fisher,
Francis A. Lewis.
Committee.

NOTICES.

Communicants coming into the parish, or leaving it, should comply with the following canon:

"A communicant removing from one parish to another *shall* procure from the rector (if any) of the parish of his last residence, or if there be no rector, from one of the wardens, a certificate, stating that he or she is a communicant in good standing; and the rector of the parish or congregation to which he or she removes shall not be required to receive him or her as a communicant until such letter be produced."

Concerning baptisms, the rubric before the offices for that sacrament says:

"The minister of every parish shall often admonish the people that they defer not the baptism of their children longer than the first or second Sunday after their birth, or other Holy day falling between, unless upon a great and reasonable cause. And he shall also warn them, that without like great cause and necessity they procure not their children to be baptized at home in their houses."

Attention is called to the rubric before the office for the visitation of the sick, which reads:

"When any person is sick, notice shall be given thereof to the minister of the parish."

On due notice being given, the clergy are always ready and desirous to visit those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, and to administer the Holy Communion to such as by reason of sickness or other infirmity are prevented from coming to the church.

The clergy should always be consulted before arrangements are made for baptisms, marriages or funerals at which they are expected to officiate.

The clergy can be seen after any church service, by those who desire to consult them in regard to spiritual matters or church work.

Parishioners are asked to send prompt notice of changes of residence.

Those who attend the church regularly should send their names and addresses to the clergy, or place them in the box in the vestibule of the church.

Early Communion.—Its value is thus beautifully expressed by the late Canon Liddon: "A Christian of the first or second century would not have understood a Sunday in which, whatever else might be done, the Holy Communion was omitted; and this great duty is best complied with as early in the day as possible, when the natural powers of the mind have been lately refreshed by sleep, when as yet the world has not taken off the bloom of the soul's first self-dedication to God, when thought, and feeling, and purpose are still bright and fresh and unembarrassed; then is the time, for those who would reap the full harvest of grace, to approach the altar. It is quite a different thing in the middle of the day; even when serious efforts are made to communicate reverently. Those who begin their Sunday with the Holy Communion know one of the deepest meanings of that promise, "They that seek Me early shall find Me." (Easter in S. Paul's, p. 286.)—*The Church Guardian.*

"Be not weary in well-doing."

Work on! and be not weary in well-doing,
E'en if the labour seems to be in vain:
Work on untiringly, nor dream of resting
Until you reach the rest that doth remain.

Work on! there are the sick, the sad, the fallen,
Waiting for you to take them by the hand,
And tell them of the One, the Great Physician,
Or whisper gently, of the far-off land.

Work on! for there are thousands all around you,
Living their lives of carelessness or sin,
As if there were no God, no hell, no heaven,
No punishment to fear, no palm to win.

Work on! lose not a moment: the evil ones
Fly on their errands dark, from hour to hour,
And souls are perishing, while you are sleeping,
Who might have rescued them from satan's power.

Work on! and when your task is quite completed,
And you have kept the faith and fought the fight,
A day will dawn which ne'er can fade in darkness,
For then—"at evening time it shall be light.',

Work on! that light shall guide you through the valley
Whose gloomy shades the Sacred Feet once trod:
And angel hands shall bear you gently onward,
Into the blessed Paradise of God.

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Market, Eighth and Filbert Streets.

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AND
EMBROIDERY
Orders solicited
BY
Altar Chapter of Women's Guild

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KALENDAR.—DECEMBER.

2 First Sunday in Advent.
7 Friday—Fast.
9 Second Sunday in Advent.
14 Friday—Fast.
16 Third Sunday in Advent.
19 Ember Day—Fast.
21 St. Thomas, Ember Day—Fast.
22 Ember Day—Fast.
23 Fourth Sunday in Advent.
25 Christmas Day.
26 S. Stephen.
27 S. John Evangelist.
28 Holy Innocents—Fast.
30 Sunday after Christmas.

GUILD MEETINGS.

3 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild Other Mondays, Recreation.
4 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
11 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

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Mr. Frank Shelton.

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HIGH CHURCH.

A great many persons use the expressions, High Church and Low Church, without really knowing what they mean, or have very mistaken ideas concerning them, which lead to misapprehension and injustice. Some even think that they are two distinct Churches or denominations. What do these terms stand for?

They are the names given to the two great parties or schools of thought in the Church. They are in the Church just what the Republican and Democratic parties are in the nation. High Churchmen and Low Churchmen are equally members of the one English branch of the Holy Catholic Church. They all belong to the same organization, work together and worship together, using the same prayer book. But they hold different views and opinions in regard to the Church, her constitution and her ordinances.

The High Church are those who take a high view, have a high appreciation of the Church, of her authority and importance. The Low Church make comparatively little of the Church. With them religion consists chiefly in belief and experience. And while they regard the Church and her ordinances as useful, they do not think them so necessary, and they look upon one Church as good as another, and dislike much ritual, preferring very plain services.

The High Churchman looks upon the Church as itself divine. He believes our Lord came to earth not only to preach a doctrine, but to form an organization to which He would have all who love and serve Him belong, that He Himself formed this Church, instituted its ministry and prescribed its ordinances, and so that there can be but one Church, that it is wrong to separate from that Church, or to form another, and that those sacraments which Christ ordained must be of vital importance, must confer grace, and should be used with the greatest reverence and devotion. So the High Churchman believes that a reverent and solemn ritual is in accord with the mind of Christ, is necessary to preserve reverence for the sacraments, and is best calculated to make men generally truly worship, and impress them with a sense of the importance and reality of spiritual things.

Hence the High Churchman holds to what is known as the apostolical succession; that is, the belief that our Lord Himself ordained the first apostles and gave them authority in like manner to ordain others, and so that they only who have been ordained by those who have received ordination from those thus previously ordained have a right to act as Ministers in the Church.

He thinks that it is necessary for every one to receive Baptism and Confirmation and Holy Communion; that they contain and convey a grace not found elsewhere, and that those sacraments, being of divine institution, should be treated as no merely earthly and human institutions should, and he finds that the use of ritual in divine service, of such things as vestments, music, lights, etc. help him to realize the solemnity of what he is engaged in, and make his worship more real and reverent.

Now these being the beliefs and practices of the High Church, many persons think that they are very much the same as Roman Catholics. But that does not follow at all. It is very true that the Roman Catholics also have high views of the Church, her ministry and sacraments, and make use of ritual in their worship. But then, in addition, and that which makes them Roman Catholics, are their peculiar views about the Pope; that he is the supreme governor of the Church, the vicar and infallible representative and spokesman of Christ upon earth. This the High Church members of the English Church cannot for a moment admit.

In the Roman Catholic Church there are also many things which all English Churchmen regard as corruptions, contrary to the true Catholic faith and practice, such as the adoration of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the doctrine of indulgences, the enforced celibacy of the clergy, compulsory confession, the denial of the cup to the laity, etc. These and other such things are the true differences between the Roman Catholic and other branches of the Church, and High Churchmen are just as much opposed to them as Low Churchmen, and are therefore no nearer being Roman Catholics than they are.

If any one asks, therefore, what High Church means, the answer is, it designates those members of the Church who attach a high value to the Church and all that belongs to it; who believe in it, and reverence and love it, and want to see it made just as noble, and beautiful and glorious as that which is described in Holy Scripture as the Bride of Christ should be.

Record for November.

Baptism, Adults	2
" Infant	1
Marriage	1
Communicants added, new	1
" by transfer	5
" removed	2

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$468 99
" Deficit in do	485 00
" Mortgage Debt	116 96
" Episcopal Hospital	24 59
" the Poor	16 70
" General Missions	10 15
" Freedmen "	1 50
" Diocesan "	3 00
" Schools	1 75
" Kindergarten	54 25
" Year Book	3 87
Of the Sunday Schools	8 46
Total	$1195 22

ONE may live as a conquerer, a king, or a magistrate; but he must die as a man.—*Daniel Webster.*

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Oak rack for envelopes placed near the door of the Church; pint of Communion wine; wardrobe for parish building; book for Sunday School library; half a dozen towels for the sacristy; some very valuable donations of clothing for missionary box.

S. MARY'S GUILD.—The members of this Guild now meet every Tuesday evening. The second Tuesday as formerly is for the devotional and business meeting, the other Tuesdays are occupied with athletic exercises, Mr. James Dunlap having been regularly engaged as trainer. Any young women of the parish who have been confirmed can enter this Guild at any regular meeting, and others not confirmed or who belong to other parishes can be elected members after nomination at a previous meeting. The dues, which entitle one to all the privileges of the Guild, are ten cents a month.

MISSIONARY BOX.—In response to the earnest appeal to get off our annual missionary box, which is to go to Minnesota, before the cold weather when it is so needed, we are glad to say the ladies in charge of this work have been able to send a very large and well filled box of most useful and substantial clothing. A supplemental box containing lighter wear, which will not be needed until later in the year, will follow. In addition to which we have some articles left over which can go towards other boxes.

Any persons attending the Church having any articles of clothing or household furniture to dispose of can send them to the Church at any time, or if the sexton is notified he will call for them. Almost anything can be used either in the missionary work of the Church or among the needy in our own congregation.

THE MOTHERS' MEETING has begun its sessions again for the winter. We should like very much to continue the arrangement we made last winter, whereby we obtained from some of the hospitals work already prepared and cut out, which was made up by the members of the meeting, for which each one received fifty cents a week. This is quite a help to them, during those months in which it is hardest to get along. But unfortunately, owing to some unusual drains upon our Poor Fund during the past summer, this fund is at present exhausted. Unless, therefore, we receive special donations for this purpose we shall not be able to continue this arrangement this winter. We require about five dollars a week.

YEAR BOOK.—As usual our annual reports of the various departments of parish work for the past year has been published in a year book, copies of which can be had from the sexton.

OUR DEFICIT PAID.—We have so often to make appeals for money and state our needs, that it gives us great pleasure by way of a change to tell of our debts being paid. We are most happy, therefore, to announce that through the liberality of several members of our congregation the entire indebtedness of over $800, which we had at the beginning of our financial year, May 1st, and which has been harassing us all summer, has been provided for by gifts or promises. This now puts us in the position for the first time in some years to see whether we can meet our expenses for the current year without having in addition a sum brought over from the previous year to make up. To do this and so avoid having another deficit at the end of the financial year, will require an effort and will depend upon the liberality with which our members contribute throughout the year.

A member of the Vestry has suggested that if each of our contributors would increase his offering by five cents a Sunday, the additional sum needed would be obtained. Cannot all do this? Or will not each member of the congregation make a specially large offering at Christmas and Easter, so as to insure our having a sufficiently large income to meet our expenses?

As we mentioned last month, the Warden has had special envelopes printed, marked for the Christmas offering, which have been sent to all using envelopes. Others can take them from the rack at the bottom of the Church. Let all use them.

We depend, as usual, upon the Christmas offering to meet the semi-annual interest on our mortgage, which with some other bills we have to pay, will require about $800. Christmas before last we reached this figure. Can we not make it $1,000 this Christmas to render us thoroughly comfortable?

Our hearty thanks are due to the gentlemen who have lifted the burden which has been resting on us for the past year. Now let the congregation generally see to it that we meet these expenses as they become due, and that we do not have a similar burden to bear at the end of this year.

Special offerings for the Christmas decorations and to provide the annual Christmas entertainment for the Sunday School children can be placed in the alms box in the vestibule of the Church, which will be marked for that purpose, or may be handed to any of the Sunday School teachers.

CHRISTMAS.—As usual we shall have an extra Celebration of the Holy Communion on the morning of Christmas Day at 6.30 A. M. The other services will be as on Sundays at 7.30, 10.30 and 11.30 A. M. and at 5 P. M.

The Choir will sing for the first time on Christmas Day, and again on the Sunday following, Gounod's Sacred Heart.

CHOIR VESTMENTS.—The Choir is very much in need of new vestments, especially of cassocks. If some one would present us with a piece of good material—50 yards—the members of the Ladies' Aid would cut them out and make them up.

REDUCTION OF THE DEBT.—We are glad to note among the offerings for this month $116.96, received towards the reduction of our mortgage. We have now $249.79 on hand for this purpose. When we get $250 more we can make another payment of $500 on account. Contributions of any amount even 5 or 10 cents, for this purpose, are acceptable. Let all try to do something towards it.

ANOTHER MEMORIAL WINDOW.—We are happy to announce that the remaining window in the Chancel to the right of the Altar, which we were so anxious to see filled with handsome glass, has been ordered, and will be put in place at the same time as the adjoining one, of which we spoke in our last issue. This still leaves three windows in the chancel and the remaining clerestory windows to be provided for.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—Owing to the withdrawal of several of the advertisements in the NEWS, it is of great importance that every member of the congregation should be a subscriber to aid in making up the deficit in our income. Including the present issue we are in debt to the printer $33.50, and the manage-

ment is entirely out of funds and most earnestly ask our members to assist in making the paper self-supporting by subscribing and trying to secure new subscriptions.

Renewals since last issue:

Miss Isabel Schell	Mrs. John Alexander
Miss Sarah Vogdes	Mr. Thomas Neilson
Mrs. T. S. Parvin	Mrs. M. S. Shapleigh
Mrs. Murray Forbes	Mrs. H. C. Pollock
Mr. Robt. Armstrong	Mr. J. M. Harris
Miss Revel	Miss McCauley
Miss Parmalee	Mrs. T. H. Butler
Miss Frances Drinker	Mr. James Lescure
Mr. F. S. Keese	Miss McIlhiney
Mrs. Henry Lehman	Miss M. G. Harper
Mrs. Zantzinger	Miss M. W. Harper

Donation towards deficiency in printer's account: Mr. F. S. Keese.

Kindergarten Report.

We have received the following report of contributions made during the past year towards the support of the daily Kindergarten for small children.

OCTOBER, 1893.

Miss C. Williamson	$ 5 00
Mrs. W. F. Smith	1 00
Miss P. Neidhard	5 00
Miss E. Gilpin	1 00

NOVEMBER.

Miss V. Graeff	1 00
Miss A. Chamberlaine	1 00
Mrs. John Mason	1 00
Mrs. G. W. Hodge	2 00
Children	1 75
Mrs. J. E. Carpenter	1 00
Mrs. Thomas Neilson	2 00
Mrs. W. P. Pepper	5 00
Mrs. John G. Johnson	5 00
Miss A. Smith	25 00
Mrs. Chas. Neidhard	3 00
Mrs. Augustus Jackson	3 00
Mrs. Theodore Ladd	1 00
Cash	1 00

DECEMBER.

Mrs. Theo. Butler	2 00
Miss Mary Beale	3 70
Miss Baugh	1 00
Mrs. W. H. Cope	1 00
Mrs. L. A. Lanpher	5 00
Mrs. T. Bonsach	5 00
Cash	1 00
Children	1 00
Miss Neidhard	50
Mrs. F. S. Keese	1 00

JANUARY, 1894.

Miss Ella Williamson	10 00

FEBRUARY.

Miss Neidhard	1 00
Mrs. Newlin	1 00
Children	30
Total	$95 25

We regret to say that owing to the difficulty in obtaining the necessary funds, and that of keeping our large school room sufficiently warm during the winter months for this purpose, we have been obliged to discontinue this school.

May we not hope that some of the funds that were given to it may go towards the support of our other schools or for our work among the poor?

YOUR BOYS.

Treat your boys as if they were of some importance if you would have them manly and self-reliant.

Be careful of the little courtesies. You cannot expect your boy to be respectful, thoughtful and kind unless you first set him the example.

If you would have your boy make you his confidant, take an active interest in all he does. Don't be too critical, but ask for his views and opinions at all times.

Don't keep your boys in ignorance of things they should know. It is not the wholesome truth, but the unwholesome way in which it is acquired, that ruins many a young man.

Don't act as if you thought your boy amounted to nothing nor be continually making comparisons between him and some neighbor's son to his disadvantage; nothing will dishearten him quicker.

Don't think that anything is good enough for the boys, and that they don't care for nice things. Have their rooms fitted up as nicely as possible. Let them understand that their rooms are to be kept in order, and the result will justify your pains.

Furnish your boy with good, wholesome reading matter. Have him read to you, and with you. Discuss with him what you read, and draw out his opinions and thoughts upon the subjects. Help him to think early for himself.

Make home a pleasant place; see to it that the boys don't have to go somewhere else to secure proper freedom and congenial companionship. Take time and pains to make them feel comfortable and contented, and they will not want to spend their evenings away from home.

Pick your son's associates. See to it that he has no friends you do not know about. Take an interest in all his troubles and pleasures, and have him feel perfectly free to invite his friends to the house. Take a little pains to make him and his friends comfortable and happy. He will not be slow to appreciate it.

GOODNESS of heart should be mixed with goodness of head.

Why Stand ye all the Day Idle?

Ho! reapers of life's harvest,
Why stand with rusted blade,
Until the night draws round thee
And day begins to fade?
Why stand ye idle, waiting
For reapers more to come?
The golden morn is passing—
Why sit ye idle, dumb?

Thrust in your sharpened sickle
And gather in the grain;
The night is fast approaching,
And soon will come again.
The Master calls for reapers,
And shall he call in vain?
Shall sheaves lie there ungathered
And waste upon the plain?

Mount up the heights of wisdom,
And crush each error low;
Keep back no words of knowledge
That human hearts should know;
Be faithful to thy mission
In service of thy Lord
And then a golden chaplet
Shall be thy just reward.

WHOSOEVER recounts to you the faults of your neighbor will doubtless expose your defects to others. —*Persian.*

The Largest Store in America
DEVOTED
EXCLUSIVELY TO DRY GOODS.
STRAWBRIDGE & CLOTHIER,
Market, Eighth and Filbert Streets.

ESTABLISHED 1862
KINDIG BROTHERS
2321 TO 2325 PENNSYLVANIA AVE.
Sole Agents for the Celebrated Brands of
FLOUR
SWIFT SURE CREAM
ROLLER KING MONITOR

CHURCH VESTMENTS
AND
EMBROIDERY
Orders solicited
BY
Altar Chapter of Women's Guild

The Ascension News.

Vol. VIII. PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY, 1895. No. 1

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. LOUIS A. LANPHER.
1229 Locust St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
DAVID JAYNE BULLOCK

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2022 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

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Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.

Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.

Choral Evening Prayer, 4.00 P. M.

Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:

Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P. M.

DAILY:

Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Adminstered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR—JANUARY

1 Circumcision.
4 Friday—Fast.
6 The Epiphany.
11 Friday—Fast.
13 First Sunday after Epiphany.
18 Friday—Fast.
20 Second Sunday after Epiphany.
25 Conversion of S. Paul—Fast.
27 Third Sunday after Epiphany.

GUILD MEETINGS.

1 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
7 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild Other Mondays, Recreation.
8 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent, the Assistant Minister.
Secretary, Mr. Edward Carpenter.
Treasurer, Mr. Carroll Hodge
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Mr. Frank Shelton.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3.00 P.M.
Mothers' Meeting, Fridays, 7.30 P. M.

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS 3 P.M.

For Young Men, Mr. W. George Read.
" Ladies, Mrs. Hodge.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10 A.M.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to John Hazlehurst Mason, 611-613 Chestnut Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

CATHOLIC.

As we said last month, there are a number of expressions, such as that of which we spoke, "High Church," which are used by many people without understanding what they mean. The word "Catholic" is another such. Many speak of Catholics and Protestants as if they constituted two great classes which include all Christians. And yet every Protestant, when he recites his creed, says "I believe in the Holy Catholic Church," not a word about the Protestant Church. Does he believe then in a Church to which he does not belong? Or if he considers that he belongs to the Catholic Church, then he ought not to speak of that communion to which he belongs as if it was not the Catholic Church.

What do we mean by the Holy Catholic Church? The word Catholic, of course, means universal. The Holy Catholic Church, therefore, is the one Church our Lord founded and which He intended should be universal; that is, embracing all His followers. Different parts of that Church may naturally be designated by the countries in which they exist, as the Church of England, the Church of France, the Church of Italy. And that is the only way the Church is ever spoken of in the New Testament, the Church that is in such a place.

So, to-day, when we speak of Roman Catholics we mean really the members of the national Church of Italy, of which Rome is the capital. And because the Bishops of Rome have laid claim to a superiority over other bishops, to rule over what was formerly the Roman Empire, which was almost a universal empire, so most of the national Churches of Europe have for centuries been known as parts of the Roman Catholic Church, and members of that Church are found in other parts of the world. But the claim that the Church of Rome is the *only* Catholic Church is disproved by history, for many millions of Christians have never belonged to it, nor recognized this claim of the Bishop of Rome to universal jurisdiction. All the Christians in the East, in Russia, Greece, Turkey, Asia Minor and Syria, known as the Greek Christians, have never been subject to the Pope, and for over eight hundred years have had no intercourse with the Church of Rome. So the authority of the Bishop of Rome was really recognized in England only for a comparatively short time, from the reign of King John to that of Henry VIII, a period of about three hundred years. And yet, the Church in England was just as much a part of the Catholic Church before and since that time as it was during it.

So it is a great mistake, and wrong, to speak of Roman Catholics as if they were the only Catholics, and of ourselves as if we did not belong to the Catholic Church. We should always call them, just what they call themselves, *Roman* Catholics, and remember that they are members of the Roman, or Italian Church because they are subject to the Bishop of Rome, just as we are members of the English Church, the national Church of England, or of some Church in communion with it among English speaking people. Our Church is part of the Catholic Church because historically it is descended from, and an intrinsic portion of, that one Church which our blessed Lord founded.

In regard to the Protestant denominations they are not in themselves parts of the Catholic Church, because they have broken away from that Church and formed new societies, founded by individual Christians or a number of Christians, and governed and conducted according to different constitutions and schemes, which have been devised from time to time. These Christians do not believe that our Lord intended to found one universal society, governed in a particular way. If they use the Creed they believe that the Catholic Church in it means the company of all true believers, and that it is a matter of indifference how those believers are associated together, or whether there is one Church or a great many different Church organizations.

But that is a misuse of language, and this idea of the Church has only arisen since the Reformation. The Church is an outward visible society, and it must always be composed of both bad and good, as Christ declared His Church should be. To say it is composed only of those who are good is to make it an invisible and indefinable thing, for no one can tell who only are good. And whether an organization is part of the Church Christ formed, or whether it is a new society formed in this century or the last, or three hundred years ago, is simply a matter to be determined by historical research.

And yet though the different bodies which cannot show that historical connection, are not parts of the Catholic Church as such, the individuals of which they are composed are members of the Catholic Church, if they have been baptized, for baptism is the means by which men are made members of the visible Church, and the Church has always recognized the validity of baptism, no matter by whom it is administered, even by laymen or heretics. So every one who is baptized is a member of the one Holy Catholic Church, though he may not claim his right of membership in any historical branch of it, and may belong to a body that is not in communion with it.

Our aim should be to try and make men understand what the Catholic Church is, and how there should be but one Church. All divisions among Christians are wrong. That is the sin of schism from which we pray to be delivered. Nothing injures and retards the cause of Christ so much as divisions among His followers.

They have all come from human pride and ambition, and should not be perpetuated. There ought not to be such things as different denominations or sects. All who are baptized should remember that they are members of the one Catholic Church, and all should dwell together in one communion and fellowship in the different national branches of that great historical body, whose continuity has never been broken. God hasten the day.

Record for December.

Baptism	1
Marriages	3
Communicants added, new	2
" by transfer	4
" removed	8
" died	1
Burials	2

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$882 79
" the Mortgage	51 94
" the Poor	20 07
" Christmas Dinners	23 50
" " Festival and Decorations	31 44
" General Missions	1 00
" Diocesan "	50
" Missionary Box	58 50
" Schools	12 25
Of the Sunday Schools	7 47
" " " Advent Offering for Missions	10 35
Total Offerings	$1099 81
Proceeds of Entertainment for Building Fund	26 00
Proceeds of Entertainment for Church Debt	40 00
Total Receipts	$1165 81

PARISH NOTES.

CHRISTMAS.—The Church was dressed as usual, except that wreaths were substituted around the capitals of the pillars for the branches we had formerly, as these were apt to catch on fire from the gas jets. The congregations were good, the number of communicants being slightly in excess of the number last year. The Rev. J. W. Robins, D. D. kindly officiated at the extra Celebration. The Choir provided a new service, Gounod's Sacred Heart.

On the Friday evening before Christmas, each of the members of the Mother's Meeting, twenty-two in all, was presented with a fowl, a bag of sweet potatoes, sugar and cranberries. Dinners were provided for four other families. Orders for twelve tons of coal were also distributed. The children were given their festival on the eve of Holy Innocents, as that day came this year on a Friday. They had a service first in Church, with an address by the Rector, and then in the Sunday School room their Christmas tree and an entertainment by a lady, who recited several Christmas stories. Each child was given a box of candy, a piece of cake and an orange, and the children of the infant class a doll or toy. Some of the teachers also gave the members of their classes gifts. A lady presented all the full members of S. John's Guild with silver badges, a shield with the name of the Guild on it.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS.—So far from receiving the thousand dollars asked for on Christmas Day, our offerings were some two hundred dollars less than last Christmas. But we must remember that we received only a few weeks ago $485, which was contributed to meet our deficit. As this was over and above the ordinary offerings it ought to be considered as part of the Christmas offering. But as we needed the thousand dollars, our not receiving it at this time will leave us, we fear, with another deficit at the end of this financial year, which we should very much regret.

ENTERTAINMENT BY S. JOHN'S GUILD.—On the day we went to press last month, a very successful entertainment was given in our parish building by the members of S. John's Guild, assisted by some of their friends. It consisted of a play, in which the young men displayed considerable dramatic ability, followed by a concert by the Glee Club, with some banjo playing by members of the staff of the Polyclinic Hospital, which was much appreciated, the players being encored again and again. The entertainment realized some $40 for the Church debt, after paying expenses. The thanks of the Church are due to those who gave their interest and hard work to get it up.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BOOKS.—We need more books for our Sunday School library. The library we have is not a large one, and the books being constantly used by children quickly wear out. We have had it replenished from time to time by gifts from members of our congregation. Are there not those who have children's books now to dispose of? They need not necessarily be religious books, as the object of the library is to supply the children with good, interesting and improving reading for the week. Look over your children's books and see if there are not some you can spare for the Church.

BAD COINS.—Our Accounting Warden wants us to call the attention of the congregation to the number of Canadian, debased and mutilated coins he receives in the offertory. The banks refuse to take these and it is almost impossible to pass them. Within a month he has received two fifty cent pieces with names stamped on them. Such coins are not only not good, but there is a heavy penalty provided by law for defacing coins, if not for attempting to pass them. If these are put into the offertory deliberately it is a profane mockery and robbery of God. If they are put in without noticing their character, it is culpable carelessness, as one should see that the offering he makes to God's service is a real one. The Warden desires to give notice that if such coins are received in the envelopes they cannot be credited to the persons giving them, as they are valueless to the Church.

MORTGAGE DEBT.—We have now on hand towards the debt $341.73, leaving $158.27 needed to enable us to make another payment of $500. We ought to get *at least* this and another $500 before the first of May, the end of our financial year.

MISSIONARY BOX.—The ladies have received the following letter of acknowledgement of the missionary box sent in November.

Blue Earth City, Minn.

Dear Mrs. Gilpin:

We received the "box" sent from the Church of the Ascension, Philadelphia. We have not examined the articles yet, only unpacked them. I do not wait, however, for that, but hasten to acknowledge the receipt of the box, which arrived in good condition. There was nothing broken or damaged, but all came in good shape, which is evidence of the care taken in packing, as there were a number of dishes which might have been broken if they had not been carefully packed,

Well it is a *very* serviceable "box." We have examined it enough already to know that. It is one of the best ever sent out by the Woman's Auxiliary, and we know not how to convey to you and to the Church of the Ascension how grateful we feel for this great assistance

at this time. Our daughter being away at S. Mary's School, Fairbault, we have many little items of expense, as well as greater ones, that we would not have if she were at home. We have to make many personal sacrifices for her sake, which we do cheerfully. Language cannot express the thankful feeling that we have for the box, for it has helped us keep our daughter at S. Mary's. And when I say that the box you sent us helps us to keep our daughter at school, it is to be understood that we mean a good, big *Thanks* to you all.

Most gratefully,
R. R. Goudy.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following have been received since last issue:

Miss Wurts	Mrs. Stuart Tait
Miss M. H. White	Mrs. Nicholson
Miss Colley	Mrs. Wm. Waterall
Miss Barrington	Mrs. T. B. Allen
Mrs. A. Jackson	C. L. S. Tingley
Mrs. Milliken	F. L. Wilson
Mrs. Diehl	F. B. Falkner
Mrs. M. E. Carman	Richard Stevenson
Mrs. M. S. Jansen	G. A. Nicholson
Mrs. H. C. Mayer	W. M. Newman
Mrs. Hulings	Miss A. H. Chamberlain

Donations towards deficit: Mrs. Jackson, Miss Wurts, Mr. F. B. Falkner.

RULES TO BE OBSERVED.—When you go into a pew move up to the top. Do not sit at the end and force others coming in to push by you.

When there are not many in Church sit in the front seats. Do not force the clergy to shout to you at the far end of the Church.

When you propose to make your Communions, always come forward promptly. Do not leave the clergy in doubt whether you are coming or not.

When you see a stranger in Church, make room for him where you are sitting and hand him a prayer book or hymnal.

The Offertory Calendar.

We have received an advertisement of the Offertory Calendar.

It is a unique and beautiful combination of the calendar and weekly offering envelope. It consists of three parts.

1. The back is of heavy cardboard, beautifully printed in colors from a new design by IPSEN, and is undoubtedly one of the most beautiful specimens of the designer's and lithographer's art ever issued.

The central thought of the design —the abundant harvest—is admirably portrayed in the figure of a woman standing in the foreground of a field of ripened grain, her arms full of the golden sheaves of the harvest. Beneath the picture are the words: "He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully." (2 Cor. 9: 6.) In the upper left-hand corner is a circular space which on the regular back is filled in with a conventional design of the Maltese cross and the familiar "I. H. S." (*Jesus hominum Salvator*), but which can be left blank, if desired, to be filled in with the cut of a church or pastor. At the bottom of the card is the package of envelopes with the bracket which contains them, and the calendar for the year, in parts of six months each, on either side. The remainder of the design is made up of a rich background of deep gold, upon which are traced the delicate, purple-hued blossoms of the passion flower, the emblem of self-denial. The effect of the whole is indescribably beautiful, and cannot fail to add greatly to the popularity of the Calendar, from an artistic standpoint.

2. A package of fifty-two envelopes (one for each Sunday of the year), each having upon its face an inspiring verse of Scripture, the number by which the contributor is known to the church treasurer, and a calendar for the week, ending always with Sunday, the weekly offering day.

3. The envelopes are securely held in position on the backs by a neat lacquered brass device, in such a manner that the face of the weekly envelope is always in sight.

It is admitted by all to be the most popular and successful device known for increasing and collecting benevolent contributions. It has been most happily described as "the *perfected* envelope system." It has no competitor in the field. No other practical invention has been offered to the churches as a help in carrying out the envelope system. The many unsolicited testimonials which have come to us must convince the most sceptical that we have discovered what pastors and churches have long been looking for—a simple, effective method of raising church funds.

There is a rapidly-growing interest in the question of *systematic* giving, and events are fast bringing us to the time when no church can afford to cling to the old methods of haphazard collections. The success and usefulness of any church are largely determined by the results of its financial policy. It is generally conceded that the ideal to be reached is to persuade each member of the congregation to give a proportionate part of his income each week. In proportion as this ideal is attained, the volume of the contributions is found greatly to increase.

The difficulty of gaining this end, however, is well known to every pastor. The envelope plan is a great help. But unless the contributor is naturally orderly and systematic, the envelopes are generally lost or forgotten. This difficulty the OFFERTORY CALENDAR has, to a great extent, done away with. The Calendar is so beautiful as to be highly prized as a work of art, and is therefore always to be found in some conspicuous place in which it serves as a constant and inspiring reminder.

A single Calendar will be mailed to any one requesting it, on receipt of fifteen cents in stamps. Address, The Offertory Calendar Co., 47 Franklin Street, Boston, Mass.

A Year's Work of Dram-Selling.

Carefully compiled statistics show that sixty thousand lives are annually destroyed by intemperance in the United States.

One hundred thousand men and women are annually sent to prison in consequence of strong drink.

Twenty thousand children are yearly sent to the poor-house for the same reason.

Three hundred murders are another of the yearly fruits of intemperance.

Four hundred suicides follow these fearful catalogues of misery.

Two hundred thousand orphans are bequeathed each year to private and public charity.

Two hundred million dollars are yearly expended to produce this shocking amount of crime and misery, and as much more is lost from the same cause.—*Young Reaper.*

The Largest Store in America
DEVOTED
EXCLUSIVELY TO DRY GOODS.

STRAWBRIDGE & CLOTHIER,
Market, Eighth and Filbert Streets.

ESTABLISHED 1862
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Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR.—FEBRUARY

1 Friday—Fast.
2 Purification B. V. M.
3 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany.
8 Friday—Fast.
10 Septuagesima.
15 Friday—Fast.
17 Sexagesima.
22 Friday—Fast.
24 Quinquagesima.
27 Ash Wednesday.
28 Fast.

GUILD MEETINGS.

4 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild Other Mondays, Recreation.
5 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
12 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

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Secretary, Mr. Edward Carpenter.
Treasurer, Mr. Carroll Hodge
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Mr. Frank Shelton.

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The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to John Hazlehurst Mason, 611-613 Chestnut Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

CATHOLIC AUTHORITY.

We spoke last month of the meaning of the word Catholic as applied to the Church. We want now to consider the way in which that Church speaks, and its authority.

If the Church, which consists of all the baptized, is divinely formed and governed, how does it speak? how is it to be known what it teaches? The answer is by the general consent of its members, what has been generally held and believed by all Christians, always and everywhere, that must be true, that has divine authority.

That is the way in which we arrive at truth about other things, matters of science or philosophy. There is much greater presumption, that what has been generally held by the students of any science or philosophy will be true, than what is held by an individual, because the general consent is the result of the thought of many minds. An individual may look at a subject only in one light, or may be prejudiced, but the general consent is the result reached after it has been looked at from all sides by all minds. So if Christianity were merely a human philosophy, the surest way of learning what it teaches would be to learn what has been generally held and taught by those who have professed it.

But there are special reasons in our religion itself why it should speak in this way and have this authority. The promises in Scripture were to the Church as a body. Our Lord said that "where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them." This implies a special presence of Christ to a number of His disciples beyond that vouchsafed to individuals. Then He said to His disciples that His Spirit should guide them "into all truth." This cannot be understood as implying that each individual disciple should know all truth. It was a promise to the body of Christians that it should be under the leadership of the Spirit until it should come to understand all truths. Again our Lord told His disciples that He would "be with them to the end of the world." Nothing but a body could last so long. So this must imply Christ's perpetual presence with His Church, which must preserve it as a body from error. Individuals may err, separate Churches or communities might err, but if the whole Church should teach or hold what was false, then Christ's promise would have failed, the gates of Hell have prevailed against it.

And we find that in the whole history of the Church this has been regarded as the way by which truth was to be ascertained. When the first dispute arose among the early

Christians as to the necessity of observing the Jewish ceremonial law, it was determined by referring it to a Council of the whole Church. We are told that "the apostles and elders came together for to consider of this matter," and when each had given his personal opinion, a general agreement was reached which was regarded by all as settling the question, and we hear no more of the dispute. So ever afterwards, when there was difference of opinion in regard to any matter, while learned bishops or doctors might be consulted about it, nothing was considered as decided until a Council was held, and a Council representing the whole Church was the court of last appeal. Thus the great controversy in regard to the divine nature of Christ was settled by the General Council of Nice, which formulated the Nicene Creed. Every question, therefore, which has been decided by a Council representing the whole Church, or anything which can be shown to have been always held or practiced by all Christians or the great mass of Christians, is to be regarded as a necessary part of the Christian faith or system.

There is no reason for us to suppose, and there is no ground in Scripture for the belief, that Christ ever constituted any single person the supreme head and representative of His Church, who would be infallible and speak with divine authority. Nor are we left to decide each for himself what is true. But we have this authority for our guidance and on which we can surely rest, that Christ promised to be always with His Church as a body, that He is always enlightening it and guiding it, so that whatever all the members of that body agreed upon is unquestionably His teaching, and so to be received as true. If any one would know, therefore, whether any particular doctrine or order or practice is true or necessary, he has to inquire whether it is Catholic, that is, whether it has been held or received by all Christians everywhere, and nothing is to be taught or required in the Church that cannot show that authority. If this rule were followed, the Church would be delivered from all false doctrine, heresy and schism.

Record for January.

Baptisms	4
Communicants added, new	1
" by transfer	3
" removed	1
Burials	2

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$389 83
" the Mortgage	75 61
" " Deficit	50 00
" " Schools	2 00
" " Poor	4 96
" " Foreign Missions	1 00
" " Freedmen "	51 00
" " General "	25
" Western Sufferers	3 00
Of the Sunday Schools	5 98
Total	$583 63

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—We have received 21 volumes for the Sunday School library in response to our appeal, also a quantity of magazines and papers. The ladies in charge of our benevolent work

thankfully acknowledge the receipt of 63 yds. of canton flannel from Strawbridge & Clothier, 50 yds. of muslin from John Wanamaker, and a piece of flannel from Homer & Le Boutilier.

We have also received orders for three and a half tons of coal from one of our parishioners, which are most acceptable.

We have also to acknowledge the receipt of a piece of material—over 50 yards—for choir cassocks in response to our appeal last week. This will supply a very great need, and give the Ladies' Aid plenty of work.

SUNDAY SCHOOL HYMNALS.—As the Hymnals we have been using at the children's service and in the Sunday School have been gradually disappearing, we have purchased for use in their place the Children's Hymnal prepared by Rev. Chas. T. Hutchins, D. D. It contains many of the hymns in the Church Hymnal, together with others especially adapted for children.

NOTICE.—In sending out the envelopes for the coming quarter the Accounting Warden has sent with them the following notice:

Please note that the envelopes are dated.

Always use the envelope of the proper date.

If absent on one or more Sundays, always return the envelopes for the absent Sundays, as well as the one for the day, the next time you are present. In this case, however, it is not necessary to put the exact amount of your pledge in each envelope; if more convenient, the whole amount may be placed in one envelope and the others returned empty.

Subscribers giving up their pledges must return their unused envelopes promptly.

Never place mutilated or Canadian money in your envelopes, as it cannot be credited to your account.

The object of dating the envelopes is to assist the contributors in keeping their count, as sometimes mistakes have been made.

Persons who find that they have pledged themselves to give an amount which they find they cannot keep up, are urged to reduce the amount or give up their envelope altogether, as it creates confusion to retain a number which is not used or used very irregularly.

There is now due unpaid pledges, $142.85.

Our pledges now foot up as follows, which is a larger amount than we have ever before received:

Weekly . . .	$50.20—	in the year	$2,610.40
Monthly . . .	2.50—	"	30.00
Quarterly . .	17.00—	"	68.00
Semi-annually,	16.00—	"	32.00
Annually . .	50.00—	"	50.00
Paying yearly at weekly rates various am'nts	35.40—	"	35.40
	Total		$2,825.80

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY.—There have been one or two changes in the representations from this parish on the different Boards of the Women's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions. Mrs. Bullock has been transferred from the Freedmen to the Domestic Committee; Mrs. Laupher has taken her place on the Freedmen Committee; Miss Williamson has resigned from the Foreign Committee, and Mrs. Walter Cox has taken her place; Miss Mary H. White also retires from the Tract Society, and Miss Schell takes her place. These ladies are authorized to make collections for the various bodies they represent.

TAKING UP THE OFFERTORY.—A slight change has been made in the manner of taking up the offerings at the Sunday morning service. Instead of keeping the plates at the back of the church, until the offertory proper occurs in the service, they are brought up to the chancel as soon as collected and placed on the credence, and then brought by one of the servers and presented on the altar at the proper time. This saves a rather awkward pause in the service and the parade of the Vestrymen bring up the plates.

MEMORIAL WINDOWS.—The three new stained glass windows, recently ordered, are expected to arrive from England and be put in place this month. They will be very great additions to the church. The Rector has received designs for the three windows still needed to complete the chancel. They represent Christ's triumphal entrance into Jerusalem, the Betrayal, and Christ before Pilate. They are in the vestry room and the Rector will be glad to show them at any time to those thinking of giving an order for a window. And now, when there is no duty on such windows, is the time to order them.

THE DAILY SERVICE.—We are sorry not to find more persons attending the daily service. Surely it is a privilege, and cannot but be profitable to those who use it. Cannot some of our people find time to go to church occasionally during the week? Are they all so engrossed with business or pleasure that they cannot find a half hour in the week for thought and prayer about higher things? And do they not need the strength and guidance, which can only come from such thought and prayer, to enable them to do their work and to bless their pleasures to them? It would be a great happiness to us to see the manifestation of a more devout spirit in this respect. Too many are coming to limit their church going to only one day in the week, and some neglect even that.

OFFERINGS.—We are thankful to record an additional Christmas offering, from a friend of the parish, of $100, received just after the new year, which was divided between our current expense account and our debt. This, with some other offerings, brings up the amount on hand, on account of the debt fund, to $417.34, leaving only $82.66 needed to make another payment of $500, on account of the mortgage. Can we not secure that amount this month?

DIOCESAN MISSIONS.—The special envelope for a benevolent object this quarter is for Diocesan Missions, for which purpose this parish is assessed $75. In addition to which we are asked to contribute $35.86 to the sustentation fund of the diocese. For these amounts, $110.86 in all, we must look to those envelopes. Let every one in the congregation make a special offering through these, and the amount will be raised without any trouble. Remember we must not only contribute to bear the expense of our own parish, but we must bear a hand in carrying on the work of the diocese.

MISSIONARY BOXES.—In addition to the missionary box before reported, we have sent off two others, one containing a very handsome overcoat, and the other some clothes, valued together at $60. We have sent also a surplice to a clergyman in the South.

NEWS ITEMS.—We learn through the Church papers of the ordination to the Diaconate, in the Cathedral at New Orleans, La., of one of our old boys, Harry R. Carson. Mr. Carson has been studying for some time in the University of the South, at Sewanee, in preparation for this step, and now that it has been taken he has our heartiest congratulations

and best wishes for his future usefulness. We are proud that our parish has given another of its sons to the sacred ministry.

We learn that our former assistant minister, the Rev. Henry Kittson, has undertaken a new church work in Montreal. He has become "Curate-in-charge" of the Church of the Advent in that city. He has begun the publication of a little parish paper the "Advent Messenger," which he sends in exchange for ours.

We are having a file of the volumes of this paper, so far issued, bound, so as to preserve them for use and reference in the vestry room. They will be a valuable historical record of the parish. Our successors will be able to trace month by month the story of our labors, the changes and vicissitudes through which we have passed, and we are happy to say, so far, the steady advances we have made.

ENTERTAINMENTS. — S. John's and S. Mary's Guild had a combined entertainment on the evening of Jan. 31st. None but the members of the two Guilds were invited, except the clergy of the parish and their wives. The time was occupied with instrumental and vocal music and recitations and other amusements, and a very substantial and bountiful repast was furnished, which reflected great credit upon the officers and committee who had the matter in charge.

S. John's Guild proposes to give another entertainment, for the benefit of the Church Debt Fund, on the evening of Feb. 21st. It will consist of a play, music and songs by the Glee Club. Admission, 10 cents, reserved seats, 25 cents. We look for a full attendance.

CONFIRMATION.—The Bishop has appointed the evening of the second Wednesday after Easter to administer Confirmation in this parish. The preparatory instructions will begin the first Monday and Thursday in Lent.

SUBSCRIPTIONS received since last issue:

Mr. W. M. Newnam	Miss F. E. Smith
Mr. W. H. Cope	Mrs. M. L. Volmer
Mr. Richard Gilpin	Miss Casey
Mr. Jos. Hartshorne	Miss Dickerson
Mr. Geo. Wharton	Mrs. Dietrich
Mrs. T. B. Allen	Mrs. F. S. Keese
Mrs. Hulings	Miss Gibson
Mrs. W. H. Cope	Mrs. Wirgman
Mrs. J. G. Johnson	Miss Goodman
Miss Macartney	

Donations towards deficit: Miss Gibson, Miss Mumford, Mr. Jos. Hartshorne.

We regret to say that our account with the printer is still several months behind, and earnestly request the non-subscribers of the parish to assist us by placing their names upon the subscription list. The annual tax being the very small sum of fifty cents.

A Parish House.

The following is a description of a Parish House just presented by the mother of one of our Vestrymen to a church in the diocese of Central Pennsylvania. Would that we had such an one ourselves.

Mrs. W. J. Greenough has built and presented a very fine parish building to St. Matthew's Church, Sunbury (the Rev. C. Morrison, Rector). It contains a spacious hall, a large, well lighted, and well furnished parlor with an upright piano, and walls hung with fine pictures. The windows have small leaded panes and handsome curtains. In the basement is a lavatory and kitchen; just in the rear of the parlor is a gymnasium, fitted up with all the most modern appliances, and a bath room. Behind that is the smoking and game room, containing a pool table and tables for chess, checkers, etc. On the second floor front is the library, containing already 500 volumes, with magazines and newspapers. Both library and kitchen are supplied with a dumb waiter connecting them with the kitchen—an arrangement which will prove useful at sociables, suppers, and the like. The hall at this spot has an ingle-nook, with a massive fire place and red tiled flooring; old fashioned settees fill in the sides, and in the centre of the mantle is a brass plate bearing the the inscription: "In Memory of Ebenezer Greenough and William Israel Greenough, life-long members and officers of St. Matthew's Church, this Parish House was erected by Mary E. Greenough, A. D. 1894." On the second floor, over the gymnasium, is an auditorium (capable of seating 250 persons), with stage and dressing rooms. The third floor will be used for playing shuffle-board—indoor quoits. The building is heated throughout by steam, the parlor and library alone being lighted by gas, electric lights being used for the rest of the house, which is open to all the men in the parish and boys over sixteen, on the payment of $3 a year.

On the occasion of the opening of the Parish House, the company met the Rector and Vestry in the ingle-nook, where Mr. W. E. Greenough on behalf of Mrs. Greenough, after a short speech, presented the title-deeds to the Rector, who received them on behalf of the parish in the same spirit as that in which they were offered, namely, that of carrying on the work the parish house was intended to effect upon the principles of Catholic charity for the good of the community. Mr. C. M. Clement, Secretary of the Vestry, in thanking Mr. Greenough on behalf of that body, handed to her its formal resolutions, accepting the property, and pledging itself to maintain it upon the terms set out in the deed. The service of the formal benediction of the house was then performed by the Rev. C. Morrison, after which the building was declared open. In the evening the doors were thrown open to the public, and the house was visited by nearly 1,000 persons, many of whom became members.

Religions of English-Speaking People.

Episcopalians	24,000,000
Methodists of all branches	17,000,000
Roman Catholics	15,000,000
Presbyterians of all descriptions	11,400,000
Baptists of all branches	8,000,000
Congregationalists	5,500,000
Lutherans of all branches	2,000,000
Unitarians	1,800,000
Minor Religious Sects	4,000,000
Of no Particular Religion	17,000,000
English speaking population	105,600,000

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The Ascension News.

VOL. VIII. PHILADELPHIA, MARCH, 1895. No. 3

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. LOUIS A. LANPHER.
1229 Locust St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
DAVID JAYNE BULLOCK

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2022 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4.00 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P. M.

DAILY:
Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTIONS.

Mondays, 4 P.M. Thursdays, 8 P.M.

KALENDAR.—MARCH

3 First Sunday in Lent.
6 Ember Day.
8 Ember Day.
9 Ember Day.
10 Second Sunday in Lent.
17 Third Sunday in Lent.
24 Fourth Sunday in Lent.
25 Annunciation B. V. M.
31 Passion Sunday.
All days in Lent, except Sundays, are fasts.

GUILD MEETINGS.

4 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild Other Mondays, Recreation.
5 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
12 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. F. B. Falkner.
Secretary, Mr. Edward Carpenter.
Treasurer, Mr. Carroll Hodge
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Mr. Frank Shelton.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3.00 P. M.
Lenten Sewing, Thursdays, 8 P.M.
Mothers' Meeting, Fridays, 7.30 P. M.

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS 3 P.M.

For Young Men, Mr. W. George Read.
" Ladies, Mrs. Hodge.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10 A.M.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

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CATHOLIC AUTHORITY.

We spoke in our last issue of Catholicity as the true test of doctrine or practice in the Church. We want now to show that this test can be applied to all the essential teachings of Christianity, and how it can be used to distinguish between what is true or necessary, and what is false or non-essential.

It is a matter of fact that all the great cardinal doctrines and important parts of the Christian system have been believed and accepted by all Christians, always and everywhere, even though divided from and holding no communion with each other.

Take the great doctrine of the Godhead known as the Trinity, and that of the Incarnation, the office and work of the Holy Ghost, and all the great facts and truths of the Christian religion as set forth in the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds, they have been held always and by all Christians with the fewest possible exceptions.

So as to the way and means of salvation. Some may in words maintain the doctrine of justification by faith only, but practically they insist upon the necessity of good works, as much as others who professedly do so. The same moral law is taught, the same sacraments used, though different theories may be held in regard to them. When you say a man is a Christian, you mean that he professes a certain definite religion, whether he be a Roman, Greek, or English Catholic, or whether he is a member of some Protestant denomination. Now when we consider how changing and inconstant all human systems and philosophies are, is not this wonderful agreement throughout so many ages proof that it has been the result of a divine guidance and superintendence? It is, as Mr. Gladstone has lately said, simply a miracle that there should be so much unity as there is among Christians, upon such vital points and for so long a time.

The matters upon which Christians differ and which separate them—wrongly—into different communions, are non-essential things, questions of Church order or ritual, not things which are necessary to salvation, or vital to the constitution of the Church. So we can apply this test to all the distinctive doctrines or characteristics of the various Christian bodies to learn whether they are true and essential. Thus try by it the Papal claim to universal jurisdiction and supremacy. If that had been recognized by all Christians from the very beginning, undoubtedly we should have to accept it as an intrinsic part of the Christian system. But when we find that as a matter of fact, it has never been recognized in the Eastern Church,

and only for a comparatively short time in the Church of England, and that even where it has been accepted it was only a gradual growth, it is evident that it cannot stand this test and so is not a Catholic doctrine, or to be received as necessary to the constitution of the Church.

So apply it to the claim of another large section of Christians, to the necessity of immersion, to the validity of baptism. If each one is to study that question for himself from the statements in Scripture, there might be room for differences of opinion. But when we find that the vast majority of Christians have admitted that the pouring on of water is a valid baptism, it is evident that immersion ought not be insisted on, and that it is wrong to keep up a division among Christians on that account.

So apply it to the question of Church government. When we find that for fifteen hundred years from the establishment of Christianity, Episcopacy was the universally accepted form, and that it still remains so, except among a comparatively few Christians, is it not evident that that was the divinely intended form, rather than some other first devised in this or the last or three centuries ago?

So the truth or necessity of every doctrine or practice in vogue among Christians can be proved by this test. Nothing but what can be shown to have real Catholic authority should be taught or required as necessary to salvation, or to the integrity of the Christian Church. If that simple rule were followed, all the divisions of Christendom would be healed. For those divisions have arisen from men following their own personal opinions, and trying to force those opinions on others.

We do not have to rest on the authority of any one person, nor do we have to go each one for himself to investigate and determine what is true or false. We have simply to ask in regard to any doctrine or practice, what is the authority for it? Is it Catholic? Has it been held and followed by all Christians everywhere? If so, then it must be received as unquestionably true and essential. But if it cannot show that authority, then it is evident that it is not at least a necessary part of the Christian faith or sytem, and so is at best an open question, which one can hold to or not, as he prefers, but which may not be required as needful for membership in the Christian Church.

And it should be a matter of great satisfaction, and should give us a feeling of absolute certainty in regard to them, that all the great cardinal truths and essential features of the Church rest on this authority. And we should be charitable and liberal enough to allow individuals to follow their own preferences in regard to all matters which cannot be thus certified, never allowing differences of opinion on any subject which is not essential, to be the cause of separation of Christians into different communions. This is the sin of schism which destroys the unity and power of the Catholic Church.

Record for February.

Baptisms	2
Marriages	2
Communicants removed	2
Communion of the sick	1
Burial	1

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$337 50
" Deficit in "	100 00
" the Mortgage	109 81
" " Poor	7 23
" " Diocesan Missions	11 27
" " General "	1 80
" " Sustentation Fund	2 00
" Church Building	1 00
" the Sunday School	10 00
Of the Sunday School	7 01
Total	$587 62
Proceeds of Entertainment for Church Debt Fund	20 00

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—The Rector has received the present of a very fine new cassock, of which he stood in need. A handsome beveled looking-glass in oak frame has been given for the sacristy, also an engraving of the Ecce Homo in an oak frame. Another coal order for the poor has been received, also some wood for the wood carving class in the Industrial School.

LENTEN SERVICES.—In addition to our ordinary daily services, the Penitential Office for Ash Wednesday will be said each Wednesday and Friday during Lent, after the Litany; and there will be a short lecture and a collection of Lenten offerings on Friday afternoons after Evening Prayer. The boys of the choir will be present and sing at the daily service at 5 P. M.

LENTEN SEWING.—The members of S. Mary's Guild and the Female Bible Class, and some of the members of the older classes in the Sunday School, will meet on every Thursday evening during Lent, to sew for the Church. It is proposed to have a small sale of useful and fancy articles thus made, some afternoon and evening after Easter, for the benefit of our church debt fund. The ladies will be thankful for any donations of material for these purposes, or if there are any in the congregation who would like to make articles as well, they will be thankfully received.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.—We are very glad to announce that we have at last found some one who is willing and capable to assume the duties of Superintendent of the Sunday School, Mr. F. B. Falkner, a son of the Rector of Christ Church, Germantown, who has been attending our church this winter. This is a great relief to our Assistant Minister, who has had to take the position of superintendent in addition to his other labors on Sunday, simply because we had no one who could or would do it. We welcome Mr. Falkner very heartily to the parish and to the school, and we have no doubt it will be very successful under his care.

We have been glad to have been able to make an addition of some forty-four new volumes to our Sunday School library over and above those reported last month as presented.

The usual mite boxes have been distributed among the scholars for their Lenten offerings for missions. We hope they will be as well filled as they were last year. We think it would be a good idea if the members of our congregation would keep such mite boxes by them during Lent for such offerings for our church funds

MISSIONARY BOX.—The ladies of our Missionary Chapter of the Women's Guild have been able to send an additional package of things to the clergymen to whom we sent our box this year. His wife writes, acknowledging it, that they "were very glad to get the things as we were very much in need of pillow cases, but we had such a good box we hardly expected anything more. We have found the things of great service, as the weather has been extremely cold. For three weeks it was twenty to thirty below zero every day, and some days forty. The expense for fuel was very great. * * * Kind friend, I feel that giving is the natural result of loving, and that His love, who gave Himself for the life of the world, has put it into the hearts and minds of yourself and co-workers to do what you have for us, thereby extending His Kingdom upon earth. With deep gratitude to all the good friends every where, who have followed your leadership, I am most respectfully and gratefully Yours,

M. P. Goudy.

Blue Earth City, Minn., Feb. 12, '95.

The Ladies' Aid are going to work for S. Christopher's Hospital for Children during Lent.

MOTHERS' MEETING.—We are in need of funds to pay the women for the work they are doing for the hospitals.

ENTERTAINMENTS.—S. John's Guild gave a very successful entertainment on Feb. 21st. Our large school room was well filled with an appreciative audience, and the members of the Guild distinguished themselves in their plays, all of which were well done. We think their dramatic talent develops with practice. The entertainment was repeated by invitation on the following evening, in the parish building of S. Peter's Church, at Third and Pine Sts., and half of the proceeds given to the Guild. We understand they had a full house there and gave much satisfaction.

The lecture on Shakespeare's birth-place and grave, by the Rev. George Arbuthnot, Vicar of Stratford-on-Avon, we are sorry to say, was not a financial success, owing to the very small attendance. It was a most excellent and interesting lecture, most beautifully illustrated by stereopticon views. Those who did not come to it, missed a great treat. And the result was a great mortification to ourselves as well as a disappointment to the lecturer, who received absolutely nothing for his pains, neither, of course, did our church debt fund.

PAYMENT ON ACCOUNT OF THE MORTGAGE.—We are very thankful to say that one of the members of our Vestry generously donated $82.66, which we said last month was needed to complete the sum of $500, to make another payment on our mortgage debt. This reduces it to $22,500. Can we not pay the other $500 before May 1st, and thus make the reduction $1000 for the financial year? We have received some further contributions towards it, and through the receipts from our entertainment and sale we shall have something more. Who will help? We must get rid of this burden.

NOTICE.—The Accounting Warden desires those who use envelopes to destroy or return to the sexton any of the old envelopes they have and use only the new *dated* ones. He also requests all to be careful to *seal* their envelopes, as if they are not sealed the money is apt to fall out of them and get mixed with the loose change in the plates, and it is impossible to know how much was in them.

OUR FINANCES.—A special meeting of the Vestry was recently held to consider the present condition of our finances. The Warden reports

that in spite of our effort to make up the deficit we have been carrying, it looks as if we would come out with another deficit at the end of this financial year, April 30th, of some $500 or $600. This was to be expected, as we had that deficit last year, and our making that up has only rendered it harder for us to increase our ordinary receipts this year. What we want is to get a permanent addition of about $600 to our income, or else to get rid of our debt. As we can only hope to do the latter gradually, we must try and do the former. How to do it, is the question the Vestry had to discuss. Various plans were suggested. Finally it was determined to restore to the seats in the church the reminders we formerly had in them, that they are free and that the church is supported by voluntary offerings. It was thought this might lead the strangers and those who casually worship with us to contribute more largely. Secondly, the Vestry directed the issuing of a circular to all connected with the church who do not use envelopes, urging them to do so, believing that if they did the receipts of the church would be increased.

In addition to this the Rector's Warden was requested to draw up an appeal to the congregation at large, which we print in this issue.

S. BARNABAS GUILD FOR NURSES.—The Rector of this parish has lately been appointed Chaplain of the branch of this Guild in this city, and it is to meet hereafter regularly in our parish building on the fourth Tuesday evening of each month.

It is a general Guild extending throughout the United States, the Bishop of Pittsburgh being the Chaplain General. It is designed to bind together those engaged in nursing, to help them to realize their responsibilities and afford them the spiritual helps they need. Any regular qualified nurse of good character is eligible to membership.

SUBSCRIPTIONS received since last issue:

Mrs. Pemberton	Miss Gilpin
Mr. Robb	Mrs. Connelly
Dr. T. R. Neilson	Miss Grubb
Rev. L. A. Laupher	Mr. David Rea
Mrs. Laupher	Miss King
Miss F. C. Cooper	Miss Trucks
Mrs. W. G. Price	Miss Rousseau

Donation to the deficit in publication account: Miss Trucks.

We have to acknowledge a very generous donation from Mrs. Chas. B. Nancrede, of Ann Arbor, Mich.

A subscription to the NEWS for 1895 was placed in the "Alms Chest" without any name, which we should like very much to know.

A Statement to the Congregation.

The Vestry of the Church of the Ascension, at a recent meeting, directed the undersigned to bring to the notice of the congregation, the following facts:

The accounts of the church show that in order to keep the services of the church as they are at present conducted, with the present salaries paid to the clergy, and expenses of maintaining the church, there must be an increase in the yearly income of about six hundred dollars. Each year since the present rate of expenditure has been established, has shown a deficit in the current receipts over the expenses, of this amount, which has hampered the Vestry, and, which if not provided for, will involve the church in debt.

In the management of the finances of a free church, it is necessary from time to time, to submit to the congregation which supplies the necessary funds, reports of the situation, and to inform it of the needs of the parish.

There are more than four hundred Communicants connected with the Church of the Ascension, and the general character of its congregation is of much more than ordinary intelligence.

It would seem that the mere statement of this condition of the affairs of the church would result in an unanimous effort on the part of the Communicants certainly, and indeed of the entire congregation, to find a remedy.

Think for a moment how much can be done by a slight effort, if only that effort can be made a general one. If five hundred persons (and there are more than this number connected with the Church of the Ascension) would add to their present contributions the sum of five cents weekly, the result would be an increase of *thirteen hundred dollars* annually, more than double the amount required to avoid the present annual deficit.

Can any words of mine put this in stronger language?

Can any man or woman doubt his or her duty under these circumstances?

I want to reach the individual conscience of every one connected with the church. Do not throw this down and forget it, but *do your part.* If you feel that you should do even more than this, *do it*, and make up for some poor creature who cannot even increase her (for I take it that there is no *man* who cannot do it) widow's mite.

Write a note to the Accounting Warden, or a postal card, and ask him to increase your present pledge by adding what you choose, five or ten cents, or more, as you desire, and then next Sunday increase your present weekly contribution that much. *Do it now.*

What is an additional five or ten cents a week, compared to the prosperity of your Church!

On behalf of the Vestry,

J. E. CARPENTER,
Rector's Warden.

"The Richest Church in the World."

So is styled the Church of England, which is the Church of what undoubtedly is the richest nation; but what are the facts? There are 21,000 clergy engaged in parochial work in England and Wales. What are their incomes? 400 benefices are under £50 a year. 3,600 are beneficed incomes under £150 a year. There are 7,000 curates whose average income amounts to £130 (without parsonage houses). The rest of the clergy receive incomes from their profession utterly insufficient for even a moderate maintenance of themselves and families.

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DEVOTED
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AND
EMBROIDERY
Orders solicited
BY
Altar Chapter of Women's Guild

The Ascension News.

VOL. VIII. PHILADELPHIA, APRIL, 1895. No. 4

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. LOUIS A. LANPHER.
1229 Locust St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
DAVID JAYNE BULLOCK

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2022 Evergreen St.

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SUNDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4.00 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P. M.

DAILY:
Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTIONS.

Mondays, 4 P.M. Thursdays, 8 P.M.

CONFIRMATION.

April 24th, 8 P. M.

KALENDAR.—APRIL

7 Palm Sunday.
8 Monday before Easter.
9 Tuesday before Easter.
10 Wednesday before Easter.
11 Maundy-Thursday.
12 Good Friday.
13 Easter Even.
14 Easter Day.
15 Monday in Easter Week.
16 Tuesday in Easter Week.
19 Friday—Fast.
21 Low Sunday.
25 S. Mark, Evangelist.
26 Friday—Fast.
28 Second Sunday after Easter.
All days in Lent, except Sundays, are fasts.

GUILD MEETINGS.

1 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild Other Mondays, Recreation.
2 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
16 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild., Other Tuesdays, Recreation.
23 8 P.M., S. Barnabas Guild for Nurses.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. F. B. Falkner.
Secretary, Mr. Edward Carpenter.
Treasurer, Mr. Carroll Hodge
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Mr. Frank Shelton.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3.00 P.M.
Lenten Sewing, Thursdays, 8 P.M.
Mothers' Meeting, Fridays, 7.30 P. M.

SERVICES IN HOLY WEEK.

7½ A. M., daily, Holy Communion.
10 A. M., daily, (except Good Friday) Morning Prayer and Holy Communion.
5 P. M., daily, Evening Prayer.
8 P. M., daily, Sermon on the Passion.

GOOD FRIDAY:

11 A. M., Morning Prayer, Litany and Singing of the Reproaches.
12 to 3 P. M., Preaching of the Cross.

NOTE.—Copies of the words of the Reproaches will be distributed to the congregation at the service. Persons who may not be able to remain during all of the service and preaching on Good Friday, can enter or leave the church at any time during the singing of the hymns with which the preaching will be varied.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

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Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

CATHOLIC PRACTICES.

We have been speaking of Catholicity as the test of truth of doctrine and what is necessary in order in the Church. The same can be applied to the practices of the Church to a certain extent. We say to a certain extent, because these not being matters of doctrine or necessary order are not of so much importance, it is not so necessary that they should always be the same. In fact, we find that there has been a great diversity of practice in the Church. The Preface to our Prayer says: "It is a most invaluable part of that blessed liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, that in His worship different forms and usages may without offense, be allowed, provided the substance of the faith be kept entire." Still, if we find that among Christians generally there has been an agreement in regard to certain practices, we may surely conclude that they are wise and good, and calculated to advance the ends for which all public worship and order exist.

Thus we find that from the earliest times, and universally until the rise of some Protestant bodies at the time of the Reformation, a liturgy has been used for the conduct of public worship. We may be sure, therefore, without going into any argument on the subject, that that is wiser than a mere extemporaneous worship. And this is substantiated by the tendency now observed among bodies that have discarded the use of a liturgy to return to it. The same is true of vestments and of the other ornaments of the ministers and churches. Things which have been used as far back as our records extend, and throughout the Christian world, may certainly be looked upon as part of the Christian heritage, and natural and proper to be used in worship. It is a mistake to be singular, and wrong to create divisions and disturb the common order about personal opinions or preferences.

This we think is one of the great errors of many of the Protestant denominations, that they have set up and maintain separate organizations about trivial matters of order or ritual, even where there is full agreement on the essentials of faith.

And it is one of the advantages of the Churches of the Anglican Communion in maintaining, as it does, the use of those great elements and characteristics of public worship which have obtained in every part of the Catholic Church, that it brings it into harmony with the different branches of that Church, and helps to destroy the impression that would otherwise be conveyed that it is a modern and schismatical society. It is not simply that we like and enjoy and find these things profitable, but there

is this principle involved in their use, that it shows our agreement with the great body of the Church in all ages. It is part of our Catholic heritage, that which belongs to us naturally, of right, as members of the Catholic Church. And we may be sure that those things which have been used so long and so universally are the wisest and best for their purpose.

But while this is true of the great elements involved in the order and worship of the Church, when we come to the details we find that there has always been a great variety and constant change, which has been due to different national and climatic conditions, and to changes of habits, customs and sentiments. And such changes and varieties within limits are doubtless healthy and useful. They are signs of life and adaptability on the part of the Church to the habits and temperaments of different people. Thus while the same elements of worship appear in all the branches of the Church, we find great differences for instance between the Latin and Greek Communions in regard to the shape and arrangement of their churches, altars, screens, vestments, use of pictures and images, as well as in the character and words of their services. So in the Western Church before the Reformation there was a great diversity of use not only in different national churches, but in different dioceses and even in different parishes. Thus in England there were the different rites known as the use of Sarum, Bangor, Hereford, York, etc. And one of the objects of the setting forth of the Prayer Book in the time of King Edward VI was to establish a more uniform use throughout England.

And so any one who is familiar with ecclesiastical history knows that the services, the shape and color of the vestments, the number of lights, the postures and various minor ceremonies used in the services of the Church have been constantly varying among different people and at different times. There is a fashion in the Church, as there is every where else, and while the Church is more conservative and changes less frequently, nevertheless it does change and there is no reason why it should not. There is no reason why we should look for or require absolute uniformity in the Church or imagine that Catholicity demands that all the details of the arrangement of our churches and services should be the same. It is only the great elements of worship that can claim that authority, details may and do alter from time to time and place to place.

And so it is natural and right that a great and distinct branch of the Church, such as the Anglican Communion, should have, as the Greek and Roman Churches have, its own peculiar customs. It has its own liturgy, and the special characteristics of its worship as it has been developed in the cathedrals and great churches in England and this Country is that of a rational, sober, dignified, beautiful service, without the redundancy and multiplicity of detail and movement

which appears in the Roman and Greek Churches. And we think that this is the character of service we should seek to maintain. As long as the English and Roman Churches are separated, so long at least, it is well that the difference should appear in their services. Otherwise the unthinking will fail to discriminate between them. They are both parts of the Catholic Church, but there is a Roman rite and an English rite.

So in different Churches of the same general rite, if some prefer ornate services and others plainer ones, they should both be provided. And if some persons are helped and like to use certain acts or expressions of devotion, they should be at liberty to do so, and those who do not are not to be blamed. The rule to be followed is that laid down in the first English Prayer Book, "As touching, kneeling, crossing, holding up of hands, knocking upon the breast and other gestures, they may be used or left as every man's devotion serveth, without blame." There is really no Catholic law about such things.

Record for March.

Baptisms	3
Communicants added, new	1
" by transfer	3
" removed	2
Burials	2

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$498 02
" the Poor	9 75
" " Diocesan Missions	6 20
" " Indian "	17 00
" " Mortgage	8 10
" Flowers	11 46
Of the Sunday School	7 74
Total	$558 27

PARISH NOTES.

HOLY WEEK.—We shall have the same services as usual during Holy Week. Celebrations daily, except Good Friday at 7.30 and 10 A. M., and a sermon at night, at 8 P. M. On Good Friday, Celebration at 7.30 A. M.; Morning Prayer and Litany, and Penitential Service at 11 A. M., followed by the singing of the Reproaches and preaching of the Cross from 12 to 3 P. M., and a sermon again at night. These services have proved very useful in the past, and we hope they will be largely attended this year.

EASTER.—On Easter Day there will be Celebrations at 6.30, 7.30, and 8.30 A. M., as well as in the middle of the day. Two clergymen who occasionally attend our church, the Rev. Dr. Robins, and the Rev. Mr. Meigs, having kindly volunteered to take two of these services. At 11.30 A. M. the choir will sing the whole of Gounod's Sacred Heart.

On Low Sunday the Easter music will be repeated, and the Preacher will be the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Pittsburgh.

EASTER OFFERINGS.—We shall need an Easter offering of at least $1000, to enable us to close our financial year without debt. We wish very much that this might be realized that we may not be afflicted with any deficit. Then we should have indeed done well this year, to have paid off a deficit of $800 from previous years, and met our current expenses for the present year in addition. Is that too much to expect? Will not each member of the congregation feel the necessity of doing their utmost, and making as large an Easter offering as they possibly can?

FLOWERS.—The ladies who have charge of providing the flowers for the altar and other festivals, as well as the washing of the surplices and altar linen, request us to say that their funds for these purposes are very low, and they look for special contributions at this time. One of the alms boxes in the vestibule will be devoted to this fund during Passiontide, or contributions may be handed to the Treasurer, Miss Parmelee, or to the Rector.

DIOCESAN MISSIONS. — The amount so far received for Diocesan Missions, is $17.83, and we are expected to contribute $75, also $35.86 to the Sustentation Fund. Will not *all* the members of the congregation make some offering (early this month), for these purposes through the envelopes marked Diocesan Missions which they have received, or which they will find in the rack near the door of the Church? Not only is this cause one which should call forth our offerings, the extension of the Church in the Diocese, but we should keep up the honor of our Church, and not let it appear delinquent in doing what is expected of it in the Diocese. These envelopes should be returned at once as the account is closed this month.

The following letter has been received by the Rector in regard to the Sustentation Fund:

Philadelphia, March 27th, 1895.

Rev. G. Woolsey Hodge.

Church of the Ascension.

Rev. and Dear Sir: On October 8th, 1894, you were notified that the amount apportioned by the stewards to your parish, for the Sustentation Fund of the Diocese for the Convention year of 1894-5, in accordance with the Canon, was $35.86.

The object of this Sustentation Fund, established by the Convention of 1890, was to augment the salaries of the rectors of feeble parishes throughout the Diocese, and for this account the amount of $3,000 was asked for by the last Convention.

The appropriations from the fund being only made of absolute cash on hand, as reported to the Convention, I venture, on behalf of the stewards, to call your attention to the matter, and to ask if you will not kindly send me the amount desired from your parish at an early day.

Yours very truly,

GEO. C. THOMAS, Treas.

Chestnut and Fifth Sts.

Only two dollars have been received for this purpose so far.

APPEAL.—The circular letter sent out last month by the Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Vestry, appealing to all the members of the congregation to use envelopes, together with the article we published by the Rector's Warden asking all who could do so to increase their offerings, have, we are glad to say, met with some response. A number have taken envelopes who had not been using them before, several have increased the amount they had been giving, and in two cases that amount has been doubled.

The Warden desires us to say, however, that all increasing the amount of their pledge should notify him, as otherwise it will lead to confusion in his accounts.

We reprint here the letter of the Chairman of the Finance Committee, as there may be some who will see it here, into whose hands it may not have come.

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION.

S. W. Cor. Broad and South Streets.

Philadelphia, February, 1895.

The Vestry of this Church are anxious to double the number of envelopes now used for its weekly support. One hundred and fifty are now in use, and the Communicants of our Church number 475! Will not one person at least in this family

take an envelope for a sum NOT LARGE, but one which can and will be given each week WITH REGULARITY, so that it can be counted upon towards the current expenses of the Church?

Five or ten cents given WITH CERTAINTY would yield a good sum yearly, and would be felt by no one —giving up two trolley rides each week would do it,—and the sum of ten cents given EVERY SUNDAY IN THE YEAR by one hundred and fifty Communicants would produce $15 each Sunday, or a total of $780, and more than cover the deficiency which confronts us now at the close of each financial year.

The sum so given in the numbered and dated envelopes is known ONLY to the Accounting Warden, so let no one hesitate to give ten cents, for although a small sum ($5.20 a year), it will be a GREAT HELP, AND PREVENT THE RECURRENCE OF A DEFICIT IN FUTURE. Only take an envelope and give what you agree to give WITH REGULARITY, and so do your part towards the support of our Church, where all the sittings are NOT RENTED OR APPROPRIATED.

"If thou hast much, give plenteously; if thou hast little, do thy diligence gladly to give of that little."—Tobit iv.

WILLIAM PLATT PEPPER,
Chairman Finance Committee.

FAIR.—The sale of useful and fancy articles of which we spoke last month, will take place in the parish building on April 25th, from 3 until 6 P. M., and from 7.30 until 10 P. M. There will be a refreshment and candy table, grab bag, etc., with music and recitations in the evening. The admission will be 10 cents. We hope all the members of the parish will come, *and bring their friends*. Tickets can be had from the Sexton, or any of the members of S. Mary's Guild. The proceeds of this sale are for the church debt.

MUSICAL TEA.—In connection with the Fair it is proposed to give a Musical Tea, at the Hotel Stratford, on April 24th, from 4 to 6 P. M. It was thought that many persons outside the parish might in this way be induced to contribute towards the reduction of the church debt, who would not be attracted to a Fair in our parish building. Several prominent musicians have volunteered their services to play and sing, and there will be a table for the sale of fancy articles. Admission will be one dollar. Any members of the parish desiring tickets for themselves or friends, can procure them from Mrs. R. A. Gilpin, 1332 Pine Street.

ORDINATION.—The Rector had much pleasure last month in taking part in, and preaching the sermon at the ordination to the Priesthood of the Rev. James M. Blackwell, a former member of this parish. Mr. Blackwell became connected with the parish in 1886, and soon identified himself with the Sunday School and S. John's Guild. It was while thus engaged that he determined to study for the sacred Ministry. Under the advice of the Rector he went to S. Stephen's College, Annandale, N. Y., where he spent six years, graduating in 1892, after which he spent a year in the Philadelphia Divinity School, when he was ordained Deacon by the Assistant Bishop of Central Pennsylvania, and placed by him in charge of a Mission at Mechanicsburg. It was here that he was ordained Priest. The Rector found him most pleasantly situated with a pretty stone church, and a most tasteful Rectory where he and his wife are happily installed. We wish him all success in his future work.

S. MARY'S GUILD.—As the date of the regular monthly meeting of S. Mary's Guild falls this month in Holy Week, it will be transferred to Tuesday of the week following, the 16th.

VESTRY ELECTION.—The annual election of four Vestrymen to serve for three years, in place of those whose terms expire, will be held in the parish building on Easter Monday, the polls to be open from after Divine Service in the morning until one o'clock. All who have been registed as Communicants, and have been contributing through the envelope system for one year are entitled to vote.

GIFTS.—The Rector has received a very fine new linen surplice. And some very good articles of clothing have been sent for missionary boxes. Two such boxes have been sent, one to a student in the General Theological Seminary in New York, and one to a clergyman in the Diocese of Milwaukee.

"And I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men unto Me."

Thy lifting up, the world shall draw,
O Saviour Christ, with wond'ring awe,
In answer to Thy loving law,
In Thy great peace to rest.

O SAVIOUR! crucified for me,
With outspread arms on that dread tree;
To Thy embrace, for love I flee,
In Thy great peace to rest.

Here in Thy bleeding, wounded Side,
Where mercy, truth and love abide,
The burden of my soul I hide,
In Thy great peace to rest.

Amid the gloom of earth's dark night,
My heart, oppressed with sin's foul blight,
Turns back to Thee, the source of light,
In Thy great peace to rest.

Touched by Thy pity, full and free,
A sacrifice for sin—for me;
I bring my burden, Lord, to Thee,
In Thy great peace to rest.

H. G. B.

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VOL. VIII. PHILADELPHIA, MAY, 1895. No. 5

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Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR.—MAY

1 SS. Philip and James.
3 Friday—Fast.
5 Third Sunday after Easter.
10 Friday—Fast.
12 Fourth Sunday after Easter.
16 Friday—Fast.
19 Rogation Sunday.
20 Rogation Day—Fast.
21 Rogation Day—Fast.
22 Rogation Day—Fast.
23 Ascension Day.
24 Friday—Fast.
26 Expectation Sunday.
31 Friday—Fast.

DEDICATION FESTIVAL.

23 Ascension Day, 7½ A. M., Holy Communion. 11, Morning Prayer, Sermon and Holy Communion. 5 P. M., Evening Prayer, 8 P. M., Choral Evensong and Anniversary Sermon.
26 7¾ P. M., Annual Guild Service.
30 8 P. M., Parish Tea.

GUILD MEETINGS.

6 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild Other Mondays, Recreation.
7 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
14 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

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Secretary, Mr. Edward Carpenter.
Treasurer, Mr. Carroll Hodge
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Mr. Frank Shelton.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3.00 P.M.
Mothers' Meeting, Fridays, 7.30 P. M.

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS 3 P.M.

For Young Men, Mr. W. George Read.
" Ladies, Mrs. Hodge.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

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REDUCTION OF OUR DEBT.

We are certainly under very great obligations to the ladies of our congregation who inaugurated and carried out so successfully the Musical Tea and the Bazaar for the benefit of our church debt. Both entailed a great deal of work, which was most cheerfully performed. Every one seemed to take an interest, and many very handsome contributions, both of money and articles, were made. The tickets sold for the Tea, and some money received as donations, make the total receipts after payment of all expenses $932. The tickets sold for the Fair, and money received from sale of articles, ice cream, etc., make a total of $137.80 over expenses. Thus $1069.80 altogether was received for the reduction of our debt, as the result of the ladies' efforts. This is certainly very creditable to them, and a most substantial benefit to the church. Added to the $500 we were able to pay off in February, it makes a total of over $1500 for the financial year. We have thus in three years time been able to reduce our debt from $25,000 to $21,500, in addition to paying the current expenses of the church and carrying on our charitable and missionary work.

As gratifying as this is, however, it is still slow progress when we consider how large the debt is yet. We must hope, therefore, that there are members of our congregation who will be able, from time to time, to make substantial contributions towards this purpose. And may we not hope also that they will remember it in their wills? Every one who has any property ought to make provision for its disposition after his death. And when we remember how utterly uncertain the duration of life is, this should not be left to a possible old age or long sickness, but be done at once, while there is time and one is in the full possession of his faculties. And in disposing of one's property, where there are not immediate relatives whose wants will require it all, what better object is there to which it can be devoted than the relieving from debt or endowing a free church like ours, situated in so prominent a position in the heart of this populous city.

There are few better positions for church work than that which we possess. And yet, as we have not many persons of wealth in the congregation, and it is always possible that those few might remove, so the church is not in a safe and secure position until it is free from debt, and has at least a partial endowment. Nor can we ever pay our Rector an adequate salary until this is attained.

Will not all our people, therefore, keep this always in mind, and do all they can by gifts or bequests to put our church in this position? The Vestry propose to keep on sending out the special envelopes marked for the mortgage from time to time, and we trust they will all come back well filled.

While therefore thanking the ladies again for their efforts on this behalf and congratulating them and ourselves on their success, we trust that this will only prove an incentive to further and greater contributions to the same end.

REVERENCE IN CHURCH.

We want to say a word to the members of our congregation on this subject.

We had always thought we had a very reverent congregation. And we think so still. There is a very general observance of the attitudes of prayer and praise. The congregation rises when the clergy and choir enter the church and stands reverently until they have returned to the Vestry. They very generally remain, as they should, kneeling throughout the Communion. Few assume the indolent attitude of sitting even during the singing of anthems, as is seen in some churches. Few put on their coats and wraps during the singing of the recessional hymn. And there is a marked absence of that disposition to talk and gossip immediately at the conclusion of the service that is seen in some places. On the whole, therefore, we think our people are very reverent.

But there is one point in which we do not think they are so, and to which we want to call their attention, as we think many have fallen into the habit from carelessness, not realizing its effect, and that is, the way in which they keep coming into and going out of the church all through the service. We have puposely arranged our service in the middle of the day on Sundays and high festivals so as to divide it into two distinct services with an interval between them, so that if any find it too long to stay through both services, they can leave at the conclusion of the first, or not come until the beginning of the second. This is done in very few churches, and removes all excuse for the irreverence and interruption of the service of which we complain. Any one can come for Morning Prayer and the Litany and Sermon, or for the Holy Communion alone, or they can come for the Sermon and Holy Communion, entering during the singing of the hymn by which the sermon is preceded. But whatever service one wishes to attend, one should be in time for its beginning and remain until its close. It is certainly not a reverent or intelligent way of treating it, not to enter the church until it is half over, or to go out before it is closed. And for people to come streaming into the church during the reading of the lessons or the prayers or the sermon, or still more during the Celebration, is very distracting to and inconsiderate of those who are already there and trying to preserve their attention. If at any time any are belated, they should remain about the door or in the back of the church, at least until

some singing begins and the people are standing up, and they can enter unobtrusively. It is impossible for the preacher to hold the attention of the congregation if people are going up or being shown to seats high in the church during the sermon. And it is still more irreverent during the celebration of the Holy Communion.

So, if for any cause there are those who cannot remain throughout the whole of any one service, they should leave during some singing, when all are standing, and their going will not be so noticed. We have good ground for what we are saying, for we doubt if there are many churches in which there is such constant going in and out as there is in ours, and that often in the most solemn parts of the service, as even during the very Consecration Prayer in the Celebration. Some times also we see a whole string of young people coming into the church even during the short afternoon service, and then filing out again after a brief interval. For this there can be no excuse. It is gross irreverence. There is no pious purpose in going to church in that way. We hope we shall see these things reformed.

Record for April.

Baptisms	4
Confirmed	29
Communicants added, new	5
" by transfer	10
" removed	10
" died	2
Communions of the sick	2
Burials	2

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$1277 60
" the Debt	42 71
" " Poor	9 18
" Flowers	28 29
" Church Building	1 00
" Diocesan Missions	6 00
" Indian "	13 00
" Sustentation Fund	2 00
" Prayer Book Society	13 00
" Tract Society	10 00
Of the Sunday School	4 55
" " for General Missions	75 22
Total	$1482 55
Proceeds of Musical Tea	932 00
" Fair	137 80
Total	$1069 80

PARISH NOTES.

THE MUSICAL TEA AND FAIR were eminently successful. The weather was delightful on both days. The rooms at the Stratford were very beautiful, owing chiefly to the kindness of Mrs. William Masters Camac, whose wedding reception was held there an hour or two before, and who left all the decorations for the benefit of the Tea, and notwithstanding several disappointments in regard to persons who had promised to sing and failed to do so at the last, there was plenty of music, and that very good. The rooms were so crowded there was no getting about, new comers could only get in as those first there came out. So considering the amount of money made, and all things connected with it, the ladies who took the trouble of getting it up, and it involved a great deal of trouble, must feel themselves amply rewarded.

As to the fair in the parish building, the large school room in which it was held was prettily decorated, and the tables were very prettily and heavily laden, a number of very nice things having been made for or contributed to it, and there was a fair attendance, especially in the evening, and a good deal sold. Being a very hot night the ice cream and lemonade tables were especially patronized. We must say, however, in regard to it, that not a fifth part of the members of the parish took enough interest in it to come to it, which was rather hard upon those who had worked so hard to get it up.

The articles which were not sold have been kept and will be offered for sale again at our Parish Tea, which will take place on the 30th of this month, when a large number of persons will be present.

We are much indebted to several firms who made donations or sold things at reduced rates for the Tea and Fair, as well as to the musicians who so kindly contributed their valuable services.

THE NEW WINDOWS for our chancel and clere-story, we have been so long expecting, reached this city from London April 1st. But owing to delay in the Custom House, it was not until the end of Holy Week that they arrived at the church, and it was with great difficulty that they were put in place in time for Easter. But it was a great gratification to all that they were ready by that time. The two put in the chancel are very satisfactory. The coloring is very rich. They are generally regarded as the finest we have now in the church, and they make the chancel look much more complete. The central window in the chancel representing the Ascension, these two represent post Ascension scenes. The first to the right of the center window represents Christ going forth conquering and to conquer on the white horse, as described in Rev. vi, the red and black horses with their riders, and death on the pale horse following after. They are represented as treading on clouds, the earth appearing beneath. It is very animated, and conveys an excellent idea of the apocalyptic vision. The next window represents Christ coming again in glory to judge the world. The figure of our Lord appears in the upper part of the window, seated, surrounded by saints and angels, and in the lower part is a large figure of the angel of justice, having the sword in one hand, and the balances in the other. It is especially rich in its coloring. The small window for the clere-story, completes the first group of three windows on the west side of the church, nearest the chancel. It represents S. Michael. It is not altogether satisfactory as it is, the background and border not corresponding with those in the other windows. Some alterations will have to be made in it.

Our hearty thanks are due to the donors of these windows, which add so much to the beauty of the church. The Rector has on hand designs for the remaining chancel, and for some of the clere-story windows, if any persons are thinking of putting any in as gifts or memorials.

EASTER.—Our services on Easter Day were very fine. The choir sang the whole of Gounod's Sacred Heart for the first time, and rendered it very well. It was assisted by an orchestra, which was supplied by the generosity of the choir master. The congregations were larger, we think, than ever before, one hundred and seventy-five chairs being brought into the church, in addition to those always there. And we were much gratified by the amount of the offerings, $912, being received, which was not far short of the $1000 asked for.

We regret to say, however, that even with this offering, we do not

come out at the end of our financial year free from debt. Still the showing for the year is very good and a great advance over last year, in that we have paid all the expenses of the church for the year, and some $200 on account of the balance brought over from previous years. Can we not this year wipe that all out?

VESTRY ELECTION.—At the annual election for Vestrymen, held on Easter Monday, Mr. Samuel Wetherill, Mr. J. Edward Carpenter, Mr. Frank R. Stevenson, and Mr. Stevenson H. Walsh, were duly elected to serve for three years. At a meeting of the Vestry, held subsequently, the Rector reappointed Mr. Carpenter as Rector's Warden, and Mr. Bullock declining a re-election as Accounting Warden, after the expiration of his term on May 1st, Mr. C. L. S. Tingley was elected in his stead. As Mr. Tingley has already served one term in that capacity, he is familiar with the work. Messrs. Carpenter, Bullock and Tingley were elected delegates to the Diocesan Convention.

CONFIRMATION. — Our annual Confirmation took place on the evening of the second Wednesday after Easter, when the clergy presented to the Bishop, a class of twenty-eight, being twelve males and sixteen females. There were also confirmed at the same time, one from the Church of the Evangelist, one from the Church of the Crucifixion, and one from St. Clement's Church. Another member of the class was afterwards confirmed in the Church of the Annunciation.

SICKNESS.—The sympathies of all the members of the congregation have gone out during the past month to the family of our Assistant Minister, in the great trial through which they have been passing in the extreme illness of Mrs. Lanpher's daughter, Miss Corson. As we go to press, she is still extremely ill.

The senior member of our Vestry, Mr. Samuel Wetherill, also has been confined to his house since last Thanksgiving Day, having had to undergo another operation on his eyes. He has also suffered from an attack of pneumonia. From this, however, we are glad to say, he is now recovering.

There have been several other cases also of severe illness in the parish.

We have also to record the sickness and death of Mrs. Wm. Penn Chandler, who, though not a member of the parish, has been one of its benefactors, having presented to it our very handsome brass lectern and brass altar rail, and made donations to it from time to time, even as late as last Christmas. R. I. P.

DEDICATION FESTIVAL. — We shall observe Ascension Day, the name day of our church, as usual, by two celebrations of the Holy Communion, the second being after Morning Prayer, which will begin at 11 A. M. Evening Prayer at 5 P.M., and Choral Shortened Evening Prayer with anniversary sermon by the Rector at 8 P. M. The annual Guild Service will take place on the evening of the Sunday after Ascension at 7.45 P. M. The members of the different Guilds of the parish will meet in the parish building and enter the Church in procession with their respective banners. There will be a sermon by a special preacher.

The annual Parish Tea will be on the evening of Thursday, the octave of the Ascension, May 30th. This is our great parish social reunion, and we hope to see *all* our parishioners present.

SUMMER SERVICES.—Our services remain as throughout the winter during this month. On June 1st the 7 P. M. Twilight service taking the place of the 4 and 7.45 P. M. services, and the Prayers on Wednesday and Fridays at 10 A. M. of the daily and Wednesday night services.

SUMMER OFFERINGS.—All leaving the city for the summer are urgently requested to place in the plate before they go, their offerings for the number of Sundays they expect to be away, that we may have the money to meet our expenses during that time.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions have been paid since the March number of the NEWS:

Mr. J. E. Carpenter	Miss Ward
Mr. Sam'l Wetherill	Mrs. Diehl
Mr. C. J. Yost	Miss Haynes
Mr. D. J. Bullock	Miss Pomeroy
Mr. J. H. Botwright	Mrs. Biddle
Mrs. Botwright	Mrs. Larzalere
Mrs. Selby	B. and A. Epprecht
Mrs. Knowles	Miss Brotherhead
Mrs. Barrett	Miss Peirce
Mrs. Leaming	Miss O'Hara
Miss L. Smith	Miss Miles

We beg to acknowledge a donation from Miss Haynes.

The "Church of the Future."

Public Opinion, a journal well-known and valued, has a pleasant word to say for our Communion:

A good showing is made by the so-called Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States. Over 4000 clergy, 500,000 communicants, and nearly 2,000,000 baptisms, over 100,000 confirmed, this is a very fair result in the way of increase during the year. Besides, there are nearly 500 candidates for Holy Orders, and the records show an increase of income amounting to $2,000,000. The general growth of the Church far exceeds proportionately that of the population at large, or of any other religious section of it in particular. It looks like the "Church of the Future."

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The Ascension News.

VOL. VIII. PHILADELPHIA, JUNE, 1895. No. 6

Church of the Ascension.

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ASSISTANT:
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RECTOR'S WARDEN:
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ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
DAVID JAYNE BULLOCK

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2022 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.

Children's Service, 3.00 P. M.

Shortened Evening Prayer and Address, 7.00 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS, 10 A. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR.—JUNE

2 Whitsunday.
3 Monday in Whitsun week.
4 Tuesday in Whitsun week.
5 Ember Day—Fast.
7 Ember Day—Fast.
8 Ember Day—Fast.
9 Trinity Sunday.
11 S. Barnabas.
14 Friday—Fast.
16 First Sunday after Trinity.
21 Friday—Fast.
23 Second Sunday after Trinity.
24 Nativity of S. John, Baptist.
28 Friday—Fast.
29 S. Peter.
30 Third Sunday after Trinity.

GUILD MEETINGS.

3 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild
4 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. F. B. Falkner.
Secretary, Mr. Edward Carpenter.
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Mr. Frank Seddinger.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to John Hazlehurst Mason, 611-613 Chestnut Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

SUMMER CHURCH-GOING.

As the season is again upon us when so many go out of the city altogether or upon Sundays, and in which even those who remain at home think it too hot to go to church, we feel we must say a word to our people on this subject.

First, we should remember that attending church on Sunday is a matter of *moral obligation.* It is not simply a pleasant or useful thing to do, or a good custom. It is an obligation laid upon us by Almighty God. He has made it one of the Commandments of the great universal moral code. It is as obligatory as not to commit murder or to steal. To violate it is as bad as idolatry or blasphemy. Why? It seems an arbitrary thing. Why I should not steal or blaspheme I can see, but why must I keep one day in every seven holy, and keep it in this way by an act or acts of public worship? There have been those who have gone so far as to say they can see nothing moral in it and that it has no place in the moral law. If it was ever binding at all, it was only on the Jews, part of their ritual law; it does not apply to Christians. But the obligation in it is that we owe a certain proportion of our time and attention to God and to religion. We have a soul as well as a body and mind, a spiritual life to be cultivated as well as a mere natural life to live, a God to serve and adore as well as human relatives, leaders and masters. So we owe it both to God and to ourselves that we give time and thought to Him and to our spiritual interests.

And this must be done regularly, systematically, thoroughly, just as any business, education, or other earthly concern should be attended to. And to do it so, it must be in a place and with such accessories as are needful for the purpose. It can only be done very imperfectly at the best, and generally not at all, at home, by ourselves. There must be stated times for it. And the time set for it is one day in seven. This is arbitrary, if you will. But it has been prescribed by the same power that has prescribed the amount of time to be given to waking and sleeping, labor and rest, the days, months, seasons, years. It is not likely human wisdom could improve on that ordainment. And human experience has proved its truth.

The lives of those who violate this divine prescription, and give little or no time to religion, are themselves evidence of its necessity. They are not the highest and best lives, not such lives that they might be under a different regimen. They are generally far from what they ought to be, often very bad lives. And the consequence is as evident as that following from any cause, that it is generally the first step in wrong doing, in moral deterioration. A man neglects church-going and religious worship, and he becomes naturally forgetful of his duties, both to God and man; he loses the restraints and all the blessings and benefits religion alone can be to him.

If it is answered to this that there are some who go to church regularly who are no better than those who do not go, the reply is that that is no more an answer than it would be to say that going to school is of no use because there are scholars who go regularly and do not learn anything. It is the fault of their own stupidity or badness, not of the school. It is necessary for education. So is church-going necessary for the discharge of Christian duty, the cultivation and keeping alive of spiritual life.

And if this is true of one season of the year it is true of another. It is as necessary in summer as in winter. We are to keep one day in seven in this way all the year round. We are to make religion thus part of the regular routine of our life. It is as bad for one spiritually to go two, three or four months without church-going as it would be to go as many days without sleep. We should all feel the obligation of going to church every Sunday, winter or summer, wherever we are, if there is a church to which we can go, unless we are absolutely prevented by sickness or other equally insuperable obstacle. The really devout soul will want to go, will not be satisfied not to go. But even if one does not feel so, one should regard the obligation, and go as a matter of duty. The Roman Catholic is taught that he will be damned unless he hears Mass every Sunday. And that is a rough and ready way of expressing what is true. If a man neglects his religious duties he is damning himself, he is starving and stunting his spiritual nature. And it will not do to say that he will supply his religious needs by irregular draughts now and then, when he has the time and inclination. The soul needs sustenance regularly, systematically, as the body needs food. To go to church every Sunday is for the soul what three meals a day are for the body.

We trust our people will realize this. Feel that it is a moral obligation laid upon them by the Fourth Commandment of the great universal moral code, to attend church every Sunday, winter or summer, whether they are at home or abroad. Let them do it as a duty, and it will grow to be a pleasure.

Record for May.

Baptism	1
Marriage	1
Communicants added, new	4
" by transfer	1
" removed	3
Burial	1

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$ 463 07
" the Poor	5 24
" " Church Debt	27 30
" " Schools	1 90
" General Missions	25
" Diocesan "	1 00
" the Diocesan House	66 10
Of the Sunday School	4 14
Total	$ 569 00

PARISH NOTES.

OUR DEDICATION FESTIVAL passed off this year very much as usual. The attendance on the morning of Ascension Day is never what it ought to be, considering how great a day it is in itself, as well as being our special parish festival. If we had the means we should make it the grandest service we have in all the year. The attendance at night was very fair for a week night, and, as usual, the Rector preached the anniversary sermon, giving the statistics for the year, which we publish in this issue, and pointing out what progress had been made and what *ought* to be done in the future.

The Guild service on the Sunday evening after the Ascension was very creditable. The Guilds turned out in good force and made a nice appearance. The procession reached twice the length of the church. The sermon this year was preached by the Rector.

Our Parish Tea on Monday night was not as largely attended this year as usual, though over two hundred people were present. And those who were there seemed to have a very good time. It is certainly a very valuable occasion for bringing the people of the parish together, and we only wish there were more who would be sociable and avail themselves of it. Altogether we feel that our way of keeping our Dedication Festival is very good for the parish.

AN IMPROVEMENT IN THE CHURCH has been made by altering the position of the lectern by moving it to a place corresponding to that occupied by the pulpit on the other side of the church. This is not only more symmetrical and removes an obstruction to the view of the Altar from some seats in the church, but will be very much better on another account. A good deal of complaint has been made that it was difficult to hear distinctly the reading of the lessons, and it was due to the position of the lectern, the reader having the whole depth of the chancel, some thirty feet, behind him, his voice was largely lost in it and did not go out into the church. Now standing with the wall of the church directly behind him his voice will be thrown out as by a sounding board, as it is from the pulpit.

In addition to this, two new gas fixtures have been placed directly over the lectern and the pulpit, which will afford ample light to each, it having in both places heretofore been very insufficient.

GIFTS.—We have received this month ten volumes for the Sunday School library, a number of papers and magazines, a large quantity of cakes, tea, sugar, etc. for the Parish Tea. A cut stone to be placed behind the lectern on which the reader is to stand, this is the gift of a gentleman outside of our parish.

SUMMER ARRANGEMENTS.—The usual arrangement of summer services begins with this month, and will be the same as last year except that the early Celebrations on Holy Days will be omitted, as it has been found that not more than one or two persons, and sometimes no one, came to them.

Usually in the summer the Rector has removed his family to some place not very far from the city, and has been in the habit of coming himself to town every Sunday, and while the Assistant is away on all Wednesdays and Fridays and Holy Days. This year he is going to Spring Lake, N. J., and will only come up on the Sundays of July and August, when Mr. Lanpher takes his vacation, and arrangements will be made with some other clergyman for the other services. The Assistant Minister will be in charge of the church during June and September. Persons desiring to see the Rector particularly can do so on any Sunday or Monday morning during July and August.

A SPECIAL SERVICE will be held in the church on the evening of Trinity Sunday, for the benefit of S. Barnabas Guild for nurses, of which our Rector is the chaplain. The sermon will be preached by the Rev. Dr. Mortimer, Rector of S. Mark's Church.

MISSIONARY BOXES.—During Lent one of the classes in the Sunday School sent to the Italian Mission a box of clothing valued at $10.00, and also made an equal amount of clothing for a family connected with the church.

The Ladies' Aid sent a very substantial box, valued at $30.00, to St. Christopher's Hospital in this city. We subjoin the letter of thanks which was received in acknowledgement:

April 16th, 1895.

My Dear Mrs. Carman:—The Board of Lady Visitors of St. Christopher's Hospital wish me to thank you and each and every member of the Ladies' Aid of the Church of the Ascension for the barrel of such nice and most acceptable articles you were so kind as to send to the Hospital: 20 white dresses, 8 colored dresses, 12 night dresses, 2 flannel wrappers, 34 pillow slips, 28 diapers, 13 pieces of other clothing, 6 rag dolls (which have given *great pleasure*) and some very nice books and toys. And they arrived in perfect condition. Again thanking you most warmly for your kind thought for our little ones, as well as for your very generous contribution and assistance to our work,

I remain most sincerely,

JUDITH DALLETT BUDD,
Corresponding Secretary.

AUXILIARY CHOIR.—Our thanks are due to the ladies who have formed the choir at our Sunday night service during the past winter for the regularity of their attendance and the good music they have given us. We trust they will favor us with their services another year and that others in the congregation will join them. We are anxious to make this night service as hearty and attractive as possible, and few things could add more to it than a large, efficient chorus choir.

THE ANNUAL SPRING SPORTS of S. John's Guild, held Monday evening, May 20th, were a complete success, not only from an athletic but from a financial standpoint also. Owing to the kindness of Professor Riker, who volunteered to superintend and judge each event, every contest was fairly won. We regret exceedingly that we were unable to let forth a yell of victory, after the tug of war, as S. Stephen's proved to be the winning team. Though our boys pulled admirably, the advantage of a professional trainer showed very prominently in the pulling of the S. Stephen's Association, yet with this advantage, they only succeeded in capturing an inch of the rope. The All Fours, Indian Club and Dumb Bell races afforded amusing and exciting contests, and were roundly applauded. The winner of each of the various events received a prize from Miss Gilpin, our untiring benefactress.

A member of S. John's Guild.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions have been received since the last issue of the NEWS:

Miss Jackson
Mrs. M. E. Carman
Mrs. Walter Cox

We would urge that all subscribers who have received a notice of the expiration of their subscription will renew, and aid the management by remitting promptly.

REPORT.

The following is the report of the Parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop:

Baptisms—adults, 2, infants, 26; total, 28. *Confirmed*—males, 13, females, 16; total, 29. *Communicants* added—new 30, by transfer 37, died 5, removed 34, present number 497. *Marriages*, 9. *Burials*, 14. *Public Services*—Sundays, 295; on other days, 572, total, 867. *Celebrations of Holy Communion*—Public, 171, in private, 4; total, 175. Number of Communions made, 3396. *Sunday Schools*—Officers and teachers, 30; scholars, male, 59, female, 105. Bible classes 2, teachers 2, scholars 34. *Other Parish Agencies*—Industrial School: teachers 14, scholars 146; Mothers' Meeting: members 30. Men's Guild, the male Communicants, Women's Guild, the female Communicants, Young Men's Guild, S. John's: members 76; Young Women's Guild, S. Mary's: members 55; Chapter Brotherhood of S. Andrew's: members 16.

Money receipts—Offerings for all parish purposes, $7855.33; offerings for purposes outside the parish, $307.83; investments, $560.82; other sources, $1220.47; Sunday School, $152.28; Woman's Auxiliary, $165.50. Total, $10,262.25.

Expenditures—Parochial, current expenses (including salaries of ministers, music, fuel and lighting, care of church building and grounds and ordinary repairs of the same), $5411.68; improvements, $444.31; payment of debt, $1760; interest on mortgage, $124.40; support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools, $181.09; for the poor, $237.17; miscellaneous, $278.61. Total $9605.25.

Diocesan—Episcopal and Convention Fund, $109.40; Diocesan Missions, $85; Episcopal Hospital, $29.59; Sustentation Fund, $35.86. Total, $254.85.

General Missions—Foreign, $67.79; Domestic, $125.14; Indian, $30.00; colored people, $52.50; Church building, $3; Prayer Book and Tract Societies, $24. Western sufferers, $3.00. Total, $305.43.

Total for all objects, $10,065.53.

Estimated value of missionary boxes and bundles, $300.

Financial Condition—Aggregate value of property of the Parish, real and personal, $80,000; incumbrances, mortgage on the church edifice, parish building and ground, $21,500. Other indebtedness, $600. Endowment fund, $9525.

GIVING.

"A penny a day—ten or twenty-five cents a week—why, you don't feel it, while it would be hard to pay as much all at one time in a year." Such is the argument often heard in favor of weekly pledges for religious purposes.

I never hear it without a sense of shame. It sounds plausible, and is an excellent plea for those who consider Christian giving as a necessary tax unwillingly paid; but it loses entire sight of the fact that God wants nothing that is not missed. He wants us to feel it. It must be a self-denial to be acceptable. While the true law of giving is weekly, as the Apostle enjoins, we should remember that it was not made easy, but systematic, proportionate, and because it accords with the fast of human life, frequent getting, which demands frequent giving. Coupled with this rule is another equally important—"to give until you feel it"—increase the weekly amount until it represents a real self-denial for love's sake. This is acceptable to God. But "the don't miss it," idea degrades our worship and puts to shame our love. Don't mention it.—*Selected.*

The Anglican Communion.

The Anglican Communion embraces all Christians in full connection with the Church of England, viz:

The Church of England, with its 38 Bishops and 24,090 clergymen.

The Church of Ireland, with its 13 Bishops and 1,807 clergymen.

The Episcopal Church in Scotland, with its 7 Bishops and 266 clergymen.

The Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, with its 61 Bishops and 3,800 clergymen.

The Church of England in Canada, Newfoundland and West Indies, etc., with its 24 Bishops and 1,000 clergymen.

The Church of England in Asia, with its 13 Bishops and 713 clergymen.

The Church of England in Africa, with its 13 Bishops and 350 clergymen.

The Church of England in Australia, with its 21 Bishops and 713 clergymen.

Scattered, 9 Bishops and 120 clergymen.

Bishops resigned, 27.

Say in round numbers 225 Bishops, and 30,000 other clergymen.

Things to be Remembered.

Let nothing induce you to speak disparagingly of your parish. Stand up for your church as you would for your mother.

Pray for your minister. He needs it. He is but a man, with great responsibilities and many to please.

The Largest Store in America
DEVOTED
EXCLUSIVELY TO DRY GOODS.
STRAWBRIDGE & CLOTHIER,
Market, Eighth and Filbert Streets.

B. & A. EPPRECHT
(Successors to Madame Laporte)
Lace Curtains, Childrens' Caps, Etc., DONE UP EQUAL TO NEW
ALL KINDS OF FINE, CLEAR STARCHING AND GOFFERING
No. 343 South 12th Street

ESTABLISHED 1862
KINDIG BROTHERS
2321 TO 2325 PENNSYLVANIA AVE.
Sole Agents for the Celebrated Brands of
—FLOUR
SWIFT SURE CREAM
ROLLER KING MONITOR

CHURCH VESTMENTS
AND
EMBROIDERY
Orders solicited
BY
Altar Chapter of Women's Guild

The Ascension News.

Vol. VIII. PHILADELPHIA, SEPTEMBER, 1895. No. 7.

Church of the Ascension.

BROAD ST., BELOW SOUTH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. LOUIS A. LANPHER.
1229 Locust St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
DAVID JAYNE BULLOCK

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2022 Evergreen St.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 3.00 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Address, 7.00 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS, 10 A. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR.—SEPTEMBER

1 Twelfth Sunday after Trinity.
6 Friday—Fast.
8 Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity.
13 Friday—Fast.
15 Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity.
18 Ember Day—Fast.
20 Ember Day—Fast.
21 S. Matthew, Evangelist
Ember Day—Fast.
22 Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity.
27 Friday—Fast.
29 S. Michael and All Angels.

GUILD MEETINGS.

2 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild
3 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. F. B. Falkner.
Secretary, Mr. Edward Carpenter.
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Mr. Frank Seddinger.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to John Hazlehurst Mason, 611-613 Chestnut Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

THE CHURCH SERVICES.

In our June number we spoke of the obligation of regular Sunday attendance at church. Let us now consider what are the purposes and character of the services Christian people should attend.

We must remember, first, that the great object of going to church is not simply to hear a sermon, as profitable and necessary as sermons are in their place. The first object of going to church is to worship God, to pay Him the debt of reverence and worship which is His due and derive from adoration and communion with Him the help, grace and inspiration man needs to enable him to resist sin and attain unto holiness. These have been the great purposes of worship always and among all people, as imperfectly as they have sometimes been able to fulfil them. Under the old dispensation and among Gentile nations they were fulfilled by the offering of animal sacrifices and the eating of the flesh of the animals thus sacrificed. That was the best way in which man could signify his sense of his unworthiness to approach God and his need of atonement and his dependence for help and succor upon God.

In the new dispensation we have a rite instituted by our Blessed Lord, especially to supply this want, to take the place of bloody animal sacrifices, to be the means by which the one perfect sacrifice for sin which He offered upon the cross could be perpetually kept in remembrance, its merits pleaded before God, and its benefits communicated to men. He commanded His disciples to "do" or celebrate it continually as His memorial, and by it, as S. Paul says, Christ crucified is set forth as the sinner's hope, and we are made partakers of His very body and blood, that they may be to us the means of spiritual strength and refreshment.

So this naturally should be the great, central, most important act of Christian worship, that with which every Sunday and holy day at the least should be sanctified. Being the one act of public worship Christ instituted, He must have intended to give it this prominence, and we find from the way in which it is spoken of in the New Testament that the Apostles and first disciples regarded it in this light. We are told that they "continued daily breaking bread from house to house," and that when they "came together the first day of the week," it was "to break bread." And so universally, throughout the whole Church, and always, down to the period of the Reformation, the celebration of the Holy Communion was regarded as the chief act of public worship, which should be celebrated every Sunday and Holy day at the least.

It is true, that in the course of time certain false conceptions of it arose, and by some it was regarded superstitiously and not used in accordance with its original institution. And at the Reformation, in revulsion from this extreme, there was a tendency to rush to the other and forget and lose sight of its proper purpose and character. Hence among most of the Protestant bodies which arose at that time, the Holy Communion has been relegated to a very subordinate position. It is looked upon only as a very touching memorial, or its reception simply as a test of church membership, and as such only to be infrequently celebrated.

But that is not the teaching of the New Testament or of the universal Church, or of the formularies of our own Church. In the prayer book of the English Church the Holy Communion has ever held the position it had in all Catholic liturgies. A special service is appointed for its celebration on every Sunday and Holy day in the year, and that service is the great central service of the day, which gives its tone and teaching to the other services.

So undoubtedly from the consideration of what the Holy Communion is in itself, and from the way in which it has been regarded by all branches of the Church, it certainly is the service which every Christian should want to attend each Sunday. There is none other which so sets forth the essential truths of our religion, or brings them so forcibly to bear on our hearts and minds. There is none other which so combines in itself every element of worship; none by which we can so truly and devoutly worship, and none which can be a greater means of grace to the soul.

If you say that it is too solemn a rite to be so frequently celebrated, that thereby it loses its force, we answer, that while it is true of many things, that familiarity breeds contempt, it is not so with this. It is too divine. Or that danger must be guarded against by the care and preparation with which we approach it. Certain it is that the most devout and holy of men have ever found the Holy Communion above all others that in which they have found help and strength and spiritual joy. And by far the major part of Christians to-day consider attendance upon it each Sunday a matter both of obligation and of pleasure. We believe nothing else would so tend to the cultivation of true spiritual life as the universality of that practice. Do not let us feel that we have properly kept a Sunday unless we have devoutly attended a celebration of the Holy Communion.

We will speak of the other Sunday services in our next issue.

THE NEWS.

Once again we have come to a crisis in the history of this paper, which has occurred once or twice before in the eight years of its existence, when we must find

some way of meeting our expenses regularly, or its publication will have to be discontinued. We owe our printer *sixty* dollars. This must be paid and we must be assured of not running behindhand in the future.

We think it would be a misfortune to the parish to have the paper given up, as it affords a regular and efficient means of communication with all our members, whether they are at home or abroad. It keeps them informed of all that is going on in the parish; gives the clergy a means of communication with them, and of instruction better even in many ways than the pulpit. It affords the Vestry a way of laying before the members of the congregation any information that may be desirable, and of making appeals to them, which from time to time may be necessary; and many items of diocesan or general church news can thus be conveyed which our members might not otherwise see.

The very general use of parish papers throughout the country proves their utility, and we should be very sorry to have our parish lose the advantages thus afforded, which we have so long enjoyed.

The subscription price of fifty cents is certainly not large, and if *all* our members who could afford to do so, would only subscribe that amount, and *pay it regularly*, we would have no difficulty in making our ends meet.

We shall have to call for special subscriptions towards meeting our deficit. Are there not twelve persons in the congregation who will give $5.00 each towards it? And then will not every member subscribe, so as to keep us afloat in the future?

Record for June, July and August.

Baptisms	5
Marriages	3
Communicants added, new	12
" by transfer	2
" died	4
" removed	5
Burials	5

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$744 26
" the Poor	11 56
" the Mortgage Debt	26 75
Of the Sunday School	3 35
Total	$785 92

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—76 volumes for the Parish and Sunday School Library, six canvas bags for collections.

IMPROVEMENT OF THE PARISH BUILDING.—By the direction of the Vestry, a very much needed renovation has been given this summer to our parish building, the first entire overhauling it has had since its erection ten years ago. All the walls in the interior have been recalcimined in different warm tints, and all the wood work and floors reoiled. On the exterior, the wood work and the plaster round the main entrance have been painted. This makes the building look much more attractive, as the large school room especially, from the constant and multiform uses to which it is applied, had got very shabby, and we hope our children will take a pride in keeping it nice, and avoid defacing the walls or wood work in any way. The outside doors of the church, the iron railing along Broad street and the fence on Kater street have also been reoiled or painted.

There are a good many other renovations and improvements we should like to see made in the church, but we suppose we must not ask for them until we can get the church out of debt. We feel that all our energies must be devoted to that one object until it can be accomplished.

THE SUMMER SERVICES.—The services have continued this summer much as usual, though we do not think the congregations have been as large as in some other years. Whether this has been because more of our people go out of town than they did formerly, or because those who were in town were more careless about going to church, we cannot say, though we do know that the warmth of the weather made very perceptible differences in the size of the congregations; on a hot day we would not have nearly as many as on a cool one.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL reopens with this month, and we do hope that not only all the scholars, but all the teachers, who are in town, will make a point of attending. These long summer vacations break up our school so that it is like forming a new one over again each year in the autumn. The work ought to go on in the summer as in the winter, but how are we to get the teachers? If we must stop at all do not, at least, make the break longer than it need be.

SEAL YOUR ENVELOPES.—The Warden again asks us to call attention to those using the envelopes, always to be careful in sealing them, as otherwise their contents is liable to slip out, when they are put in the plates, and the Warden then does not know how to credit them.

ENVELOPES FOR THE POOR AND THE SCHOOLS.—The special envelopes during the summer months are for these purposes, and we trust every one receiving them will be sure to return them filled. Remember these are the only sources from which funds are derived for carrying on the work among the poor and supporting the Sunday and Industrial schools of the parish. Both these funds are now overdrawn and we need the means to carry us through the coming winter. Look upon your envelope for the support of the church, Sunday by Sunday, as the equivalent of a pew rent, and what you give through the special envelopes each quarter as taking the place of the charitable collections which are made in other churches, and give to each as liberally as your means will allow.

WINTER SERVICES.—The full order of winter services begins next month, including the Sunday afternoon and night services. We shall depend, as last year, for our music at the latter service, on the singing Guild, and we hope that a good attendance will be on hand, and that others in the congregation who have not yet joined it, will do so. We want to make this service a popular one and a good chorus choir will contribute largely towards making it so.

HISTORICAL SERMONS. — The Rector proposes to continue the practice he has followed for some years, of preaching one sermon in each month of an evening on an historical subject, and the course this year will be on the history of the American Church. We hope they will be well attended as every one ought to be familiar with the history especially of his own Church and of the conditions of religious life in this country.

The Church House.

The new Church House at 12th and Walnut streets is rapidly approaching completion, and will be ready for occupancy next month, though money is still needed to pay for it. A special fund of some $5000 is also required to furnish it. Some of the furniture has been already ordered, and must be paid for. As this House is for the accommodation and benefit of all the Diocese, every parish should take an interest in and bear a share of the burden of building it. We are very glad our parish has contributed towards its erection. Can it not do the same towards its furnishing?

The Books of the Bible With Their Contents.

The writer of the following lines was induced to write them by seeing some verses on the same subject in which the only comment on certain books of the Bible was in reference to their length, or some other trivial point. This suggested the idea of writing lines in which the *chief subjects* of each book should be briefly expressed. These lines were tested practically, of late, in a Church School, and it was found that the pupils learned them by heart very easily, taking three or four lines each day, and afterwards made use of them when finding passages in the Bible:

OLD TESTAMENT.

GENESIS is first in order
Of the Books that form the Bible.
Here we read about Creation,
Adam, Eve, and Cain and Abel;
Of the Deluge, Noah and Abram;
Joseph in the land of Egypt.
EXODUS is next in order,
And relates about the journey
To the promised land of Canaan,
Moses and the Ten Commandments.
LEVITICUS and NUMBERS follow,
Giving laws and sacrifices
And the wanderings in the desert.
DEUTERONOMY comes after,
And repeats all God's Commandments.
Ending with the death of Moses.
JOSHUA is next in order,
Telling us of Canaan conquered.
JUDGES then controlled the nation.
RUTH gleaned in the fields of Boaz.
SAMUEL, serving in God's Temple,
Heard his Maker's voice at midnight.
Then the SECOND BOOK OF SAMUEL,
Giving warlike Saul and David.
KINGS and CHRONICLES then mention
David's greatness, Solomon's wisdom,
And the building of the Temple.
EZRA led God's people backward
From captivity in Babylon.
NEHEMIAH built the City
And the Walls amidst much trouble.
ESTHER gained the throng of Persia,
Saved the Jews from plots of Haman.
JOB was patient in affliction.
PSALMS were sacred hymns of David.
PROVERBS precepts of King Solomon
In ECCLESIASTES were the
Vanities of wordly pleasures
Set forth by the royal "preacher."
The SONG OF SOLOMON then follows,
And ISAIAH, who predicted
Christ's atoning death and triumph.
JEREMIAH warned his nation
When for sin they suffered greatly,
For their fate gave LAMENTATIONS.
In EZEKIEL, consolations
Joined with warnings to the people
In captivity at Babylon.
DANIEL, saved from den of lions,
Gave predictions of Messiah.
Then HOSEAH, JOEL, AMOS,
Prophesied, with OBADIAH,
Of the punishment of sinners.
JONAH, sent to threaten Nineveh,
Fled, by sea, away from duty,
By a fish was taught obedience.
MICAH, NAHUM and HABAKKUK,
Prophets all, with ZEPHANIAH,
HAGGAI and ZECHARIAH,
Warned of sin and preached repentance.
MALACHI then ends the series
With reproofs of present evil
And predictions of the Saviour.

NEW TESTAMENT.

MATTHEW, MARK and LUKE and JOHN are
The Evangelists, who give us
Records of the Incarnation,
Teachings, Miracles, Atonement,
Death and Burial, Resurrection
And Ascension into Heaven
Of our Blessed Lord and Saviour.
Then the ACTS OF THE APOSTLES,
With heroic deeds and sufferings
Of the early Saints and Martyrs.

After this comes the Epistles
Of St. Paul, the great Apostle;
First, that to the ROMAN Christians,
Whose key-note is the great doctrine
Man may gain by Faith, Salvation.
Next, come two Epistles, written
By St. Paul to the CORINTHIANS,
Urging Apostolic mandates
And condemning false apostles,
Grandly praising "Charity" and
Telling of the Resurrection.
Then to the GALATIAN converts
Counsel, and reproof for wanderings;
To the EPHESIANS, recommending
Use of all the Christian armour;
Love and counsel to PHILLIPPIANS;
Kind advice to the COLLOSSIANS,
Urging them, "If risen with Christ," to
Seek those things which are in Heaven.
Then two books to THESSALONIANS,
(First, in time, of all St. Paul wrote,)
Telling of the Second Advent,
And of all the Christian graces,
Then to TIMOTHY, the Bishop,
All the duties of his office;
TITUS then, another Bishop,
Is advised about his labors;
To PHILEMON, asking favor
For a slave who fled rebellious,
But who now returned, a Christian.
HEBREW converts next are counselled
That the ancient Sacrifices,
Priesthood, and the Law of Moses,
All are but fulfilled in Jesus.
Then of JAMES, the Epistle, proving
Faith without good works is worthless.
PETER, the Apostle, urges
Holiness and coming judgment.
JOHN, beloved of the Redeemer,
Sweetly writes of love and goodness.
JUDE inveighs against false teachers.
Last of all, the loved Apostle,
Banished in old age to Patmos,
Sees the Saviour and receives the
Mandates for "the Seven Churches,"
Followed by grand REVELATIONS
Of the future of God's Kingdom
And the eternal joys of Heaven.

U. P. Z.

Whatever is, is Best.

I know as my life grows older
And my eyes have clearer sight,
That under each rank wrong somewhere
There lies the root of Right;
That each sorrow has its purpose,
By the sorrowing oft unguessed,
But, as sure as the sun brings morning,
Whatever is, is best.

I know that each sinful action,
As sure as the night brings shade,
Is somewhere, sometime punished,
Tho' the hour be long delayed.
I know that the soul is aided
Sometime by the heart's unrest,
And to grow means often to suffer,
But whatever is, is best.

—*Ella Wheeler Wilcox.*

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SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:

Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P M.

DAILY:

Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

KALENDAR.—OCTOBER

4 Friday—Fast.
6 Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity.
11 Friday—Fast.
13 Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.
18 S. Luke, Evangelist—Fast.
20 Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.
25 Friday—Fast.
27 Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.
28 SS. Simon and Jude.

GUILD MEETINGS.

1 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
7 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild Other Mondays, Recreation.
8 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.
28 11 A. M., Anniversary of Women's Guild.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. F. B. Falkner.
Secretary, Mr. Edward Carpenter.
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Mr. Frank Seddinger.

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS 3 P. M.

For Ladies, Mrs. Hodge.
" Young Men,

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

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THE CHURCH SERVICES.

We spoke in our last number of the Holy Communion as the great distinctive act of Christian worship, which every Christian will naturally wish to attend every Sunday, as being that which affords the fullest, richest opportunity for worship, and is the greatest means of grace. Let us consider now the other Church services and what is their character.

In addition to the Holy Communion we have the Daily Offices of Morning and Evening Prayer. Now mark, these are *Daily* Offices. They are not especially Sunday services. They were compiled at the time of the formation of the English Prayer Book, and were a condensation of the ancient offices, known as "the Hours," which were recited seven times a day. As it was only the "Religious," those living in convents and monasteries, who had the leisure to recite these offices, when the English Prayer Book was put forth for the use of the laity, they were reduced to two, one to be said in the morning and the other in the evening. They were to be the morning and evening sacrifice, with which each day was to be sanctified. There was nothing especially distinguishing of Sunday in them, except that there were special lessons appointed for Sundays as for all Holy days. They were to be said every day. According to the law of the Church of England, every clergyman is obliged to say them daily, either in Church or in private, and if in Church he is to cause a bell to be rung to give notice to his parishioners that they might join with him in saying them. And while this is not legally binding upon the clergy of the American Church, this is of course the idea with which these services were retained.

It is very strange, therefore, that in many places these services are made the only Sunday services and are never said during the week. This is not only neglecting the provision made for the religious sanctification of every day, but it is a slighting of the Sunday, performing on it only a small and less important part of the service intended for it. At the same time, even though we celebrate the Holy Communion on Sundays, we ought not to neglect these offices as well. We should say them on Sundays as on other days, adding to them the Holy Communion as the great Sunday service. The Morning Prayer serves as a most appropriate preparation for the Holy Communion, and the Evening Prayer as a thanksgiving after it.

And they are important services in themselves, especially for those who through business or other engagements cannot attend them daily. They contain long lessons from the Old and New Testaments and the Psalter, with which all Christians ought to be familiar and ought to use.

As vastly superior then, as the Holy Communion is to all other services, as superior as a divine work is to a mere human work, still these daily offices ought not to be neglected on Sundays, even though we have the privilege of attending the Holy Communion. Morning Prayer and the Holy Communion together do not make at all an unreasonably long service, especially as the former can now be abbreviated by the new rubrics. And the Evening Prayer forms only a natural and beautiful conclusion to the worship of a Holy day.

While, therefore, we do not say that attendance at these offices is of the same obligation, or is of the same benefit as at that of the Holy Communion, still we say they ought not to be neglected. To go to Church only once a week, of a Sunday morning, is a very small amount of devotion, and to bring children up to go to Church only once a Sunday is not likely to impress them very much with a sense of the importance of religion, or the benefit to be derived from it. We think, therefore, every Christian ought to go to Church twice every Sunday, once in the morning to say Matins and attend the Holy Communion, and again for Evensong. As the services are arranged in this parish no one has any excuse for not doing this, as the mid-day service consisting of Morning Prayer, the Holy Communion is of very reasonable length without any repetition in it, and we have *two* evening services, one at 4 P. M. for those who like best a musical service, and prefer going to Church in the afternoon, and the other at night, for those who prefer that hour and a plainer service with a sermon.

We hope our people will not let themselves fall into the bad, indolent habit of going to Church only once a Sunday, that is only once a week. Let them offer both the morning and evening sacrifice of prayer and praise, "with Thee began, with Thee shall end the day."

This is the full, natural complement of services, daily Morning and Evening Prayer, and on Sundays and other Holy days the Holy Communion added, to distinguish and sanctify them above all other days. Let us follow the mind of our Church and use the provision she has made for our worship. And we shall find the benefit in our lives in bringing them more and more in tune with God and holy things, in helping us to resist temptation, in overcoming evil, in doing good, in bearing trial, and fitting us for the entrance upon that life where worship will be the constant attitude of the heart.

Record for September.

Baptisms	3
Communicant removed	1
Communion of the sick	1

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$153 17
" the Mortgage Debt	23
" the Poor	1 00
Of the Sunday School	2 59
Total	$156 99

PARISH NOTES.

THE BIBLE CLASSES will resume their sessions the first Sunday of this month. Mrs. Hodge will take hers as usual at 3 P. M. But we regret to say that no one has yet been found to teach that for young men, which was taught last winter by Mr. Read, who is now a clergyman and has removed from the city. We hope that some one will be found before long for this most important work.

ORDINATIONS.—On Trinity Sunday, in Calvary Church, Germantown, Mr. William George Read, our Bible Class teacher, and Mr. William Bernard Gilpin, who has long been connected with our parish, and frequently assisted the clergy as a lay reader, were ordained Deacons, the latter being presented by the Rector. Mr. Read has become Assistant to a clergyman having a Church near Boston, and Mr. Gilpin has become Assistant in S. Michael's Church, Germantown. As he is so near, and Mr. Read will occasionally still come to the city, that we shall hope often to see them both in our chancel.

It is a great gratification to the Rector when any of the young men of the parish take Holy Orders.

GUILD ANNIVERSARIES. — SS. Simon and Jude's day, Monday the 28th, is the Anniversary of the Women's Guild of the Parish, which embraces all the different departments of the women's work. The Rector always wishes all the female communicants of the parish to be present at one of the Celebrations of the Holy Communion on that day, and at the annual business meeting of the Guild, which is held immediately after the 10 A. M. service. This is the only occasion in the year when all the female workers in the parish are brought together, and it is very important that they should come together thus, that they may hear the reports of what has been done in the past, and learn what are the Rector's plans and the needs of the work for the coming year. The Rector earnestly wishes all the women of the parish to take at least this much interest in their Church to be present on this occasion.

As after several years experiment he has found it impossible to get the men of the parish together on the anniversary of their Guild, the Rector will this year, as he has been doing lately, read the report of the Guild at the meeting of S. Andrew's Brotherhood, on the first Tuesday in November. But he affectionately urges the men of the parish to be present at one of the Celebrations on All Saints' day, which is the anniversary of the Men's Guild, and solemnly ask themselves whether in the sight of God, they are doing all they *might* do for the advancement of His glory, and the good of His Church on earth.

S. JOHN'S GUILD got organized for the winter in September, and one department of the Guild which has formed itself into a Dramatic Club, has already begun its rehearsals, preparatory to bringing out some play later in the season, for the benefit of the Church.

ACCIDENT.—We have been sorry to note the absence from Church for a number of weeks of one of our cross bearers, Mr. Harry Ellis, which was due to a severe accident which happened to him while at work, and which at one time threatened serious consequences. We are glad to say, however, that he is now improving, and he hopes soon to be in his place again.

WINTER SERVICES.—All the winter services are now resumed, the 4 and 7¾ P. M. services on Sunday, the daily services at 10 A. M. and 5 P. M., Wednesdays at 8 P. M., and all Holy days at 7.30 A. M. Let the congregation prove their appreciation of them by good attendance at them all.

WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICE.—The Assistant Minister who has charge of the Sunday School and officiates, at the Wednesday evening service, proposes to make the instruction at this service consist this winter of a study of the Sunday School lesson for the following Sunday. This will be a great help to the Sunday School teachers, whom he hopes will attend this service, and it will also be very instructive for the ordinary congregation. The parish library is open after this service for the distribution of books and papers.

ERROR.—We wish to apologize for the error which occurred in our three last issues in retaining the name of Mr. David J. Bullock as Accounting Warden on our first page, he having resigned that position and Mr. C. L. S. Tingley having been appointed in his place May 1st last. It was an inadvertence on our part.

THE HISTORICAL SERMON on the third Sunday evening of this month, will be on the early planting of the Church in America.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—Since our June issue the following subscriptions have been received:

Miss M. E. Bloomer,	Miss Holbrook.
Miss H. L. Bloomer,	Mr. H. L. Kelly,
Miss M. M. Menah,	Mrs. J. H. Mason,
Mrs. M. A. Bloomer,	Mrs. C. H. Darlington,
Mrs. John Minshall,	Mrs. Price.

In answer to our appeal in the last issue of the "NEWS," urging the necessity of financial aid for the paper, we have only received two donations:

Rev. G. W. Hodge, $5.00.
Mrs. C. H. Darlington, 50c.

Will not all the members of our congregation make an effort to aid us as much as their means will permit?

Church Training and Deaconess House.

The Rector takes this method of laying before the congregation the following letter he has received from the Bishop of the Diocese, with the request that he would bring the subject to the notice of the women of his parish. We shall probably speak editorially in our next issue on the subject of Sisterhoods and Deaconesses.

DIOCESE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Episcopal Rooms, 1102 Walnut St.

Philadelphia, July 10, 1895.

The Bishop of the Diocese desires to call attention to the advantages now afforded in the Church Training and Deaconess House of the Diocese of Pennsylvania, for all women to qualify themselves for greater usefulness in the Church, or home, or Sunday School, or in society.

This Institution is established not only for the training of those who are to be set apart as Deaconesses, but also for the instruction of all who have a mind to work for Christ in any department of Christian activity.

The scheme of studies includes courses in Church History, Church Music, Methods of Teaching, Business Methods, Home Sanitation, the Prayer Book, the Books of the Bible, the New Testament Use of the Old Testament, English Composition, Doctrinal and Pastoral Theology.

Instruction is given in all of these departments by teachers of large experience and culture, who devote their best energies to their work.

All of these courses are free. It is only necessary to apply to the House Mother, 708 Spruce Street, who will fur-

nish tickets admitting to the lectures which the applicant elects to attend.

From the first Wednesday in October to the last Tuesday in May, one lesson a week is given in most of the courses. A few of them do not extend through the year, and in some three or four lessons a week are given.

It would seem that there must be in this Diocese many earnest-minded Church-women, who, if they knew of the opportunity which here exists, would be glad to make use of it. There are many teachers in our Sunday Schools who would be greatly benefited by taking one or more of these courses. And there are, doubtless, many not actively engaged in teaching or any parochial or missionary work, who would find their religious life deepened, and their grasp of truth and duty made stronger, by giving a little of their time to such systematic study of some department of Christian doctrine, or history or work, as taking up one or more of these courses would require.

Following will be found the Scheme of Studies for the coming year, with the names of the Faculty and Instructors, and I earnestly invite your attention to a consideration of the benefits which may be derived from their teaching.

Faithfully yours,

O. W. WHITAKER.

SCHEME OF STUDIES.

House Year, 1895-1896.

FIRST YEAR'S CLASS

MONDAY.

A. M.—10-11—Ancient Church History, Rev. R. S. Eastman.
11-12—Pastoral Theology, Rev. Dr. Rumney.
P. M.—8-9—Training of Voice for Church Music. Rev. Julius G. Bierck.

TUESDAY.

A. M.—10-11—Bible Class Teaching. Miss Biddle.
11-12—Lessons in English, Miss McVickar.
P. M.—3-4—History of the Prayer Book, Rev. L. M. Robinson

WEDNESDAY.

A. M.—10-11—Acts of the Apostles. . Miss Coles.
11-12—The Creed. . Rev. Wm. Ely, D. D.
P. M.—2-2.45—
2.45-3.30—I and II Corinthians . Prof. Micou.
3.30—The Old Testament . . . Prof. Batten

THURSDAY.

A. M.—10-11—Business Methods, Rev. H. P. Fuller
11-12—Hygiene and Home Sanitation, Seneca Egbert, M. D.
P. M.—Practical Training.

SECOND YEAR'S CLASS.

MONDAY.

A. M.—10-11—The New Testament Use of the Old Testament, Rev. Dr. Perry.
11-12—Modern Church History, Rev. J. R. Moses,
P. M.—Practical Training.

TUESDAY.

A. M.—10-11—Bible Class Teaching . Miss Biddle.
11-12—
P. M.—4-5—Studies in Early Liturgies, Rev. L. M. Robinson.

WEDNESDAY.

A. M.—10-11—The Thirty-nine Articles, Rev. Wm. Ely, D. D.
11-12—St. Paul's Epistles . . . Miss Coles.
P. M.—2-2.45—General Epistles . . Prof. Micou.
2.45-3.30—
3.30—The Old Testament . . Prof. Batten.

THURSDAY.

A. M.—10-11—Emergencies (Adv. Term), Seneca Egbert, M. D.
P. M.—Practical Training.

FRIDAY.

Practical Training.

SATURDAY.

A. M.—9—Missionary Society.

All of these courses are free to day Students. The only charge is for the necessary books. Tickets for any course can be obtained by applying to the House Mother, 708 Spruce Street.

Application for Admission as residents should be sent to Admission Committee, 708 Spruce St., Philadelphia.

The School Year begins Wednesday, October 2, 1895.

Cut of the Church.

We print on opposite page an impression from a cut of the Church which was made for a Church Pictorial Directory, lately published for this city.

Canon Liddon on Worship.

This is what the celebrated Canon Liddon has to say on the *discipline* of worship:

"No doubt worship is a means of grace. It puts us in possession of spiritual power otherwise unattainable, so far as we know. It has wider results when it takes the energetic forms of supplication and intercession, and asks and receives blessings, temporal and spiritual, from the source of all good. But apart from these possible effects, an act of worship is itself a training of our life beyond the grave, and for the great change which leads to it. In sincere worship we shut out the things and thoughts of sense and time, we cleanse the inner temple of the tables of the money-changers and the seats of them that sell doves; we cleanse it, if need be, by a stern effort of the will. When we enter thus in spirit, in the train of our great High Priest, within the veil, and behold the realities over which death has no power, and which have no relation to time—the everlasting throne, the unending intercession, the countless intelligences who worship and who serve; their ceaseless and consummate activity, which is a perpetual rest, we are not only insensibly affected with the light which streams from that other world, we learn how to behave ourselves in that majestic Presence. We learn the manners of another climate, the habits of a higher society before our time. Thus worship is a training for death. Each sincere act of worship involves that self-detachment from the world, which will be a necessity for the dying. Each sincere act of worship trains the soul to gaze beforehand on the sights and hear the sounds which will burst on it in all their awe and beauty as it crosses the threshold of eternity."

ESTABLISHED 1862
KINDIG BROTHERS
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Sole Agents for the Celebrated Brands of
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The Ascension News.

Vol. VIII. PHILADELPHIA, NOVEMBER, 1895. No. 9

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH ALL SEATS FREE

RECTOR:

REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:

REV. LOUIS A. LANPHER.
1229 Locust St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:

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CHARLES L. S. TINGLEY.

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SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:

Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P M.

DAILY:

Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to John Hazlehurst Mason, 611-613 Chestnut Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

KALENDAR.—NOVEMBER

1 All Saints—Fast.
3 Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity.
8 Friday—Fast.
10 Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity.
15 Friday—Fast.
17 Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity.
22 Friday—Fast.
24 Sunday next before Advent.
28 S. Andrew.
29 Friday—Fast.

GUILD MEETINGS.

4 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild Other Mondays, Recreation.
5 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
12 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Fourth Tuesday, Recreation.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. F. B. Falkner.
Secretary, Mr. Edward Carpenter.
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Mr. Frank Seddinger.

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS 3 P. M.

For Ladies, Mrs. Hodge.
" Young Men,

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

SISTERHOODS.

Of all the fruits of the revived life of the Church of England, following what is known as the Oxford movement, there has been none which has been more practically useful, or which is a greater proof of the true spiritual character of that movement, than the revival of the technical religious life, that is of the communal life of men and women devoted entirely to religious objects.

This was the life of the Prophets under the old Dispensation, and it is admitted on all sides that they probably exercised a greater influence on the religious life of the Jewish people than did the priesthood itself. This was the character of S. John Baptist, the great forerunner of our Lord. It was the life expressly sanctioned by our Lord in the sermon on the Mount, and when He sent forth His first disciples, and said that he who was not willing to forsake parents and wife, and children, and lands for His sake was not worthy of Him. It was the life practiced by thousands in the early Christian centuries and all through, everywhere, down to the time of the Reformation. It is the great strength of the Roman Catholic Church to-day. There is nothing connected with it so beautiful or which so conduces to its spread and influence as the multitudes of men and women in it whose whole lives are devoted unreservedly to God and to works of charity among men.

For the three hundred years following the Reformation in England this fruit was not brought forth except in a few isolated instances. But with the revival of spiritual life in the middle of this century, came again the desire of holy men and women to devote themselves entirely and exclusively to the service of God and of His Church. Under the leadership of such men as Dr. Pusey and John Mason Neale and Dr. Carter, communities of women, and later some also for men, were formed. The former have grown to large proportions, a number of Sisterhoods have been established, and hundreds of women have thus devoted themselves, and are now doing most useful work in England and the Colonies, and in this country, which could not be so fully and efficiently done in any other way. Such communities also as that of the Cowley fathers, of whose work we have been able to judge by the residence of some of its members in this city, have produced some beautiful lives and performed most valuable service.

It is a matter of regret to us, however, that these communities have not grown more rapidly in this country. We have a few American Sisterhoods and one or two Brotherhoods, but they are not many, nor their numbers large. There has also been established in England and in this country, by the authority of the General Church, an Order of Deaconesses, which differs from Sisterhoods in that the members do not live in community or under a rule. They go separately to work in different parishes, and are set apart with a laying on of hands like the clergy. There is a house for the training of Deaconesses in New York, and another in this city, the appeal in regard to which we published last week. Others not intending to become Deaconesses can avail themselves of its privileges. Our preference is for Sisterhoods rather than Deaconesses. But there is a crying demand for both. Many of our hospitals and charitable and educational institutions need such services sorely, and in a great many of our parishes they could be most usefully employed. But the supply is not equal to the demand. Twice efforts have been made to get some sisters to work in this parish, and applications were made to the various English and American Sisterhoods, but none could be spared.

How is it that there are not more women offering themselves to this beautiful and most useful, and we are sure, happy life. It is for women what the priesthood is for men. How many single women are there who are now leading useless, uncared for, and unhappy lives, who might here find their vocation, their home and their happiness? Of course, a woman must have a distinct vocation for it, as a man must have who enters the priesthood. But surely there are many who would

find they had such a call if the matter was clearly put before them. Protestant prejudices and misconceptions in regard to it stand largely in the way of this. Let our women study what the life is and how much good may be done by it, good that can be done in no other way, and we are sure many would be led to embrace it. When we pray in the Litany that God would send forth laborers into his harvest, let it refer not simply to increasing the ranks of the Clergy, but let it include also the raising up of many, both men and women, to serve Him in all the various offices and stations in the Church, in a life of unreserved self devotion and consecration.

RECORD FOR OCTOBER.

Baptisms	4
Marriages	2
Communicants received	
" by transfer	8
" removed	9
" died	2
Burials	3

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$358 42
" Poor	9 91
" the Schools	5 50
" Diocesan Missions	3 50
" Mortgage	1 16
" the Year Book	3 30
Of the Sunday School	3 36
Total	$385 15

PARISH NOTES.

NEW WINDOW.—The last window that was placed in the clerestory was not satisfactory, the background and border of the figure especially not corresponding to those adjoining it. The firm by which it was made have now substituted for it another, in every way what it should be, and at the same time allows the Church to retain the first one, which it is hoped can be altered and placed in one of the other windows of the Church with very little expense.

NEW PIANO.—For a long time the piano in our school room, which was purchased and presented to the Church many years ago by S. Mary's Guild, has become so out of repair as to be almost useless. Last spring the Music Committee of the Vestry was instructed to effect, if possible, an exchange of it and the small pipe organ, formerly in use in the Church, for a new piano. This they have been enabled to do, and by the payment in addition of $50, have secured a really fine piano of excellent tone from Schomacker & Co. It will be of great use in the practicing of the choir, and in the music of the Sunday School, and for the various entertainments we have.

THE CHOIR.—At present our choir is in an excellent condition, and the Choir Master proposes to give during the coming winter a number of new Standard Communion Services and Anthems, and hopes occasionally to have the choir supported by some orchestral pieces.

THE WOMEN'S GUILD.—The Anniversary of the Women's Guild was attended this year by about thirty of the several hundred women of the parish, who should be interested and take part in our Church work. The annual report was read which will be published the first of Advent, showing what was done last year. And after apportionment of the work for the coming season, Mrs. John Mason and Mrs. Thomas Neilson spoke to the Guild in regard to the work of the Mothers' Meeting and the missionary work of the parish.

Most of the officers of the Guild will remain as last year. Mrs. Chandler Hare takes charge of the girls' department of the Industrial School. Additional teachers are much needed in this school, and in the Sunday School. And it is hoped that all who undertake work in these schools will be faithful and regular in their attendance. Workers are also needed in connection with the Mothers' Meeting and Ladies' Aid, and the Embroidery Class. These have all begun their sessions, the latter on Thursday morning at 10.30 o'clock, and 3 P. M. The Mothers' Meeting will be held this year before and after the service on Wednesday evenings, instead, as heretofore, on Fridays. This it is hoped will bring the members to the Wednesday evening service, which has lately been poorly attended.

Work on the annual missionary boxes will be shortly commenced. Donations for the carrying on of all these different departments of work are earnestly solicited.

WHITE ENVELOPES.—What piles of white envelopes some of our parishioners must be accumulating at home, for out of every ten sent out we do not believe that one is returned. Remember, the yellow envelopes are the equivalent of pew rent for the support of the Church, and the white envelopes are for the benevolent expenses connected with the Church. The work among the poor, the support of the schools, and the meeting of the obligations of the Church for missionary purposes is derived from this source. So every envelope sent out should be returned filled. A very good way to use them is to put one on the plate at a second Sunday service, or on a Holy day when there is a collection.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.—We are glad to say that the teachers and scholars are gradually returning to their places in the Sunday School, and we hope it will soon be larger than ever.

The Infant School has been removed up stairs to the end of the large school room, and the Guild room, where it was formerly held, is occupied by the Young Ladies' Bible Class, taught by Mrs. Thomas Neilson. We need very much more rooms in our parish building for these various purposes.

NAMES OF PARISHIONERS.—The clergy notice the faces of a good many persons attending the Church very regularly, with whom they are not personally acquainted. It is very much to be desired that such persons should definitely connect themselves with the parish, and at least inform the Rector who they are. He would be glad to know them, even though they are only attending the Church temporarily.

RECTOR'S CLASS.—The Rector has long felt that there were many of the young people of the parish growing up without the instruction in Church principles they ought to have. And while he has always been ready to give such instruction the difficulty has been to find a time when it would be possible for those who desire to do so to attend. Some could come only in the day time, some only at night. But as we have the regular instruction on Wednesday evenings during the winter, the Rector has determined to give himself an instruction on Wednesdays at 3 P. M., in the Guild

room, from the beginning of Advent until Easter. The first will be on the afternoon of December 4th. We mention it now, as that date will occur before the next issue of the NEWS. We hope there will be a good attendance. The class will not be limited to any age or sex. The course for this winter will be on the Prayer Book.

PICTURE OF THE CHURCH.—We have determined to print regularly the picture of the Church, which appeared in our last issue, on the front page of the NEWS, as we think it will add to its attractiveness, and make people more familiar with the appearance of our Church. The printer has agreed to furnish us with a better paper, which brings the print out much better.

ENTERTAINMENT.—Members of the Dramatic Club of St. John's Guild propose to give an entertainment on Thursday, November 7th, at 8 o'clock, in the Parish building, consisting of two plays and an amusing sketch by Messrs. Dooley and Perry. Tickets may be had from the Sexton or at the door. It is hoped there will be a large attendance.

SPECIAL SERVICE.—The annual meeting of the Free and Open Church Association will be held in this Church on the evening of the second Sunday of this month. An address will be made by Mr. Silas McBee, of Ashville, North Carolina, a very eloquent speaker in the late General Convention, and in the meetings of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew. We hope our people will attend the service in good force, that they may be enthused on the subject of free churches.

THE HISTORICAL SERMON on the the third Sunday evening this month by the Rector, will be on "the Colonial Church."

OUR DEFICIT.—Subscriptions to pay the deficit in the fund for publishing this paper come in very slowly. We know our people value this publication and think it useful. If it is to be continued, they must give money to pay for it.

SUBSCRIPTIONS to the "NEWS" since last issue:

Mr. H. C. Kerr,	Miss Drinker,
Mrs. J. Stuart Tait,	Mrs. Allen,
Miss E. Kerr,	Miss Revel,
Mrs. Diehl,	Mr. Theo. Ladd,
Mrs. Jackson,	Miss Gilpin,
Mr. L. Barry,	Mrs. Harmar,
Mrs Hiller,	Mrs. Milliken,
Mrs. Lescure,	Mr. W. C. Mayne,
Rev. G. W. Hodge,	Mrs. C. L. Leiper,
Mrs. Hodge,	Mrs. Anable,
Mr. Carroll Hodge,	Miss Simmickson,
Miss M. E. Pancake.	

We have also received the following donations for the support of the paper:

Mrs. Diehl, $1.00,	Miss Revel, $1.00,
Mrs. Jackson, $2.00,	Mrs. J. H. Mason, $1.00.

GENERAL CONVENTION.

The great General Synod of the Church, which meets once in three years, has just finished its sessions in Minneapolis, Minnesota. So far as the hospitality manifested and the effect produced in the Northwest where the Convention was held for the first time, the result was very good. But in regard to work done we do not see that very much was accomplished beyond the creation of no less that eight new Dioceses and Missionary Jurisdictions. The new Dioceses are one of Washington by the division of the present Diocese of Maryland, one of Western Kentucky, one of Southern California, and one of the present Missionary Jurisdictions of Northern Texas, and of Northern Michigan. The new Jurisdictions are one of west North Carolina, one of Northern Minnesota, and one of Alaska. These will add much to the strength and growth of the Church.

The rest of the time of the Convention was chiefly spent in considering changes in the Constitution of the Church, in order to adapt it more to the changes which have come over the Church and the country since it was first drawn up a hundred years ago. But so great is the conservatism of the General Convention, and the fear of changes and of names with which our American people have not been familiar, though they have been in use in other parts of the Church for centuries, that little progress was made; there was a great deal of very fine talking, but with little result beyond the educational effect which such discussion always has. At the end of the Convention a Pastoral letter was issued by the House of Bishops, which has to be read in every parish church in the land.

THE CHURCH HOUSE.

The new Church House at Twelfth and Walnut Streets is at last completed and will be formally opened on the twenty-fifth of this month. There will be an early Celebration of the Holy Communion at 7.30 A. M., a second Celebration at 11 A. M., by the Bishop of the Diocese with a sermon by one of the neighboring Bishops. And in the evening a special service of Benediction by the Bishop with addresses by one or two clergymen and laymen.

The House will be open all day for inspection. The House has been completely furnished throughout, and a number of special donations of furniture and articles for the Chapel, etc., have been made. But the money needed to pay for the furnishing and the completion of the House itself has not yet been all contributed.

WISE CONCLUSIONS.

The Bishop of Manchester said in a recent sermon:

1. That there is no satisfactory evidence that St. Peter was ever Bishop of Rome.

2. That there is not a shred of proof that the Bishops of Rome inherited St. Peter's apostolical prerogatives.

3. That there is no reasonable presumption that the Bishops of Rome were regarded as the supreme rulers and infallible teachers of the Church by the Fathers of the first four centuries.

4. That the Roman claims grew gradually in extent and general acceptance, partly through the influence of fictions mistaken for facts, partly through the ambition of the Roman Church, and partly through the favoring circumstances of mediæval life.

If these conclusions were accepted, then it followed that the Roman claims must be regarded as tyrannical usurpations, mischievous to Christian life and truth, and fatal to Christian freedom. As such they must be manfully resisted by all who were loyal servants of Christ, and who discerned in Roman errors and arrogance one of the most formidable of the hindrances to the progress of the Gospel. They all desired as heartily as the present Pope the reunion of Christendom. They all, he believed, did most frequently pray for it. But they differed from him and from the majority of Roman Catholics in their conception of the necessary means of reunion. They could not accept error and submit to usurpation. If there was to be reunion, then the first step to it must be the abandonment by Rome of claims and doctrines which had no Scriptural foundation, and until that first step had been taken they said firmly, however sorrowfully, that a possible union between the Church of Rome and the Church of England was nothing better than a sentimental dream.

The Ascension News.

Vol. VIII. PHILADELPHIA, DECEMBER, 1895. No. 10

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Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

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DAILY:

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Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

KALENDAR.—DECEMBER.

1 First Sunday in Advent.
6 Friday—Fast.
8 Second Sunday in Advent.
13 Friday—Fast.
15 Third Sunday in Advent.
18 Ember Day—Fast.
20 Ember Day—Fast.
21 S. Thomas, Ember Day—Fast.
22 Fourth Sunday in Advent.
25 Christmas Day.
26 S. Stephen.
27 S. John, Evangelist—Fast.
28 Holy Innocents.
29 Sunday after Christmas.

GUILD MEETINGS.

2 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild Other Mondays, Recreation.
3 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
10 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Fourth Tuesday, Recreation.

OTHER MEETINGS

Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3.00 P. M.
Mothers' Meeting, Wednesdays, 7.00 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. F. B. Falkner.
Secretary, Mr. Henry B. Hodge
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Mr. Frank Seddinger.

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS 3 P. M.

For Ladies, Mrs. Hodge.
" Girls, Mrs. Neilson.
" Young Men, Miss Maria J. Gilpin.

RECTOR'S CLASS.

Wednesdays, 4 P. M.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10 A. M.

THE LIFE OF A SISTER.

We spoke last month of Sisterhoods and of their great value to the Church. Let us consider a little more, just what is the life of a Sister.

There are two great purposes which have been in view in the formation of Sisterhoods, one is that of retirement from the world, escaping from its distractions and temptations, to give one's self up entirely to contemplation and prayer. Doubtless this side of the religious life may have been abused. There have been those who have embraced it in order to escape from evident duties in the world, and to enjoy idleness and indolence, and the spiritual life has not always been cultivated by it. But nevertheless we must remember that this is a perfectly proper and legitimate object in certain cases. There are those who are called to that life and who may be helped by it, and who doubtless benefit the world by the blessings called down by their ceaseless prayers.

The other and the great practical value of the communal life is work, the giving up one's self entirely and undistractedly to works of charity and benevolence. It is impossible for those who are living in the world and have many cares and distractions, to engage in church work, as those whose whole life and interest such work becomes. And a company of persons living together and pursuing the same objects can accomplish a great deal more, and do it a great deal better than if living alone and working separately. **This is the advantage of the Sisterhood life over that of the Deaconess. The latter are sent out in the world one by one and have to live where they can and work alone, whereas the Sister always has the companionship and the protection, and support and help it gives, of living with others under a rule and all having the same occupation.**

Hence the necessity, too, of the three vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. One entering a Sisterhood must give up all property, that she may have no cares or distraction to take her from her work. She must engage to be a celibate for the same reason. And she must promise obedience in order that there may be system and order in the work of the society, just as obedience to officers is necessary in an army. These vows may be either for a limited time or for life. And we see no more reason why women should not take vows for life than the clergy. Though, of course, in both cases such vows should not be taken until after long and careful consideration and the serving of a novitiate.

And is not the life of a woman thus passed, given up to doing good, every minute occupied, in the society of congenial spirits, protected from the dangers and vicissitudes, and many of the sufferings and trials which come in ordinary life, with a home and care provided for old age or sickness, not only a beautiful and useful life, but one more attractive and to be desired than that which very many women lead? And think what service it can be to the Church, how effectively such institutions can carry on good works which could otherwise be only most imperfectly done, the teaching in schools, nursing in hospitals, the care of asylums and refuges, ministering to and reclaiming the unfortunate and vicious, doing or superintending the various branches of ordinary parochial work for which it is so difficult to procure efficient workers, to say nothing of all the various branches of needle work in the preparation and care of the vestments and linen for the Church. These and such like things can be done by such societies with a regularity and efficiency which cannot otherwise be attained. There is a vast sphere of work for women in the Church. And to have that work done by Sisterhoods, or by such unskilled and unreliable volunteers as can be secured, is the difference between carrying on a war with a regular army or with raw undisciplined recruits.

Considering what a good and safe and happy life it is, we cannot understand how any parents can possibly object to their daughters entering it. They should consider themselves honored by having their daughters enter it, as by having their sons enter the ministry. And they do not give them up any more than by having them marry and

leave the paternal roof. And it is no lottery, as marriage is, an uncertainty as to whether it will bring happiness or misery.

And when we consider how useful a life it is, and how much need there is of it, should we not try to lead our daughters into it, and constantly pray God that He would put it into the hearts of many to embrace so beautiful and noble a vocation?

OUR FLOATING DEBT.

In addition to the mortgage on our church property which we have been trying so hard to reduce, we have been carrying a floating debt for some years. It has been the result of deficiencies at the end of financial years which have not been made up. And it has been increased during the past summer by the repairs we have had to make to our parish building and the purchase of a new piano. The amount of the debt has varied at times from six hundred to fourteen hundred dollars.

It has been not only a burden and an annoyance, but a source of considerable danger, as it might be called in at any time and the church might find it difficult to raise the amount needed on short notice. It is most desirable, therefore, that it should be got rid of. And the Vestry at its regular meeting held in November, resolved that instead of making further efforts at present to reduce the mortgage, it would be better during the present winter, to bend all our energies towards getting rid of this more pressing burden. The Warden, therefore, was directed to issue envelopes having "Floating Debt" marked on them, and to send them out to the members of the congregation, in place of those for the mortgage he has been sending out, and which are being returned from time to time.

He sends out as usual, also, envelopes for the Christmas offering that that may be kept distinct from the ordinary weekly offerings. It will be devoted as usual to the payment of the interest of the mortgage, which falls due this month.

We trust that these will all be filled and returned by those receiving them, and that each one will give as largely and liberally as he can to relieve the church of the incubus of a debt always hanging over it.

If fourteen hundred dollars could be raised in this way, it would remove from the church all indebtedness except the mortgage, and put us in a position in which we hope it would be possible for us to avoid running behind again in the future.

Record for November.

Baptisms	2
Marriage	1
Communicants added, new	1
" by transfer	3
" removed	7
Burials	2

Offerings.

For Current Expenses	$429 57
" Improvements	72 61
" the Poor	17 39
For General Missions	6 60
" the Schools	6 25
" " Episcopal Hospital	31 09
" " Mortgage Debt	54 50
" " Year Book	1 50
Of the Sunday School	4 42
Total	$624 03

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—We have thankfully to acknowledge the receipt again of orders for some 12 tons of coal, which are of such immense value to the needy members of our parish during the winter months; also provisions for Thanksgiving dinners, several large bundles of clothes for the missionary and benevolent work of the parish, and a number of volumes for the parish and Sunday School library.

OUR SCHOOLS.—The Sunday School is gradually filling up, now that the teachers are returning and new teachers have been obtained. The Industrial School opened very well and we have a staff of teachers in it this year which we trust are going to be very faithful in their attendance.

Miss Maria J. Gilpin has taken permanent charge of the Young Mens' Bible Class, as it has proved impossible to get any man who would undertake it. We know she will be very faithful in attending to it, and perhaps she will be able to secure a larger attendance than a man could.

RECTOR'S CLASS.—As announced last month, the Rector begins with this month a class on Wednesday afternoons at 4 o'clock, in the Guild room, for the study of the Prayer Book. It will be open to persons of all ages and both sex, but he very much hopes that the members of late confirmation classes and other of the young people of the parish who are growing up may attend this class, that they may become thoroughly grounded in the principles of the Church as embodied in the Prayer Book, and so be intelligent and conscientious churchmen and women.

BROTHERHOOD OF S. ANDREW SERVICES.—Our parish chapter of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew has resolved to try here this winter what is being done in many other parishes, that is, to have a special service on one Sunday evening in each month under the special auspices of the Brotherhood. Special preachers will be obtained, the choir will be strengthened by the addition of the young men of our parish Glee Club, and special cards of invitation will be distributed on the streets and posters placed in conspicuous positions. We trust this will have the effect of increasing the attendance and the interest in the night service. The first of these services will be held on the fourth Sunday evening of this month and the preacher will be duly announced.

THE HISTORICAL SERMON on the third Sunday evening of this month will be on "the Church and the Revolutionary War."

THE NEW YEAR BOOK of the parish was issued as usual on the first Sunday in Advent. Copies can be had from the sexton or found in the rack near the door of the church.

MISSIONARY BOX.—Our ladies are now engaged in making up our annual missionary box and will be very thankful for aid in filling it. They are very anxious to get it off before the very cold weather sets in, when it will be most needed. All

contributions of money should be sent to Miss Chamberlaine, 1313 Pine St., or any of material or clothes, to the church.

S. JOHN'S GUILD.—The proceeds of the entertainment from last month amounted to some thirty dollars, which are to be used in providing a trainer for the gymnasium.

S. MARY'S GUILD contemplates giving an entertainment some time in January, for the benefit of the church. For this they are being prepared by Miss Means, a member of the parish.

CHRISTMAS.—We shall have on Christmas day, as we had last Easter, Celebrations of the Holy Communion at 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 A. M., as well as in the middle of the day.

The service to be sung by the choir at 11.30 A. M. will be Schubert in B flat. The same service will be repeated on the Sunday after Christmas.

THE CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS, as usual, will be for the current expenses of the church and are especially needed to pay the interest on the mortgage, which falls due this month and other indebtedness. We ought to have $1000 on that day. Let every one make a special offering for this purpose, in addition to his regular weekly offering.

THE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL will be held as usual on Holy Innocents Day, Saturday, the 28th. The children will meet in the parish building at 7.30 P. M., and enter the church in procession where they will sing their Christmas Carols, and afterwards have their treat in the large school room. Special contributions for the Children's Festival and for the Christmas decorations of the church may be put in the alms box in the vestibule marked for them, or given to any of the teachers.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—There is hardly a member of our congregation who could not afford to pay 50 cents for the annual subscription and it certainly is strange that the members of this parish will not at least go this far to support a paper that would be a great loss if we should be forced to discontinue its publication.

Subscribers since the November issue are:

Mr. F. L. Wilson	Mr. Thos. Nelson
Mrs. T. H. Butler	Miss Parmalee
Mrs. J. L. N. Smythe	Miss Zantzinger
Miss Vogdes	Miss Harper
Miss Schell	Miss M. G. Harper
Mrs. J. E. Carpenter	Mrs. Pollock

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Platt Pepper.

For the deficit, Mr. Thomas Robb, $5: Cash, $1.

BOARDING HOUSE FOR MEN.

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew has opened a house at 1934 Race St., where men can have a comfortable home at the lowest price consistent with good food and service, the rates being from $4.50 to $5.00 a week.

Several such houses have existed in this city for women, for some years past. And it is as desirable that the multitudes of young men who are obliged to live here away from their families, should have similarly comfortable places to board in, and where they can have genial companionship and be under good influences, instead of the very cheerless boarding places they have been forced to put up with.

The different rooms in this house have been furnished by different chapters of the Brotherhood, and we are proud to say that room No. 11 was furnished by the Ascension Chapter.

An Illustration of Conscientious and Systematic Giving.

To the Editor of "The Churchman":

Believing that the enclosed letter from a hitherto unknown correspondent in a distant diocese will be instructive and encouraging to others, I beg that you will print it in an early issue. * * *

LEIGHTON COLEMAN.

Bishopstead.

Dear Sir: I am a poor man, and have worked for my living all my life, or since I was old enough. Am now sixty-two years old. Up to about eight or ten years ago, I felt it was impossible for me to do anything worth mentioning for the cause of missions or the support of the parish of which I was a member. I was always glad when I could give from five to ten dollars per year, but there was never any certainity as to my doing even that much. A clergyman one day handed me a little pamphlet on systematic giving, and I resolved to try the scriptural plan of laying aside a definite sum every Sunday for Christian purposes. I fixed upon a definite sum for minister's salary; another definite sum for diocesan and general missions; and another sum as a conscience-fund for the payment of old obligations. I do not think a week has passed since I made that resolution in which I have not deposited in my mite chest the sum of money fixed upon at that time, and sometimes I have done more, as for suffering churches at Johnstown and Louisville, and others. If ever a Sunday has found me without the money it has been deposited as soon as I got the money, and never have I borrowed one penny from that chest, nor allowed any one else to. I have made change from it, but never borrowed one penny. Since I began this, I have been enabled by the grace of God to break off entirely the tobacco-habit, and for six years I have not had the taste of tobacco or tobacco smoke in my mouth. My contributoins have amounted to between $40 and $50 per year, where $10 was a large average before, and very uncertain at that. Out of the conscience-fund I have paid my arrearages on subscription to my Church paper (some $22) and other old debts. * * *

Now, my dear sir, I do not say all this in any spirit of boasting—God knows I have little enough to boast of and a multitude of sins to repent of; but I say it to show others what they can do as well as I, if they will only make the effort; of course the effort must be earnest and faithful, and will admit of no trifling. My business is that of publishing a little seven-column folio country newspaper, with no country patronage to speak of, and only such business as comes from a little village of less than 800 inhabitants, and less than 1,400 in the whole town, and our merchants are mostly old-fogyish on the subject of advertising and do but little of it—don't believe in it, etc. My only object in writing is to show that small contributions if only regularly and conscientiously made, would fill our treasuries to overflowing and take away our reproach. All can in this way more than double their contributions if they will.

I am led to write this letter by reading an extract from your convention address in my Church paper. If these facts are of any interest or use to you, do what you please with them, but don't publish my name unnecessarily. * * *

The Ascension News.

Vol. IX. PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY, 1896. No. 1

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH ALL SEATS FREE

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. LOUIS A. LANPHER,
1229 Locust St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
CHARLES L. S. TINGLEY.

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2022 Evergreen St.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

SERVICES.

SUNDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P M.

DAILY:
Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

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KALENDAR.—JANUARY.

1 Circumcision.
3 Friday—Fast.
5 Second Sunday after Christmas.
6 Epiphany.
10 Friday—Fast.
12 First Sunday after Epiphany.
17 Friday—Fast.
19 Second Sunday after Epiphany.
24 Friday—Fast.
25 Conversion of S. Paul.
26 Third Sunday after Epiphany.
31 Friday—Fast.

GUILD MEETINGS.

6 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild Other Mondays, Recreation.
7 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
14 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Fourth Tuesday, Recreation.

OTHER MEETINGS

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SUNDAYS 3 P. M.

For Ladies, Mrs. Hodge.
" Girls, Mrs. Neilson.
" Young Men, Miss Maria J. Gilpin.

RECTOR'S CLASS.

Wednesdays, 4 P. M.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10 A. M.

APPEALS.

The Church is always asking for money. We have in this parish a collection at all the principal services. We have special envelopes for charitable purposes. We have a large debt to pay off. We have improvements and additions we want to make. We have Schools and Guilds and Societies to carry on. We have ladies especially representing the Church in the different departments of missionary work or in certain charitable societies. For all these things there are appeals always being made for money. And people say the Church is always begging, and they say they get very tired of always being appealed to. And they show they do not like it. They are often rude and disagreeable to those who ask them. If you attempt to do it, you see at once you ars giving offense; that those you are addressing do not like to be asked for money.

Now it is well we should have an understanding about this business. Let us think a little about it.

It is true the Church is always wanting money, and she always will want it. She would not be true to her mission and she could not do her work if she did not ask for it. But the Church is not a beggar. Nor are those who ask money for her, beggars. They do not come to you asking for something which is going to benefit themselves. They are simply telling you of ways and means by which you have it in your power, if you have the money to give, by which you can bless and benefit many people, perhaps generations. Is it not an advantage for you to have that information, to be given that opportunity? Ought you to feel angry and annoyed because one gives it to you? What sort of a Christian spirit is it to resent having benevolent objects presented to you? We can understand how one can be deeply grieved and regret that one cannot contribute to all these objects as one would wish, but what cause of resentment can there be in being asked to give?

Is not the secret of that feeling the consciousness that one *ought* to give, and we are selfish and want to keep all we have for ourselves, and do not want our quiet enjoyment of what we have disturbed? Ought we not to remember the need there is for money for all sorts of benevolent purposes, the good that could be done by giving, the blessedness of giving, the goodness of the people who take upon themselves to ask for charitable contributions—for we do not think any can do this from pleasure—and at least treat them with courtesy and make our refusal, if it must be one, as polite and kindly as possible, showing that we at least appreciate the work they are doing?

But you say you cannot possibly give to all the demands that are made upon you. That is true. Certainly you cannot give largely to all, but is not that fact made an excuse by you for not giving at all, or what you might give? Could you not give a little to each? And would that not be far nicer in you than to growl and complain because you are asked to do so? It may be your misfortune that you cannot give, but it is only your fault if you are displeased with being asked. No one has a right to resent that, and it is the manifestation of a distinctly unchristian spirit to do so.

Every one who has any conception of what the Church and her work is, must know that it is always needing money and must always be making appeals. And as those appeals are always for doing good they should be received in a kindly spirit. And our advice to our people is always to give something when asked, if it is for a Christian and proper purpose, if you possibly can.

Those who have incomes of three or four or more thousand dollars a year, can give their dollar or two dollars to such appeals, in addition to their regular contributions to the support of the Church, and never feel it. And those who have only their dollar a day, can give their five or ten cents, and even such contributions count up. If you give something you are aiding a good cause, you are manifesting a good spirit, and you will be well thought of. If you give nothing, it is probably because you are selfish, or too proud to let it be known how little you can give, and you will be thought disagreeable. At any rate do not re-

sent being asked. If the clergy do it, remember they ought to do so, and give them an attentive hearing, and such response as you can. Do not try to escape from an evident duty by shutting your eyes and pretending not to see it, nor be angry if attention to it is forced upon you. And we want especially to bespeak a courteous reception for those members of our parish who are good enough to undertake the task of making appeals for charitable purposes. It is good in them to do it, and you ought not to treat them as if they were making solicitations for their own benefit and annoying you by their importunities. They are rather conferring a favor upon you, than asking one from you.

Record for December.

Baptisms	4
Communicants added, new	3
" by transfer	3
" removed	5
Burials	1

Offerings.

For Current Expenses (including Christmas Offerings)	$1159 11
" Floating Debt	104 70
" the Mortgage	5 90
" " Poor	8 61
" Domestic Missions	1 25
" General "	1 25
" Freedmen "	1 00
" Foreign "	1 00
" Indian "	1 00
" the Missionary Box	67 50
" Christmas Festival and Decorations	22 34
" the Schools	4 50
Of the Sunday School	7 70
Total	$1385 05

Human custom is to be obeyed when it is not against the law of God.

PARISH NOTES.

Our Night Choir has been greatly improved the last two Sundays by the addition to it of some twelve or more men, members of our Parish Glee Club. These are surpliced and occupy one side of the choir stalls, and the ladies who formerly sat in the front pews sit on the other side, which enables them to keep time together and greatly improves the singing. Altogether it makes a very good chorus choir and adds very much to the attractiveness of our night service. We hope the members will be all regular in their attendance, and we shall be glad if others who have good voices will join it.

The Special Services inaugurated by our Parish Chapter of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew, on the last Sunday evening of each month, began December 29th. Posters announcing the service had been distributed in the neighborhood and notices put in the papers, and the result was a considerably larger congregation than we had been having. The preacher was the Rev. John Dows Hills, Associate Rector of S. Mary's Church, West Philadelphia. The preacher for this month will be duly announced.

The Historical Sermon on the third Sunday evening of this month, by the Rector, will be on "the Church after the Revolutionary War."

Christmas. — We had a fine Christmas day this year, and good congregations. There were four Celebrations of the Holy Communion, the number of communicants being exactly the same as last year. The choir was supported by eight instruments and gave us a very fine service. The offerings, including those for the floating debt, amounted to some $700. The Rector asked for a thousand dollars, which were needed to pay the interest on the mortgage on our property, which was due last month, and also a temporary loan of $500, which was due the end of the year. We shall have nearly enough to pay these and meet our ordinary expenses, and we hope that contributions through the envelopes for the floating debt will come in from time to time until the whole is wiped out. We have been especially gratified this Christmas by the contributions which have been made through the alms chest and in answer to personal appeals for special objects. It shows a readiness on the part of the members of the congregation generally to take part in and carry on the work of the church, and it shows, we suppose also, that times are better and people have more money to give away.

Children's Festival.—Though Holy Innocents' day came on Saturday, not a very convenient day for the purpose, the children's Christmas festival took place upon it, as it is naturally the children's day. After singing their Christmas hymns in the church, and a short address by the Rector, they were taken to the school room, where there was a brilliant Christmas tree, and they were each given cakes and candies. They were also entertained by an exhibition of slight of hand by a professor who had been engaged for the purpose.

We are glad to say our school has increased during the last few weeks and the classes are at last well provided with teachers. If these will be only faithful and regular in their attendance, there is no reason why we should not have a large and successful school.

Mothers' Meeting.—Eighteen members of the Mothers' Meeting were furnished with Christmas dinners, consisting of chickens or turkeys, sweet and white potatoes, cranberries, hominy, sugar, tea and rice.

The "King's Daughters" of Miss Anable's School sent full dinners for two families, and white potatoes, 5 quarts of hominy, tea and rice, 4 cans of corn, 1 quart of cranberries and 2 pounds of sugar in addition; one member of the parish sent a pair of chickens, and another, 12 loaves of bread.

The ladies in charge of the meeting have sent an appeal to some members of the congregation asking for $100, to carry on the work of the meeting during the present winter, not a large sum for the purpose. They have so far received money and promises amounting to $48. Are there not others in the congregation who will contribute towards this very benevolent work of aiding those whom we know all about, and who find it hard to provide the necessaries of life for themselves and their families, and make up the sum needed? Donations can be given to Mrs. John Mason, or to any member of the Committee.

The Rector's Class on the Prayer Book on Wednesday afternoons has been interrupted by Christmas day and New Years both coming on Wednesday. But it will now be continued regularly until Easter, and we hope that Christmas being over, with its many engrossments, there are more in the congregation who will have leisure to attend it than there were during Advent.

Missionary Box.—The ladies got off some time before Christmas, a very nice missionary box, valued

at $116. It contained, we believe, everything the clergyman had asked for except an overcoat, and a good many things in addition which he had not asked for. They were able also to send three small boxes or bundles to clergymen living in Minnesota, Iowa and Michigan. We shall probably have letters of acknowledgement to print next month.

ALTAR CLOTH.—The ladies of the embroidery class were very busy before Christmas in completing a large order they had received for an altar cloth, hangings, etc., for a church in Ann Arbor, Michigan. It was a very elaborate and beautiful piece of work, and by great exertions the ladies were able to get it off in time to reach its destination so as to be used on Christmas day. They will now have leisure to take up work at home, and to instruct any who want to learn the art.

ADVERTISEMENTS.—Are there not members of our parish who will themselves advertise or secure advertisements for this paper? We cannot meet the expense of publication without that aid. We know of cases where those advertising have received custom, far exceeding the cost of their advertisement, solely from the fact of their being known as members of or interested in this parish. Will not others try it?

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—Since the last issue of the NEWS we have received the following subscriptions:

Mrs. Jensen,	Mrs. Hulings,
Miss Dickerson,	Mr. W. H. Cope,
Miss White,	Mrs. Cope,
Mr. F. S. Keese,	Mrs. A. H. Miller,
Miss McElhinney,	Mr. W. M. Newman,
Miss M. McElhinney,	Mr. G. A. Nicholson,
Mrs. Waterall,	Mrs. Nicholson,
Mrs. M. F. Roberts,	Miss Grubb,
Mrs. Eckert,	Mrs. John Mason, Jr.

FOR THE DEFICIT.—Mr. W. P. Pepper, $5.00; Mrs. Waterall, 50 cents; Mrs. Jackson, $1.50; Miss Grubb, 50 cents.

MISSIONARY WORK IN LOUISIANA.

It gives us pleasure to print the following letter from one of the old boys of our parish, now the Rev. H. R. Carson, of New Orleans, La.:

New Orleans, Dec., 1895.

There are a great many powers which are adverse to the enlarging and the strengthening of the Church in this State. There is, first of all, the great population of French, Spanish, Italian and Negro, all clinging tenaciously to the habits of centuries, and refusing amalgamation with Anglo-American living; there are the results of that civil war which overturned so completely the family, society and commerce; there is the frequent return of adversity—storm, cold, short crops, low prices, and the like; and last of all, there is the indifferent and careless way of living which always accompanies life in Southern parts. These are real impeding forces to the extension of the Church, which many in the North do not appreciate. When they look southward they see an established diocese, and they reason, that there must necessarily be solidity and power; and then they turn their sympathy and practical charity into other channels, western and foreign.

These latter places have indeed their pressing needs, and they can all plead eloquently for your help; but harder problems confront the Bishops and clergy in these older States.

I am grateful to the Rector of the Church of the Ascension for an opportunity to write briefly of one particular work in which I am especially interested; it is, however, but one case out of many which are almost similar.

If one should examine a map of Louisiana, one would see a long stretch of land extending southward from New Orleans; the Mississippi river divides it; in some parts, there is scarcely a mile of land between the river and the Gulf of Mexico; this stretch of land is called the "Lower Coast of Louisiana." Two years ago a great cyclone swept over it and the neighboring islands that are all about it, destroying life and property. Some of the wave of sympathy which followed touched Philadelphia. There was great and terrible suffering, but perhaps it was dulled to a considerable extent by the very suddenness of it all; that black night, with its fierce winds, with the rush of overflowing waters, with its great, unutterable terrors, still lives in the memory of these people, but it is more like a dream than a once awful reality. Months of rain and sunshine have followed; other forms have taken the places of the drowned, and the night is only to be talked about as "the storm of October, '93." But last year, another calamity came upon them, and the marks of it still remain. As one passes along the road, close by the river level, and as the eyes look on the poor homesteads, there is something very pathetic. There are small, three-roomed, unpainted pine board houses; a little front garden overgrown by rank grasses, and most of all, there are the dead remains of what were once orange orchards. These dead limbs, all bare and black, are the witnesses of the second calamity—of the cold wave of last year.

Have these people no money, no lands, you ask? On every day set for the sheriff's sale, there is a long list of names published for unpaid taxes; and on every local train during the spring and summer season there are shipments of little boxes of vegetables; but it is a single barrel of cabbage by one man, a single box of cucumbers by another, and so on; the returns from such shipments are scarcely worthy of reckoning.

This is the material side of these people; but to this side, consider that they are of our own race, English and Welsh and American, and that they are loyal and faithful members of our own Church; of this side, however, I hope to write next month.

H. R. CARSON.

THE EARLY SACRIFICE.

Sweeter than picture painter ever drew,
The Altar at the dewy hour of morn.
The service set, and every avenue
Of worldly care, and every carking thorn
Of grief and mournful reminiscence drawn
As from Christ's side the bloody spear they drew;
And here with Him, a little band we meet,
The King Himself to greet.

Here seems the face of Holy Mary seen
In the red beams that through the oriels stray.
And all the saintly company between
The Chancel rails, in this the dawning day.
Oh, shall we in ignoble slumber lie
When here we feast with such a company?

Here is the Christmas of the incarnate Child,
The Easter of the Lord's own rising heim.
And e'en His death-throes in those moments wild,
All pass before me in the wondrous dream,
As I by faith upon the Altar see
His broken flesh, and blood outpoured for me!

Oh! blest reunion of the saints of earth,
And those who in the walks of Paradise,
Their earthly thorns for heavenly crowns lay down,
These too come here to glad these mysteries.

W. B. C.

The Ascension News.

Vol. IX. PHILADELPHIA, FEBRUARY, 1896. No. 2

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH ALL SEATS FREE

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Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

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Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10:30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P M.

DAILY:
Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

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KALENDAR.—FEBRUARY.

2 Purification B. V. M.
7 Friday—Fast.
9 Sexagesima.
14 Friday—Fast.
16 Quinquagesima.
19 Ash Wednesday.
23 First Sunday in Lent.
24 S. Matthias.
26 Ember Day.
28 Ember Day.
29 Ember Day.
All days in Lent except Sundays are fasts.

GUILD MEETINGS.

3 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild Other Mondays, Recreation.
4 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
10 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Fourth Tuesday, Recreation.

OTHER MEETINGS

Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.
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BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS 3 P. M.

For Ladies, Mrs. Hodge.
" Girls, Mrs. Neilson.
" Young Men, Miss Maria J. Gilpin.

RECTOR'S CLASS

Wednesdays, 4 P. M.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10 A. M.

OUR COMMUNICANT LIST.

Every clergyman in charge of a parish is required by the canons of the Church to keep a list of all the communicant members of his parish. The purpose of which is that the Church may have accurate statistics as to how many members there are belonging to the several parishes, and what is the strength of the Church at large. And also that the clergyman may know who the people are of whom he is the pastor. It is, therefore, a very wise and necessary thing.

But it is by no means an easy thing for a clergyman to do. For, in the first place, there are a great many persons attending our churches who never make themselves known to the clergy. They have been confirmed in other places, they are in the city or the neighborhood for only a short time, they are uncertain about their movements, they do not know where they will eventually settle down, or they do not wish to sever their connections with other churches, or they are careless or indifferent, or procrastinating or diffident. From one or other of these causes they never let the clergymen know who they are, though they keep coming to his Church and making their Communions. This is bad for the church and bad for them, because they do not feel that they belong to it, have not the sense of responsibility and interest in it which they should. And as they are not enrolled as members, the real attendance and strength of the Church is not shown.

Then of those who are enrolled as belonging to the Church, many from time to time move away and never notify the clergyman. Our clergy often spend a great deal of time and trouble in trying to hunt up and find out what has become of some of those who have belonged to the Church. And it is a question how long their names should remain on the register. A clergyman cannot go on year after year reporting to the Bishop persons as communicants of his parish when he does not know whether they are dead or alive, or where they can be found. Many persons are thus lost to the Church annually, their names cease to appear on any register and they to belong to any parish, or even to know any clergyman, simply through their own carelessness.

Then again, there are persons who have belonged to a parish and been communicants, but who cease to make their Communions, and it is a question how long their names should be kept on the list. We have no rule in regard to such cases. In the Roman Catholic Church if a man does not communicate at least once a year he is, *ipso facto*, excommunicated. But that seems rather arbitrary. Moreover, it is not easy for a clergyman in charge of a large parish to bear in mind whether each individual member on his list has or has not made a communion within a year.

From these causes, therefore, it is very difficult for a clergyman to keep an accurate list of those actually attending and communicating in his Church, although it is so desirable on all accounts that he should be able to do so. The only remedy is with the people themselves. They should be more careful about their Church connections, always seeing that they are registered somewhere, and in case of removal always asking for a letter of transfer, that their names may be removed from one register and placed upon another, and not to neglect making their communions, or at least notifying the clergyman if they have determined to cease doing so.

There is another fact connected with the communicant list in this parish, to which we want to refer, in order that our people may appreciate some of the difficulties under which we labor, and that is the constant changes that are made in it. To see this, let us look at the changes which have taken place since May 1st last, the beginning of our conventional year. Since then forty-two persons have been added to our communicant list by confirmation and by transfers from other parishes. A very fair increase for that length of time in a parish of some 500 communicants in all. But during that same time we have lost *exactly the same number*, which

leaves us precisely where we were in point of numbers. The causes of those losses were as follows: eight have died, seven have removed out of the city, ten removed to the extreme northern part of the city, five to the southern part, six have been dropped, one has entered the Church of Rome, one was made a deacon, two have left the parish, because it was "too High," and two because it was not "High" enough. This shows what we have to contend against in this parish. There is a constant movement of people from the southern part of the city to the northern or western part, and this drains our parish of communicants.

This is not the showing for the whole year, as our annual confirmation is yet to take place, by which our list will undoubtedly be increased, so that we shall this year, as we have every year, make an advance, but it will not be as large as it would be under other circumstances.

If we could only hold on to all our old members, as well as gain new ones, our church would soon be filled to overflowing.

Record for January.

Baptisms	1
Marriages	3
Communicants added, new	1
" by transfer	4
" removed	4
" died	2
Burials	3

Offerings.

For Current Expenses (including some additional Christmas Offerings)	$ 351 25
" Floating Debt	5 90
" the Mortgage	10 00
" " Poor	6 24
" " Mothers' Meeting	33 00
" General Missions	5 75
" Freedmen "	57 00
" the Schools	1 00
" Church Building	1 00
Of the Sunday School	5 67
Total	$ 476 81

PARISH NOTES.

DONATIONS.— We desire to acknowledge the receipt of a whole piece of canton flannel from Strawbridge & Clothier and one from John Wanamaker, obtained through two of the ladies in charge of the Mothers' Meeting, for its work; also the donations in money for the same work from some of our members, a full report of which will be made at the end of our financial year. We have again been able to obtain work from the Hospitals for the members of this meeting and this money enables us to pay them for it.

ST. JOHN'S GUILD enjoyed just after New Year a very handsome entertainment, given by Mr. Spencer Ervin, who has taken a great interest in the Guild. After some musical selections by members of the Glee Club, all sat down to a bountiful collation, served by one of our best caterers, consisting of fried oysters and chicken salad, ice cream, cake, coffee, etc. After which a speech was made by the Rector, and three hearty cheers were given for Mr. Ervin. In addition to the members of the Guild, the clergy, one of our vestrymen and the officers of St. Mary's Guild, there were present several delegations from other Guilds, whose hospitality St. John's Guild has at times accepted. It was altogether a very enjoyable occasion.

The gymnasium of the Guild has lately been improved by the addition of a very substantial ladder, which was presented by a member of the Guild.

AN ENTERTAINMENT by the members of St. Mary's Guild, for which they have been preparing for some weeks, will be given in the parish building, on Thursday evening, February 13th. The proceeds are to go towards reducing the floating debt of the Church. Tickets can be had from the sexton or from members of the Guild.

CONFIRMATION.—The Bishop has appointed the evening of April 15th for his annual visit to the parish to administer Confirmation. The instructions preparatory to it will begin on Thursday evening, February 20th, at 8 P. M., and Monday afternoon, February 24th, at 4 o'clock. All desiring to be confirmed are expected to attend one of these courses of instruction. And it is hoped that all adults in the parish of whatever age, who have not yet been confirmed, will avail themselves of this opportunity of being so.

DIOCESAN MISSION.— The special envelope for a benevolent object this quarter is for Diocesan Missions. For this purpose this parish is asked to contribute this year $108.22 and for the Sustentation Fund $35.16 making in all $143.38. It is hoped that this sum will be received through the envelopes and not have to be taken out of the general funds of the Church.

MRS. CARPENTER.—Our Senior Warden, Mr. J. Edward Carpenter, has the profound sympathy of all the members of the parish in his great affliction, in the sudden and most unexpected death of his esteemed wife. Mrs. Carpenter has been connected with the parish and deeply interested in it since the present Rector took charge, in November, 1880. Though living at a distance from the church, she was most regular in her attendance, coming sometimes even to the week-day services. For awhile she taught in the Sunday School, and has always taken part in the Guild work, contributing to its various departments, and for years representing the parish in the Foreign Committee of the Women's Auxiliary. We shall deeply miss her presence, her interest and her aid. In addition to her work here, she also took a great interest in and did a great deal for the Church at Salisbury, Mass., where her family homestead is, and where she always spent her summers, and also last winter, and where she now lies buried. The first part of the burial office was said at Christ Church, of which her father was so long Rector, and our Assistant Minister accompanied the body to Salisbury for the final interment. May she rest in peace, and may light perpetual shine upon her.

MISSIONARY BOXES. — The following letters of acknowledgement have been received of the missionary boxes and bundles lately sent out by our ladies. They show how much they have been appreciated, and how much good they do:

Belleville, Ill., Jan. 1896.

My Dear Mrs. Gilpin:

The box has arrived in good condition on the last day of the old year, and I take this first oppor-

tunity to convey to you our united thanks for the abundance of good things it contained. Young and old alike were made happy, as article after article was unpacked, and you may rest assured that your kindness was thoroughly appreciated. If at any time you can send Herman some more stamps, he would be glad to receive them.

All unite with me in wishing you and all others who have contributed to the box, a very Happy New Year.

Very sincerely yours,
JOHANNES ROCKSTROH.

Trinity Mission,
Caro, Mich., Jan. 8, 1896.

Dear Mrs. Gilpin:

The box of second-hand clothing you so kindly sent, came to hand a few days ago, after being delayed in Toledo, and you don't know how delighted we were to get them. Every article will be of the greatest service to us. Most of the clothing sent will need but very little altering. The lovely coat fits me exactly, and I am in need of clothing, and this has just come in the right time.

I have to drive fifteen miles across the country to Gagetown, and it is quite necessary that one should be warmly clothed, and even then I am so cold when I arrive at my journey's end that it takes several hours before I get thoroughly warmed. Still I don't mind it, for I always feel amply paid when I find a large congregation awaiting my arrival, and, although the winter has been unusually cold, and the roads extremely bad, yet I have not disappointed the people once as yet. I only hope and pray that I may have the strength to go on in the same way.

I am sure if the Women's Auxiliary only knew what a real blessing and help these missionary boxes are, they would feel amply repaid for all their trouble. Thanking you again for the box you have sent us, and looking forward to the one you spoke of in your letter, may God bless you in your work.

Yours, very respectfully,
W. E. A. LEWIS.

Creston, Iowa, Jan. 7th, 1806.

Mrs. R. A. Gilpin:

Dear Madam—I desire to thank you for bundle of clothing received in December last.

Your letter has been mislaid, which is the reason I have not written you before.

Yours, sincerely,
ARTHUR CHARD.

THE HISTORICAL SERMON by the Rector on the third Sunday evening of this month will be on the Church during the early days of the Republic.

CONFERENCE AND QUIET DAY.

The annual Conference of Church Women will be held on the second Thursday in Lent, February 27th, 1896, at the Church House, Walnut and Twelfth streets. Morning session at 10:30. The Bishop of the diocese will open the Conference. Paper on "The Spirit of the Age," by Mrs. Zantzinger.

Afternoon session at 3 o'clock. Paper on "The Home and its Best Interests, and the Home Makers of the Future," by Mrs. D. M. Lowry. Paper, "What can Women do to Hasten the Coming of God's Kingdom?" by Mrs. Mumford.

A Quiet Day for Churchwomen will be held at St. James' Church, Walnut and Twenty-second streets, on the second Friday in Lent, February 28th, to be conducted by the Rev. W. Hay M. H. Aitken, of the C. P. M. M. S. of England. Services at 7:30, 9:30, 10:30 A. M. and 3 and 8 P. M. The evening service is for all church workers, men and women. Please note, that the Quiet Day *follows* instead of *precedes* the Conference, to suit the convenience of the distinguished missioner.

ORDINATION AT NEW ORLEANS, LA.

The ordination of Rev. Harry Roberts Carson, at Christ Church Cathedral, yesterday forenoon, was a most impressive and picturesque event, a large audience being present, and the Bishop of Louisiana officiating. Mr. Carson has been in charge of the Episcopal Church work in Pattison and along the Teche and the lower coast, and has a wide circle of acquaintanceship, both in the city and throughout the State.

Mr. Carson was born in Pennsylvania, near Norristown, in December, 1869. He was descended on his mother's side from an old Quaker family. His early education was obtained in the schools of Norristown and Philadelphia, and was supplemented by a sojourn at a military school in his native State. In 1891 he went to Mexico as an assayer in the employ of an important mining company. He resided principally at San Luis Potosi. Returning to this country in 1892, he soon afterwards entered the University of the South, at Sewanee, and underwent a course in the Theological Seminary of that institution. Leaving that institution, Mr. Carson came to this city, and after attending lectures here was admitted to deacon's orders about twelve months ago, and assigned to the charge which he has filled up to the present moment. Mr. Carson has had considerable experience as a literary worker, having at several times been associated with college and amateur papers, contributing to magazines, etc. He was a prominent member of an organization of amateur writers and publishers, the National Amateur Press Association. He has lately been publishing a small church paper, as an adjunct to his church work in Pattison.

The Cathedral was very prettily decorated yesterday with the evergreens remaining from the Christmas ceremonies. Bishop Sessums was assisted in the ordination by Dean Paradise. The latter delivered the ordination sermon, taking as his text, "The Church of the Living God," an excerpt from I Timothy, iii, 15.

The Bishop celebrated the Communion, after which the services were closed. Mr. Carson was tendered a multitude of congratulations. He will reside in town, but have charge of the field embracing Cheniere Caminada and the lower coast, Pattison and Hammond, the latter being his especial charge.

LAW OF THE CHURCH.

TITLE II., CANON 12.

Regulations Respecting the Laity.

§ 1. A communicant removing from one parish to another shall procure from the Rector (if any) of the Parish of his last residence, or if there be no Rector, from one of the Wardens, a certificate stating that he or she is a Communicant in good standing; and the Rector of the Parish or Congregation, to which he or she removes, shall not be required to receive him or her as a Communicant until such letter is produced.

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Vol. IX. PHILADELPHIA, MARCH, 1896. No. 3

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KALENDAR—MARCH.

1 Second Sunday in Lent.
8 Third " "
15 Fourth " "
22 Passion Sunday.
25 Annunciation B. V. M.
29 Palm Sunday.
30 Monday before Easter.
31 Tuesday " "

All days in Lent except Sundays are fasts.

GUILD MEETINGS.

2 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild Other Mondays, Recreation.
3 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
10 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

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SUNDAYS 3 P. M.

For Ladies, Mrs. Hodge.
" Girls, Mrs. Neilson.
" Young Men, Miss Maria J. Gilpin.

RECTOR'S CLASS.

Wednesdays, 4 P. M.

CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTIONS.

Mondays, 4 P. M. Thursdays, 8 P. M.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10 A. M.

OUR EASTER OFFERING.

On the morning of the first Sunday in Lent our Rector preached a sermon on the duty of conscientious giving for the support of the church. He pointed out that while in other churches this is made a matter of bargain in the sale and rental of pews, enforced by the presentation of a bill, in a free church, such as ours, it is left to the honor of those attending the church and receiving its benefits. And like all other duties, perhaps above all others, it is one in which we are apt to become careless. And as Lent is a time for self-examination and amendment, so all should use it for this purpose, among others, to see that he is giving regularly and fully as he should to the support of God's House. And as it is a time for self-denial, so we should use it for the purpose of setting aside a sum to be a special offering on Easter Day. The special object of the Easter offering this year will be the wiping out of our floating debt. We have also a mortgage debt we should get rid of, but as this is so large we can only hope to accomplish it by receiving from time to time large donations or bequests. And the Rector especially urged the members of the congregation who had property, to remember the church in their wills. Large sums are left annually to hospitals and colleges, why not to churches? To what better purpose could money be left than to endow, or relieve from debt, a free church.

But at present our energies must be given to removing our floating debt. This is the accumulation of several years deficits which were not made up at the time, and the cost of some improvements made this year. Can we not pay it all off this year, and then try and keep from having any more deficits? If our people will only be earnest and self-sacrificing in the matter, we are sure it can be done.

We subjoin a detailed statement and appeal in regard to it from the Accounting Warden. We hope that what both the Rector and Warden say, will be carefully considered and their suggestions followed and the full $1673.00 asked for be raised.

Statement by the Accounting Warden.

We wish to say a word on the financial question, and will preface it by a statement from the Warden's books. Our liabilities to April 1st, next, are about as follows:

Salaries	$786.66
Floating debt, including interest on same	1478.63
Coal, balance of bill	100.00
Care of organ, etc	70.00
Convention Fund	108.22
Sustentation Fund	35.16
Gas and incidentals	40.00
Total	$2618.67

against which we will have:

Cash in bank and interest due	$345.39
Estimated receipts for March	600.00
	$945.39

leaving a deficit of $1673.28 to be provided for on Easter, to say nothing of the interest on our mortgage which will fall due in June, and to provide for which, we have always looked to the Easter offertory. Now, how are we going to meet this? Let us make a few suggestions; we all believe in fasting as a means of spiritual grace and strength, for our dear Lord tells us that in prayer and fasting only can we find strength to combat the evil one. Now, cannot we make our fasting a means of temporal good to our parish this Lent; we have, say, 500 persons connected with this parish; if every one of those persons will deny themselves something, cut down their lunch, give up cigars or tobacco, walk, rather than ride in the cars, and in many other ways we can save money, and benefit ourselves by self-discipline. Now, if these 500 persons will only average fifteen cents a day (some can save much more, some much less) for the forty days of Lent, and put it on the plate on Easter Day, we would have $3000, or enough to meet all our obligations and carry us over the summer. Now, my dear brothers and sisters of Ascension Parish, we speak of what we do know, for our Easter offering for years has been of our self-denial; let us plead with you as you love your Parish Church, and which of you does not? Practice self-denial this Lent to your soul's health and your parish's gain; lift this load of debt which hangs like a mill stone around our neck, and so greatly hinders us in running the race that is set before us, and in so doing you will gladden the

heart of your Rector and strengthen the hands of all your parish agencies. "For he that provideth not for his own, especially them of his own house, has denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel."

Record for February.

Marriages	2
Communicants added—	
By transfer	7
Removed	5
Communion of the sick	1

OFFERINGS.

For Current Expenses	$118 11
" the Floating Debt	11 05
" " Mortgage	55
" " Poor	4 65
" General Missions	1 60
" Diocesan "	2 53
" the Sustentation Fund	2 00
" " Armenian Sufferers	5 00
" Freedmen Missions	55 00
" the Prayer Book Society	12 00
Of the Sunday School	5 59
	$518 08
Proceeds of Entertainment by S. Mary's Guild for Floating Debt	35 00
	$553 08

PARISH NOTES.

THE ENTERTAINMENT given by St. Mary's Guild on Feb. 13th, was very successful, both in point of numbers attending it, though it was an inclement night, and in the character of the entertainment itself. It consisted of "The Peake Sisters" by some members of St. Mary's Guild, a pantomime, tableaux, recitations, songs, etc. The Guild was very materially assisted by the parish glee club, and some members of St. John's Guild, and also by a company of mandolin players, who most kindly volunteered their services. The receipts amounted to over $35, which will go towards reducing the floating debt of the church.

THE LADIES' AID will sew during Lent for the Sheltering Arms institution of this city. They will be glad if any members of the congregation will join them. They meet on Thursday afternoons, from three to five o'clock, in the parish building. Ladies preferring to do so, can take pieces of work home.

SPECIAL SERVICES.—The local Council of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew will hold its March meeting in our church on the evening of Monday, the 16th inst. The sermon will be preached by the Rev. Mr. Sterling, Rector of the Church of the Nativity, South Bethlehem, Pa.

Arrangements have been made for the special monthly services, under the auspices of the Brotherhood of our own church, as follows: Evening of the last Sunday of this month, preacher, the Venerable Archdeacon Brady; April, the Rev. Dr. Parks, Rector of St. Peter's Church; May, the Rev. Mr. Duhring, Superintendent of the City Mission.

The special historical sermon by the Rector on the third Sunday evening of this month, will be on the history of the Church from 1811 to 1836. We hope that all desiring to familiarize themselves with the history of their own Church, will attend the sermons of this course.

In addition to his duties in his own parish, the Rector has made engagements to preach during Lent in All Hallows Church, Wyncote; S. Paul's, the Transfiguration and S. Timothy's, Philadelphia; the Holy Trinity, West Chester, and before the Berkley Society of Yale College in Trinity Church, New Haven. This will take him away from the Church over a Sunday.

HOLY WEEK.—Our services in Holy Week will be as in previous years. The Procession of Palms before the Second Celebration on Palm Sunday. Holy Communion each morning during the week at 7.30 A. M. and after Morning Prayer at 10 A. M., except Good Friday, when the Morning Prayer and Litany will be said at 11 A. M. followed by the Preaching of the Cross from 12 to 3 P. M. There will also be Evening Prayer at 5 P. M. and a sermon on the Passion each evening at 8 P. M. On Easter Day there will be Celebrations of the Holy Communion at 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 and 10.30 A. M.

CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTIONS are given during Lent every Monday afternoon at 4 P. M., and Thursday at 8 P. M. Will not all the adults attending the church, not yet confirmed, present themselves at this time? How can they excuse themselves for not doing so?

DIOCESAN MISSIONS.—The special benevolent envelope for this quarter is for Diocesan Missions, that is for the purpose of extending and strengthening the Church in our own diocese. Any one who notices the growth of the city, will realize the need of building and sustaining new churches in the various neighborhoods where the city is growing, and the Church ought to be on the ground, abreast of the population; to do this, missions must be planted which will develop into self-sustaining parishes in time. But they must be helped in the beginning, and our older parishes are expected to extend this aid. As yet this quarter these envelopes have been coming in slowly, but we are expected to contribute $85 for this purpose; will not all give something?

SPECIAL ENVELOPES for Diocesan Missions, for the floating debt and for the Easter offering, will be sent out by the Accounting Warden to all the attendants of the church this month, whether they use the ordinary envelopes for the support of the church or not. The object of the envelope for the Easter offering is to keep it distinct from the ordinary offering for the Sunday. It should be extra and above what is given every Sunday, a special thanksgiving on that great festival, as the result of our self-denial during Lent. Every one will attend at least two services on Easter Day; at one put in the plate the regular envelope for the Sunday, at the other the special one for Easter Day, and let the latter contain as large an offering as you can make.

MORTGAGE DEBT.—The Warden has in his hands a little over $300 towards the reduction of our mortgage. Is there not some one who will give $200 for this purpose, to make up another payment of $500, which we can do at any time we have the money? This would reduce the debt to $21,000. We should like to see this done before May 1st, and feel that we have not let a financial year go by without some reduction of this incubus.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—Since the last issue of the NEWS, we have received the following subscriptions:

Mrs. Diehl	Miss Anna Macartney
Mr. Yost	Mr. David Rea
Mr. F. Kinzle	Miss Wurts
Mrs. Hawkens	Mr. W. C. Lloyd
Mrs. Bonnet	Mr. F. B. Falkner
Miss Barrington	Rev. Dr. Falkner
Mr. C. L. S. Tingley	Mr. E. W. Greenough
Miss Casey	Mrs. Chas. Loughlin
Mrs. Alexander	Miss Chamberlain
Miss Pierce	Miss Goodman
Mrs. Connelly	Mrs. Keese

For the deficit: Miss Wurtz, 25c., Mrs. Diehl, 50c.

MISSIONARY WORK IN LOUISIANA.

II.

I suppose we have all felt some degree of human sympathy with the old Covenanters of Scotland, when they would make for the open fields or for the dark glens that they might worship God. But it is infinitely more pathetic to see the efforts which are made in our day for rendering the offices of the Church. Certainly, the harsh pine-wood buildings, of the architecture of a packing box, and the harsher interior, with perhaps only the decorations which the unique estheticism of some rural mind supplies, are less inspiring than the fields and rocks of nature. And so, a little more human sympathy is needed at home.

There are many of these painful efforts at some recognition of God's service, all through our country, and, one thinks, a deeper appreciation of the meaning of the phrase, "the Communion of Saints," ought to make them less painful.

A few weeks ago I wrote of the "Lower Coast" of Louisiana, in a general way. There is one point at which I hold services once a month, visiting the place in connection with two others on the same day. There is an old school house here which is lent to us; in the summer it is used as a boarding house, while the Sicilians are having their boats made ready for their oyster fishing in the Fall. It is the plainest of plain structures, which is saying considerable. There are no other seats than of boards supported by boxes; and the only altar, pulpit, reading desk, or whatever one chooses to call it, is another box; upon it rests a white pitcher and a glass; a lamp and a Prayer Book. The pitcher of water is not so much for the preacher's use as for the quieting of the childrens' cry for a "drink." Just back of the preacher, the Mississippi rolls on to the sea.

There are about 40 Communicants and always a large congregation; there is no Sunday School. We can have practically the entire settlement if some little effort were made. No particular efforts have been made to keep them in the church, yet there they stay; they have no church building, yet they refuse to be dazzled by the splendor of frequent revivals in the only sectarian church building on the coast. They have nothing to move their affection or draw out their devotion —save the sermon of the preacher. They haven't even the smallest organ, and unless the preacher can teach them directly from his own voice, they sing doleful L. M. and C. M. hymns.

Nevertheless there is something very moving in these efforts at worship of God, and at keeping in Communion with the Church Catholic, and one feels certain that the Infinite Father must be moved too.

I might write much more, but this much is sufficient to give some idea of the needs of one place only.

H. R. Carson.

New Orleans, February, 1896.

Perhaps while you accept the principle of giving as God has prospered you, and are putting it in practice, you prefer not to have your name printed. Send it on just the same; your wishes shall be repected.

"Evil is never so deadly as when it puts on an air of respectability."

"Churches Suitable for the Poor."

It is said that the spiritual wants of the poor should be provided for by the building of cheap churches and chapels in poor localities which shall be suitable churches for the poor. Now, I hate the very words, "churches suitable for the poor." It is in the very poorest neighborhood that one should desire to have the most beautiful church that can be built. When you look at the dull monotony of the daily life of the poor, with so little that is beautiful in it, surely it is desirable that the one place in the parish to which they may have free resort and access—the house of their Common Father—should be a place that shall bring some of the beauty and grace, and something of the sense of human brotherhood, into their weary and saddened lives.

I hold that it is not well, even in the interests of the rich, to have cheap churches for the poor. It is not a wise thing nor a safe thing that wealth and rank and respectability should have one place of worship on Sunday, and that the poor should have another. One of the sorest and saddest evils of nineteenth century life is the ever-widening chasm which separates class from class and rank from rank; and those who care for the State tremble to see the ever-widening gulf in the Forum into which they may yet see more than one of their most precious things cast before it is closed. I do not say that separation of classes is only caused by the separation on Sundays of which I have been speaking, but I do say that it is enhanced and increased by it. We cannot overestimate the healing and uniting influence of a common sanctuary for rich and poor, in which they may feel, in the highest sense of it, their religious equality, and that there is at least one place on this side of the grave where rich and poor may meet together.— *Bishop Magee's Speech in the House of Lords, 1886.*

"The heart knoweth his own bitterness."

The world is full of aching hearts,
Each with its own unrest;
And Satan forms his poisoned darts
For every human breast.

Some cry aloud beneath the load
Of over-mastering sin;
The heart all bleeding with the goad
That conscience presseth in.

Some weep alone in bitter grief,
Sore longing for the hour
When death itself shall bring relief
From Satan's awful power.

And oh! for hearts in anguish rent
With slander's bitter tongue,
Bearing the woe in secret sent
By which the soul is wrung;

Crushed, bruised and bleeding, by the hand
That should defend and shield;
Struck by the brother, who should stand
In life's sad battle-field,

To turn aside th' envenomed dart
Of envy, malice, hate,
And nobly bear a brother's part,
And share a brother's fate.

O! pity show the aching heart!
Turn not away in scorn;
Lest mercy from thy life depart,
Which should thy life adorn.

'Tis better far with love to hide
The shame (if shame there be),
Than e'er a brother's name deride,
And lose thy charity!

H. G. B.

"It is a part of our perfection to find ourselves imperfect."

The Ascension News.

Vol. IX. PHILADELPHIA, APRIL, 1896. No. 4

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Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

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KALENDAR—APRIL.

1 Wednesday before Easter—Fast.
2 Maundy Thursday—Fast.
3 Good Friday—Fast.
4 Easter Even—Fast.
5 Easter Day.
6 Monday in Easter Week.
7 Tuesday in " "
10 Friday—Fast.
12 Low Sunday.
17 Friday—Fast.
19 Second Sunday after Easter.
24 Friday—Fast.
25 St. Mark's, Evangelist.
26 Third Sunday after Easter.

GUILD MEETINGS.

6 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild Other Mondays, Recreation.
7 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
14 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3.00 P. M.
Mothers' Meeting, Wednesdays, 7.00 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. F. B. Falkner.
Secretary, Mr. Henry B. Hodge
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Mr. Frank Seddinger.

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS 3 P. M.

For Girls, Mrs. Neilson.
" Young Men, Miss Maria J. Gilpin.

CHURCH BENEFACTORS.

It has always been considered a pious and laudable thing to become a founder or benefactor of a church. In fact, most of the churches of Christendom have been built by individuals. Kings, nobles, wealthy men and women, have felt that the best use they could make of their money, was to build or endow a church. It is only persons of great wealth who can really do so. It requires all that persons of small means have, to support themselves and their families. And it takes a great deal of money to erect such a thing as a church. If it were not, therefore, for rich people, there would be very few churches, and those few would be very poor and unworthy of their purpose.

And to what better object could persons of large means devote their wealth? Is there any more beneficent institution in the world than a church? What does it stand for? What does it accomplish? It is erected first to the glory of God, as a witness or representative of God, a witness to man's faith in God. Its erection is an act of worship, an expression of devotion and love and thanks to God for all His mercies. It is a constant reminder to men of God. And the more majestic and imposing a church is, the more it towers above surrounding buildings, so much more effectively does it teach the supremacy of God, and of His claims upon man's obedience and allegiance. And it gives opportunity for constant worship of God, for the lifting up of the heart and soul of man above the transitory and lower things of earth, to the higher and glorious realities of the spiritual world. It affords place for the administration of the divine sacraments, those instrumentalities through which man can gain the grace and strength he needs amid the toil and conflict of life. It is a place where the Word of God is taught and preached.

Its purpose, and its only purpose, is the blessing and benefiting men, and that in the highest and most needed way. What institution then can be compared with it in value, in practical utility?

Men often compare with it, hospitals and asylums, which minister to the sufferings and wants of men. And there is, now-a-days, much more disposition to build or leave money to such institutions, than to the Church, as if they were of more practical use, and because hearts are more readily touched by the sight or thought of physical sufferings. But is not the soul more important than the body? Are not the diseases to which it is subject, the most awful that can afflict humanity? Are not most of the physical ills from which men suffer, the results of sin? Is it not of more importance, therefore, to minister to the souls of men, even than to their bodies? And are not churches those institutions from which all benevolent agencies spring? Is it not they that inspire men to perform deeds of mercy and kindness? Wherever churches are built, hospitals and asylums spring up around them. Is not the first and greatest object, therefore, to which men can devote their wealth, the building and endowment of churches? We include the endowment of churches because that is necessary to put them on a permanent foundation, and enable them to minister to the poor, and not only to the rich.

It has been a natural instinct, therefore, which has regarded such a gift as a great act of piety, and has led men to bless and pray for those who have been the benefactors of their churches. In old times their names were always read in certain church services, and prayers offered on their behalf.

We wish our church people who have means, would consider more than they do, the blessedness of using their wealth in this way. And it is always our hope and prayer that God would raise up some in this parish, to be its benefactors. We have had some such in the past, for whom we thank God, and whose memory we keep green. May God send us more in the time to come. We have in this parish a central and prominent position in which a church can be always useful, but we have not much wealth here. May those of our members who have means, use them generously on its behalf, and may they make provision for its

work being carried on after they are gone.

ALTAR LIGHTS.

Some six years ago the Rector of this parish was offered two seven-branch candlesticks to place upon the altar for use, in addition to the two large lights. He declined them, however, thinking at that time that to use the two alone was more dignified and more in accord with Anglican precedent; at the same time he said that if another use should become general in this country, he would not hold out against it, as he would not wish to be singular. He feels now that that time has come. In every church in this diocese in which lights are in use on the altar, there are more than two, even in old St. Peter's Church. And such is the case generally throughout the country. Trinity Church, New York, which, from its great wealth, would naturally set the standard for this country, and which formerly had only two candles on its altar, has now a number. The Rector has determined, therefore, to comply with this general custom and has accepted the gift of some additional candlesticks which will be used for the first time on Easter Day.

This will also enable us to observe the rule, which has also become the general use in America, of lighting the two larger candles only at the Celebration of the Holy Communion, and using the smaller ones as Vesper lights.

The use of these additional lights will certainly add to the beauty and brilliancy of the altar.

The Rector also proposes beginning with Easter, to use the invocation of the Blessed Name before the sermon, which has become quite a general custom among all classes of churchmen. The choir and congregation will, of course, remain standing while the invocation is made.

REVERENCE.

We want to speak again to our people about the way in which some of them come in and go out of the church, even in the most solemn parts of the service. While we think it is better that people should come to church, even if it is only for a part of the service, if they cannot stay all through, than not come at all, we think they should make their coming or going as unobtrusive as possible, during the singing of a hymn, or when it will be least noticed. But we see some persons will come in or go out of church even during the Prayer of Consecration in the Celebration, or just a few minutes before the service will close. Surely this is not reverent, and it is very annoying to those who remain. Whichever service you select to attend, you should be there at the beginning and remain until the end, unless under very extraordinary circumstances. We certainly ought to make all other occupations give way to the solemn and important act of worshipping Almighty God in His sanctuary. We hope we shall notice some improvement in the conduct of the congregation in this respect. It is not treating God's worship as we should, to be careless about being there at its beginning, or hurrying away needlessly before its close.

Record for March.

Baptism	1
Marriage	1
Communicants added—	
By transfer	5
Removed	3
Died	1
Communion of the sick	1
Burial	1

OFFERINGS.

For Current Expenses	$500 12
" the Floating Debt	13 30
" " Mortgage	1 35
" " Poor	6 51
" General Missions	1 50
" Diocesan "	15 11
" Foreign "	3 00
" Flowers	25 35
" the Schools	1 00
Of the Sunday School	6 87
	$574 14

PARISH NOTES.

Gifts to the Church.—Set of red silk book markers with metal crosses, embroidery of amice, 16 volumes for the Sunday School library, two large Bibles and a number of prayer books, pen wiper for Sacristy, piece of material for choir cottas, several pieces of material for work of Ladies' Aid, bundle of material for sewing school work, bundles of clothing, shoes, etc., for the poor.

In addition to the above, the Embroidery Committee of the Altar Chapter of the Women's Guild has made and presented to the Church House of the Diocese, very handsome green and violet stoles, embroidered; the church has also given twelve old Tucker's hymnals to a mission in North Vineland, N. J., and a box of articles for a bazaar, to be held for the benefit of the church in Lewiston, Maine, and a green stole to a mission in the South.

St. Mary's Guild.—Miss Means, who so kindly prepared the members of St. Mary's Guild for the entertainment they gave in February, expecting to leave the city for the summer, the Guild has been fortunate in securing the services of Mrs. McIntosh, a teacher of voice culture, in her place. She will meet with the Guild every Tuesday evening.

The Ladies' Aid have been very industrious during Lent, in working for the Sheltering Arms, and have made a goodly number of garments. We are glad to see a number of new members in the Aid, and we hope they will keep on coming after Lent is over.

The girl's class in the Sunday School too, which always makes up a missionary box during Lent, has a specially good one this year, which it is proposed to divide between the Italian Mission and the Church of the Crucifixion. Each will receive about twenty-five garments.

Good Friday.—The Rector is very fortunate this year in securing the services of the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Wyoming and Idaho, as preacher at the three hour's service on Good Friday. This is not an easy thing to do, and it is difficult to vary it year after year. And as

the Rector has preached it a goodly number of times, it is both a great relief to him and an advantage to the congregation to have some one else take it, especially when so popular a preacher as Bishop Talbot can be secured.

EASTER DAY.—The Celebrations will be at 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 and 11.30 A. M. We hope all who can do so, will make their Communions at the early Celebrations. The music at the mid-day Celebration, will be Schubert in B flat.

EASTER OFFERING. — As this number of the NEWS comes out just before Easter Day, we have time to remind our members of the amount needed in the Easter offering to wipe out our floating debt, $1673.28. This sum can be raised if all our people will give generously. It is a wretched thing for us to be behind in our current expense account, and we want to get this all paid up now, which has been hanging over us for several years, and then keep from running behind hand again in the future. Let us show that free churches can pay their way as well as pew-rented ones. But it can only be done by each member doing his duty, giving his full share.

EASTER FLOWERS. The congregation will remember that the Easter decorations and the flowers we have on the altar every Sunday, except during Lent and Advent, are provided by extra contributions for the purpose. These can be placed in the alms box in the vestibule marked for flowers, during the Easter season, or given directly to Miss Parmelee, the Treasurer, who would also be glad to secure regular weekly or monthly contributions towards this fund.

CONFIRMATION will be administered by the Bishop, on the evening of April 15th, and we are glad to say there is a goodly class in preparation for it.

THE RECTOR'S CLASS for instruction in the Prayer Book on Wednesday afternoons, will be discontinued after Easter.

QUERY.—The Accounting Warden would like to know who is using envelope 190, as envelopes of this number are being regularly returned, and he has no record whom they belong to, as they have not been used for some time.

NIGHT CHOIR. — Our music at the Sunday night service has not been so satisfactory as it is now, for a long time. We have really, a large, good chorus choir. The ladies fill all the stalls on one side of the chancel, and from ten to twelve young men fill the other side. It certainly adds to the attractiveness of the night service, and we hope will tend to increasing the attendance.

SPECIAL SERMONS.—The preacher at the St. Andrew's Brotherhood service on the last Sunday evening of this month, will be the Rev. Dr. Parks, Rector of St. Peter's Church.

As the night of the third Sunday in March proved very stormy, so that very few persons were in church, the Rector postponed the historical sermon he was to have preached. On the third Sunday evenings of this and next month, he will endeavor to cover the remaining history of the American Church from 1811 to the present time.

The night of the service for the Local Chapter of the Brotherhood, also proved very stormy, only about fifty members of the Brotherhood being present. But they had a nice service, with a full choir and good sermon.

SUBSCRIPTIONS. —Since the last issue of the NEWS, we have received the following subscriptions:

Mrs. Knowles	Dr. T. R. Neilson
Miss Miles	Mr. Sam'l Wetherill
Mr. D. J. Bullock.	Miss Wagner
Mrs. R. H. Larzelere	Mrs. Barrett
Miss Rousseau	Mrs. J. M. Wigman

Miss O'Hara

The NEWS is greatly in need of funds to liquidate our printer's account, and we hope that those who are in arrears in their subscription, will remit as soon as possible, and that all who can will make a special donation in addition to enable us to discharge our indebtedness.

Bright Easter-Day.

Bright Easter-Day! Dear Easter-day!
Day on which our Lord arose;
Chase all the clouds of doubt away,
CHRIST has triumphed o'er our foes.
JESU CHRISTUS, ALLELUIA!

Bright Easter-Day! Dear Easter-Day!
Day of days the very best;
Lift up thine eyes poor soul to-day,
CHRIST has conquered—thou shalt rest.
JESU CHRISTUS, ALLELUIA!

Bright Easter-Day! Dear Easter-Day!
Songs of joy to-day we raise,
Glad songs to cheer our onward way,
Songs of love, and songs of praise.
JESU CHRISTUS, ALLELUIA!

Bright Easter-Day! Dear Easter-Day!
LORD, Thy day of power, this;
We praise in song, in song we pray,
May our souls partake Thy bliss.
JESU CHRISTUS, ALLELUIA!

H. G. B.

How to Meet the Evils that Prevail Now in Society.

Christianity and puritanism give different answers to the question.

There are evils that come from appetite.

Puritanism says: Abolish alcohol; then there will be no drunkenness.

Christianity says: Make the man strong to rule himself; teach him how to use alcohol, and what it is for.

There are evils of an illicit imagination appealed to by licentious pictures, by evil novels, by a corrupt drama.

Puritanism says: Take down the pictures from the walls and destroy the statues; burn up the novels, shut the door of the theatre and drive the actors to more useful labor.

Christianity says: Hang pictures on the walls; keep the library and theatre doors open, and teach men to make art and fiction pure and learn how to discriminate between the play that makes for life and the play that impairs it.

Property is a Trust.

Whatever you have is given to you that you may use it in trust for other. Every man who has property, whether it is one dollar or millions of dollars, is a trustee, and he will have to account for it—the use he has made of his trust. The men who have known how to use their property so as to clothe the naked and feed the hungry and help the suffering are on the one side, and the men who have not are on the other. This makes the real distinction between the worthy and the unworthy—the good and the bad.—

L'Avenir.

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KALENDAR—MAY.

1	Ss. Philip and James.
3	Fourth Sunday after Easter.
8	Friday—Fast.
10	Rogation Sunday.
11	Rogation Day—Fast.
12	Rogation Day—Fast.
13	Rogation Day—Fast.
14	Ascension Day.
15	Friday—Fast.
17	Expectation Sunday.
22	Friday—Fast.
24	Whitsunday.
25	Monday in Whitsun week.
26	Tuesday in Whitsun week.
27	Ember Day.—Fast.
29	Ember Day—Fast.
30	Ember Day—Fast.
31	Trinity Sunday.

DEDICATION FESTIVAL.

14 Ascension Day, 7½ A. M., Holy Communion. 10½, Morning Prayer, Sermon and Holy Communion. 5 P. M., Evening Prayer. 8 P. M., Choral Evensong and Anniversary Sermon.
17 7¾ P. M., Annual Guild Service.
18 8 P. M., Parish Tea.

GUILD MEETINGS.

4 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild Other Mondays, Recreation.
5 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
12 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. F. B. Falkner.
Secretary, Mr. Henry B. Hodge
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Mr. Frank Seddinger.

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS 3 P. M.

For Girls, Mrs. Neilson.
" Young Men, Miss Maria J. Gilpin.

A RETROSPECT.

At the close of our fiscal year let us pause for a moment to look back over the past and see what progress, if any, we have made. On the 22d of November, 1885, we took possession of our present parish building, holding services in the school room. For the year ending the 30th of April, 1886, just ten years ago, we received, through the offertory and subscriptions, exclusive of the Building Fund, $3666.23. This amount increased steadily until in the year ending 30th of April, 1891, it had grown to $8639.86, which was high water mark; the next four years averaging about $8000, and the year just closed about $8200. Now for the first five years we made substantial progress, for in addition to a steady increase of the offerings for the support of the Church, we raised upwards of $24,000 for the Building Fund. Of course, much of this latter came from outside the parish. The next year showed a splendid increase of about $2000, since which we have but little more than held our own. Of course, owing to the hard times of the past few years, we may say we have done well to be able to say that, but have we done as well as we can? Has every member of the parish taken the interest that he would in his own affairs? When the notice has been given through these columns and from the pulpit, that we were in debt, being dragged down and handicapped by an old debt which we did not seem able to get rid of, did every member of the parish set to thinking, "what can I do to help remove this incubus?"

Now let us make a New Year resolution, that by this time next year our floating debt will be a thing of the past. Let us work for it, scheme for it, pray for it. Our dear Church cannot do the work it should, the work it was set down here on Broad Street to do, with this hanging over us. It is not fair to our Rector to ask him to struggle along, year after year, to be met on each recurring May with this same old statement, we have about met our expenses, but the floating debt is still unpaid. No man can do continuous good work in parish or pulpit, who has to worry and scheme, year in and year out, to remove a debt, that like the rock of Sisyphus, ever rolls back upon him.

And we ought to be making advances. We ought not only to get rid of our floating debt, but of our mortgage as well, and have more money to expend on the benevolent work of the Church. In the position which our Church occupies, there are many ways in which we believe its work might be enlarged, if we were free from debt and could command greater resources.

When the King of Sparta was asked by the Ambassador where the city walls were, he pointed to the army and said, "there stands the wall of Sparta and every man is a brick." Now we are the walls of God's city, and every baptized person is a stone in that wall; it is for us to see to it that we are good, sound stones, doing our full duty, or there will be breaches in that wall to mar its beauty. Let us be good stones and fill up this breach in our walls, so that they may be strong and beautiful. Let us hold up our Rector's hands, that he may be strong to labor and carry on the good work on the foundations that have been so well laid. And then as good stewards of God's bounty, we shall hear, "Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

Record for April.

Baptisms, Adults	4
Infants	5
Confirmed	33
Communicants added—	
New	9
By transfer	6
Removed	10
Died	1
Burials	2

OFFERINGS.

For Current expenses (including Easter Offering)	$1,396 80
" the Floating Debt	92 37
" " Mortgage Debt	50
" Diocesan Missions	5 60
" General "	25
" Freedmen "	3 00
" Indian "	26 50
" Domestic "	6 00
" Tract Society	16 00
" Poor	17 66
" Mothers' Meeting	65 48
" Flowers	14 92
Of the Sunday School	4 11
" " Lenten Offerings for Missions	62 96
Total	$1,682 15

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Two seven branch brass candlesticks for the Altar, fine linen surplice for the Rector, two cottas for servers, two for cross bearers, eighteen for the choir, eight yards of mohair for cassocks, pieces of material for work of the Ladies' Aid during Lent, bundles of clothing, papers, magazines, and flowers for Easter.

EASTER.—After a succession of disagreeable Sundays, we were blessed with a glorious Easter day. The number of Communicants, we are pleased to say, exceeded that of any previous Easter, 373 in all. The Church was packed at the midday service, many going away, being unable to get in. Why they do not come in some such numbers on other Sundays, we do not understand. The Church looked very attractive, the additional altar lights of which we spoke in our last number, making the Altar appear especially brilliant. The music was unusually good, the boys sang very well and the orchestral accompaniment furnished by the Choir-master added immensly to the effect.

The offerings, with some amounts subsequently received, were over $1100. This was certainly a very handsome sum to be received at one time, and it was especialy gratifying to note that it was largely, nearly two thirds of it, made up of sums under $25.00, showing that there was a very general response to the appeals which had been made.

We regret, however, that the *whole* of the amount needed, $1673, was not made up, as there will still be a deficit to carry over to another year. We must work away at this until it is paid off. If we cannot do anything else, we shall have to call upon the ladies again in the Autumn, to get up some kind of an entertainment for the Church. But we would much rather see all the money we need come in by voluntary offerings, without the necessity of resorting to such devices to raise money.

VESTRY ELECTION.—At the annual election of Vestrymen held on Easter Monday, the following whose terms expired on that day, were duly re-elected to serve for three years: Thomas R. Neilson, M. D., Charles E. Bonnet, William Platt Pepper, Charles L. S. Tingley.

At a subsequent meeting of the Vestry, Mr. J. Edward Carpenter was appointed Rector's Warden, and Mr. Charles L. S. Tingley was re-elected Accounting Warden.

Mr. Samuel Wetherill, Mr. J. Edward Carpenter, Mr. Charles L. S. Tingley, were elected delegates to the Diocesan Convention.

DEATH OF MRS. STEVENSON.—Another member of our Vestry, Mr. Frank R. Stevenson, has been called upon to mourn the loss of his wife. Mrs. Stevenson had been connected with the parish since 1889, when she was living in the lower part of the city, and she became so devotedly attached to it, that on her removal to 19th Street above Jefferson, some three years ago, she would not consent to be transferred to any other parish, but continued her attendance here. She had been very regularly in Church this winter, nearly every Sunday, until within three weeks of her death, during which time she was confined to her bed. Her husband and children have our deepest sympathy in their bereavement, and we shall greatly miss her presence and interest in the Church. *R. I. P.*

DEDICATION FESTIVAL. — **As usual, we shall keep Ascension Day, the name day of our parish, as our Dedication Festival. We hope our parishioners will attend one, at least, of the Celebrations of the Holy Communion on that day, with the special intention of seeking a blessing on their parish. There will be a special service, with the full choir, at night, when the Rector will preach his anniversary sermon,** which we trust all will want to hear. On the Sunday after Ascension Day, there will be the annual Guild service at night. All the Parish Guilds will enter the church in procession, and a special sermon will be preached to them. On Monday evening, the 18th, will be the Parish Tea, to which *all* the adult members of the congregation are invited. This has been a very useful institution in our parish, and we hope it will be well attended this year. Of course, every one in the parish cannot expect to become acquainted with everyone else, but it is an opportunity for making friends, especially for introducing those who have recently come into the parish, and we hope for a very general attendance. Show this much interest in your Church by coming once a year to this social love feast.

SPECIAL SERMONS.—In addition to the Guild sermon on the 17th, there will be the last of the Rector's sermons on the **American** Church, which will be preached on the evening of Whit Sunday, the fourth Sunday in the month, as the Guild service occurs on the third Sunday. **On Trinity Sunday evening will be the last of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew sermons, the preacher being the Rev. Mr. Duhring, the Superintendent of the City Mission.**

On the evening of the first Sunday in June, at the first of the twi light services, the Rector will preach a special sermon to the Philadelphia Branch of S. Barnabas Guild for Nurses, of which he is the Chaplain.

STOVE WANTED.—Has any one in the congregation a small cooking stove to give to one of our needy members? If so, inform one of the clergy, and he will send for it.

ENVELOPES for the coming *six* months are sent out the beginning of this quarter, as so many are out of town the first of August, it would be useless to send any out then. Accompanying those for the support of the Church, will be special benevolent ones for the Poor and the Schools. Please see that these are returned filled, and remember that the carrying on of the work among the poor, and the entire support of our Industrial School depends on these. If a sufficient sum was received through them, no personal appeals would have to be made. Those going away for the summer will please put their envelopes for the number of Sundays they expect to be away, on the plate *before* they go, that the Church may be in funds to meet its obligations during that time.

THE ANNUAL SPRING SPORTS OF ST. JOHN'S GUILD were held Monday evening, April 20th. The large number of appreciative spectators present stimulated the contestants to greater effort, thereby making the events more exciting and interesting.

The first event, running high jump was closely contested to the five foot mark, after which Mr. McConaghy's superior ability forced all competitors out; allowing him

to win by a jump of 5 feet 7½ in. First prize, silver pencil.

The Bar Vault was started with five contestants, ending in a tie between Messrs. Perry and Hindermyer. Prizes, silver studs and pencil.

The Potato and Indian Club Races were exciting and laughable events, Mr. Patchell winning the first and Mr. Reese the second. Prizes for each race, set of silver studs.

The Guild is greatly indebted to Messrs. Toothacre, Uhler and Moore for their interesting exhibitions of jumping, club swinging and bar work. We also tender our thanks to Miss Vaughn for furnishing musical accompaniment.

Ducking for apples was one of the most amusing events, every one is familiar with this old Hallow e'en game, and can imagine the fun created. Mr. Patchell was the winner. Prize, a leather belt.

Putting sixteen-pound shot was won by Mr. McConaghy with a put of 29 feet 6 in. Prize, a set of silver studs. The running broad jump was also won by Mr. McConaghy, jump of 14 feet 11 inches. Prize, a leather belt.

The most important event of the sports was the Tug of War, St. Stephen's *vs.* St. John's. Both pulls were won by St. Stephen's, the first by six inches, the second by four. This would not have happened, had St Stephen's not made a serious mistake of 100 pounds, in the weight of their team, caused by inaccurate scales. The next time St. Stephen's pulls against us, we earnestly and sincerly hope that they will look to the accuracy of their scales, and not ask us to pull so much more than our own team weigh. St. Stephen's having a good pull, took the cake.

The prizes for each of the events were furnished and presented by our very good friend, Miss M. Gilpin.

NEW WINDOW.—Another clerestory window has been filled with the figure of S. Bartholomew. This window was originally intended for the opposite side of the church, but not proving satisfactory, through the liberality of one of our Vestrymen, Mr. F. R. Stevenson, it has been altered and adapted to its present position.

REPORTS.—We print this month the report of the Mother's Meeting, that those who have so kindly responded to the appeals for funds with which to carry it on, may see how much work has been accomplished. The money thus received by the members of the Meeting has been of very material assistance to them.

We print also the annual report of the Ladies' Aid Society, which met on Thursday afternoons during the winter, and of the Altar Chapter of the Womens' Guild.

We have already given account of the missionary boxes, except that to the Italian Mission, which contained 56 garments.

We shall print next month the entire report of the parish for the past conventional year.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—Since our last issue we have received the following subscriptions:

Miss F. Smith	Mrs. J. H. Botwright
Mr. Thos. Robb	Mrs. Leaming
Miss McCauley	Mrs. C. Buchanan
Mr. J. M. Harris	E. & A. Eppreeht
Mrs. Volmer	Mr. R. Gilpin

Annual Report of the Mothers' Meeting.

Regular weekly meetings have been held from November 13th, 1895, to April 22d, 1896, with an average attendance of seventeen, being an increase over previous years. The good attendance and interest manifested, the committee feel to have been largely due to holding the meetings on Wednesday evenings, which enabled the members to attend the services in the church first. As last year, work was obtained from the Hospitals, and the sewing has given satisfaction, and shown marked improvement. 530 garments were made for the Children's Hospital, and 414 for the Pennsylvania Hospital, making a total of 994.

A bountiful Thanksgiving Tea was provided for the members of the Meeting, and Christmas dinners for each. 19½ tons of coal were distributed or given in payment for work. 323 garments (partly worn) were sold or given away, and some pecuniary assistance given to the most needy. Three of the ladies in charge of the Meeting were very regular in their attendance, and another regularly visited the members in their homes, making 42 visits. In addition to the above three families were in charge of two ladies, who supplied them with Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter dinners, and various articles of clothing.

MONEY RECEIPTS

Donations	$ 96 48
From Sales	11 18
Loans	19 95
	$129 61

EXPENDITURES

Paid Women for Work	$ 83 54
" for Materials	23 38
Christmas Dinners, etc.	21 56
Stationery	1 33
	$129 81

MARY B. MASON, *in Charge.*

Report of the Ladies' Aid.

The work for the autumn and winter consisted in the making of 22 cottas and 8 cassocks for the choir and keeping of choir vestments in repair.

They also made 17 aprons which were sold at a fair profit.

During Lent they prepared a box for the Sheltering Arms, consisting of articles of clothing, valued at $35.

The receipts during the year from all sources have been $18.30, the expenditures $9.54, leaving a balance of $8.76 with which they propose buying linen for choir vestments.

The Society has received a number of donations of material for both the choir and Lenten work.

M. E. CARMAN, *Treasurer.*

Report of Altar Chapter.

Embroidery Committee.

The following articles have been made during the past year:

2 Altar Frontals
3 Super Frontals
1 Chalice Veil and Burse
2 Stoles
2 Book Markers
3 Pulpit Falls
3 Litany Desk Falls
1 Dorsel
1 Surplice
1 Chalice Pall

Total Money Receipts	$222 78
" Expenditures	135 03
Balance	$ 87 15

Committee on Flowers and Care of Vestments.

Two bouquets of flowers have been supplied for the Altar on every Sunday during the year, except during Lent and Advent, and extra flowers on the Festivals. The Committee also paid for the washing of all the altar, clergy and choir linen.

Total Money Receipts	$130 45
" Expenditures	124 61
Balance	$ 5 84

The Ascension News.

Vol. IX. PHILADELPHIA, JUNE, 1896. No. 6

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH ALL SEATS FREE

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. LOUIS A. LANPHER,
1229 Locust St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
CHARLES L. S. TINGLEY.

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2022 Evergreen St.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

SERVICES
DURING THE SUMMER

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.

Children's Service, 3.00 P. M.

Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.00 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS, 10 A. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to John Hazlehurst Mason, 611-613 Chestnut Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

KALENDAR—JUNE.

5 Friday—Fast.
7 First Sunday after Trinity.
11 S. Barnabas.
12 Friday—Fast.
14 Second Sunday after Trinity.
19 Friday—Fast.
21 Third Sunday after Trinity.
24 Nativity S. John Baptist.
26 Friday—Fast.
28 Fourth Sunday after Trinity.

GUILD MEETINGS.

1 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild Other Mondays, Recreation.
2 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
10 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. F. B. Falkner.
Secretary, Mr. Henry B. Hodge
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner, Mr. Frank Seddinger.

BIBLE CLASS.

SUNDAYS, 3.30 P. M.

For Young Men, Miss Maria J. Gilpin.

THE FUTURE OF OUR PARISH.

In our last issue we gave a retrospect of the recent history of our parish. Let us now look at the future, and see what is before us, for we must not think that our work is done, that we have now a Church completed, and well provided for, which has only to go on and fulfil its regular work. Our Church is not yet all paid for, and it still needs a great deal to make it what it ought to be, and enable it to do the work it should. And we ought all to realize that there is hard work for us yet to do, to put the Church in the condition in which it ought to be.

In the first place, there is the debt. The property does not really belong to us, the Church cannot be consecrated, until it is all paid for. And it is a great drain on our income to pay out over a $1000 each year for interest. The Church is not in a safe condition while this remains. It must be paid.

Then we ought to get possession of the corner property, and put a front to the Church on South Street, building a tower at the corner of the two streets. This would add immensely to the prominence of the Church. Now it is hidden, it is not seen above South Street. People speak of it as a little Church. It would make an immense difference in the appearance and attractiveness of the Church, if this could be done.

Then our Parish building ought to be enlarged. It does not afford accommodations for the work going on in it now. The large school room has to be used for gymnasium, choir practicing, and all social purposes. There is no Infant School room, no ladies' work room, etc. We ought to have these, and rooms for Assistant Clergy, etc. And it would be a blessed thing if we could have a house attached for Sisters, or Deaconesses to help in the work of the parish.

Then there is a great deal of ornamentation the Church needs; above all a handsome Altar and reredos. There are windows to be filled with handsome glass, the aisles tiled, etc. Then a sufficient endowment should be provided to secure the Church under all contingencies.

All these things we must keep before us. We cannot expect to get them all at once, but we must look forward to them, and work for them.

Nor can we expect them to be obtained by small contributions, no matter how many people we have contributing. They can only come through large benefactions.

Are there not those of our people whom God has given the means, that will be glad to use them in this way? And are there not those who may not be able to give largely in their life time, who will remember the Church in their wills? Every one who has any money to leave, should make their will while they have health and strength, and to what better purpose could money be left than for the freeing from debt and strengthening and extending the work of the parish Church one has attended in life? See what splendid work some Churches have been enabled to do for years through the pious gifts of those long since dead.

We pray God to raise up similar benefactors for our parish. It has a central, prominent location, where a great work can be done, if the resources for it are forthcoming, but we cannot "make bricks without straw," any more than the Israelites could in Egypt.

Let our people keep these things always before them, and by their own efforts and by exciting the interest of others, see what can be done. We hope in the autumn to see our ladies organize themselves in a serious effort to wipe out our floating debt and largely reduce our mortgage. One lady has already offered to lead such a movement with a gift of fifty dollars.

Let all take the same interest in their Church that one does in one's own home, and the ways and means to make it all it ought to be, will be forthcoming. But we want all our people to feel that there is much yet to be done, and that it will require effort, labor and sacrifice from all to do it.

Work for your Church and give what you can to it while you are alive, and leave what you can to it when you are gone.

Record for May.

Marriage	1
Communicants added—	
New	14
By transfer	4
Removed	8
Dropped	5
Died	1
Burials	3

OFFERINGS.

For Current expenses—	$589 98
" the Floating Debt	2 00
" Poor	16 95
" Diocesan Missions	50
" New Hymnals	20 00
" Mortgage Debt	25
" the Schools	3 00
" the Parish Tea	2 00
Of the Sunday School	4 73
Total	$638 71

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Three dozen new palm leaf fans, 100 new Hymnals, box of candles for Vesper lights, lot of large candles, bundle of clothes for the poor. A very nice stove for a poor woman was received in response to our appeal last month. An old black silk stole was sent to a clergyman in the South.

OUR PARISH FESTIVAL this year was kept with more interest than usual. On the morning of Ascension Day, we had, what we have always wanted, a really fine service. The day which celebrates the event to which the Church is dedicated, ought to be kept as the greatest day in the year, after Easter Day. The Choir gave us a new service, they had never sung before, and it was supported by some eight instruments in addition to the organ. The whole service was admirably rendered, we only regret that owing to no notice having been given of it beforehand, except in the papers of the same day, many did not know of it, and so the congregation was not large. We had a fair congregation at night, though we wish there were more in the parish who would attend this anniversary sermon by the Rector, and hear all the points in regard to the Church's work and progress it brings out.

The Guild service on Sunday night was a success. The Guilds made a good showing, and the Rev. Mr. Gilpin gave them a good, practical sermon.

The Parish Tea was largely attended, and as both S. John's and S. Mary's Guilds contributed to the entertainment, there was no difficulty in filling up the evening. The Rector said a few words of welcome to those present, and the Accounting Warden made a telling speech, setting forth what the Church ought to do, and urging the interest and efforts of all in accomplishing it.

Altogether we are sure the annual keeping of this Festival is proving of more and more use to the parish.

OUR COMMUNICANT LIST.—We note a large addition to the list this month, chiefly through the first Communions of some of those recently confirmed, but a good many names have also been taken off the list of those who have either ceased making their Communions, or have moved away from the parish. The Rector cannot go on reporting as communicants those who no longer attend the Church or make their Communions, nor can he give letters of transfer to other parishes for persons as communicants in good standing, who have for years neglected coming to the Holy Communion. There is no positive rule how long a name may be retained on a communicant list. Some Rectors strike off all who do not communicate within a year. But no one has a right to be regarded as in good standing if he has allowed years to go by without fulfilling this evident duty. Though, of course, he can be restored at any time on true contrition and amendment. But it is sad how many persons are lost to the Church every year through backsliding.

SUMMER SERVICES.—The usual change of services occurs this month. The Sunday 4 o'clock and 7.45 P. M. services are discontinued, and in their place will be the twilight service at seven o'clock, which has been found so popular in years past. The daily and Wednesday night services are stopped, but prayers will be said every Wednesday and Friday and Holy day, with Celebrations of the Holy Communion on latter, at 10 A. M., throughout the summer.

The Children's Sunday service during June and September will be at 3 P. M.

The Rector has removed with his family, to only a short distance from the city this summer and expects to be present at one service at least, every Sunday. Either he or the Assistant can always be seen at the Church after any service, on Sundays or weekdays. Persons needing the clergy for sickness, burials, etc., should send there.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.—Owing to the sickness of the Superintendent at Easter the prizes which had been promised to the scholars at that time could not be given. But they were given out last month instead. Twenty-three received first prizes for not being absent or tardy a single Sunday between Advent and Easter, and fourteen second prizes who were absent or tardy only once during that time. This is a good showing, and shows that the scholars are generally faithful and attentive. Seven received handsome prayer books for reciting the entire catechism.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions have been received since last issue:

Mrs. Wm. Drayton,
Mrs. John Mason,
Mrs. John H. Mason,
Mrs. J. L. N. Smythe,
Mrs. Carman.

We hope that all of our subscribers who received a notice with the present issue of the NEWS, of the expiration of their subscription, will promptly renew it, and send the fee to either the Rector or the manager.

THE NEWS.—There will be no issue of the NEWS during July and August.

REPORT.

The following is the report of the Parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop:

Baptisms—adults, 4; infants, 26; total, 30. *Confirmed*—males, 16; females, 17; total, 33. *Communicants* added—new 29, by transfer 40, died 10, removed 52, present number 504. *Marriages*, 12. *Burials*, 19. *Public Services*—Sundays, 295; on other days, 572, total 867. *Celebrations of Holy Communion*—Public, 168, in private 7; total, 175. Number of Communions made, 2935. *Sunday Schools*—Officers and teachers, 21; scholars, male, 49, female, 84. Bible classes, 2, teachers 2, scholars 28. *Other Parish Agencies*—Industrial School: teachers 10, scholars 173. Mothers' Meeting: members 30. Men's Guild, the male Communicants: Women's Guild, the female Communicants: Young men's Guild, S. John's:

members 43; Young Women's Guild, S. Mary's: members 40; Chapter Brotherhood of S. Andrew's, members 12.

Money receipts—Offerings for all parish purposes, $6651.41; offerings for purposes outside the parish, $362.15; investments, $561.05, other sources, $109.25: Sunday School, $159.79. Woman's Auxiliary, $187.15. Total, $8341.87.

Expenditures—Parochial, current expenses (including salaries of ministers, music, fuel and lighting, care of church building and grounds and ordinary repairs of the same), $5411.03; improvements, $244.11; interest on mortgage, $1075; support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools, $157.15; for the poor, $262.55, Miscellaneous, $519.45. Total, $7693.29.

Diocesan—Episcopal and Convention Fund, $108.22; Diocesan Missions, $90.90; Episcopal Hospital, $31.09; Sustentation Fund, $35.16, Church House, $66.10. Total, $331.47.

General Missions–Foreign $77.63. Domestic, $126.49; Indian, $26.50 Colored people, $61.00; Church building, $4; Prayer Book and Tract Societies, $28; Armenian Sufferers, $5.00; Free and open Church Association, $23.29. Total, $350.91

Total for all objects, $8,415.67.

Estimated value of missionary boxes and bundles, $320.

Financial Condition—Aggregate value of property of the parish, real and personal, $80,000: incumbrances, mortgage on the church edifice, parish building and ground, $21,500. Other indebtedness, $600. Endowment fund, $9525.

"Evil is never so deadly as when it puts on an air of respectability."

REGULAR CHURCH-GOING.

Like anything else of the same kind, church going is a great deal a matter of habit. Some of us have been brought up in the habit, and find it perfectly natural to go to church at least twice on Sunday, and to receive the Communion at least once a month. Those who have formed such a habit would find it hard to give it up.

On the other hand some of us have made it a habit to stay at home and loaf on Sundays, and to read through the Sunday newspaper. Of course, this entails a good deal of hard work, now that the Sunday newspaper has grown into a volume. But a resolute man can, if he will, break up an old bad habit, and establish a new good one.

Why not set yourself to work, till regular church-going, which you know is a habit you ought to cultivate, has become second nature to you? You will find it the best discipline you ever set for yourself, and we venture to say that, when once the habit is formed, you will wonder how men can endure such a desperately dull piece of business as a churchless Sunday.

FORGET ME NOT.

The Father gave all flowers a name,
And each one had its own;
But soon a wee one backward came,
And standing by His Throne,
With timid grace and trembling frame
The modest blue eyes fell;
And then it said, almost with shame,
"How it can be I cannot tell,
But Father dear, my name! my name!
Alas! I have forgot!"
The Father kindly said,—"No blame
My Child,—*Forget-me Not.*"

H. G. B.

Three Modern Movements.

There are always certain strange excrescences which attend upon an age of progress. The age of Elizabeth was not so brilliant as not to have a place for witch-hunting, for example; nor are these latter days of ours so full of intelligence, but that some such manifestations as the "A. P. A.," "the Woman's Bible," and the agitation for the name of God to appear in the national Constitution, should not appear. Whatever may be the professed aim of the movements, one can find but little sympathy with their methods of procedure. They seem to be a real turning backward to an age long since passed away.

The A. P. A.—The American Protective Association—has for its object the entire separation of the Church from the State, especially directing its energies to the withdrawing of all national appropriations in the aid of denominational schools and to withstand the "insinuating and surreptitious advances of the Roman Church in this country." This object, for they all are but one, is a good one, when it is remembered, that the principles of a foreign organization are being encouraged at the rate of a two-million dollar appropriation from the treasury of the United States every year. (It is worth recalling, too, that our own Church has declined all such State assistances for its school work). The A. P. A. says that this power can only be withstood by the exercise of the enemy's own strength, namely, secrecy. But "fair-play and above-board," have always been maxims of Anglo-Saxons. The thumb-screw of the inquisition is not a ruling principle of the race, however much it may have gained the lands of South America, although it seems to have destroyed the last shred of Spanish integrity.

The "Woman's Bible" is also a movement woefully misdirected; a little thought will give to it its proper place. The movement proceeds upon the idea that the proper place of woman is denied her by reason of some fetich worship of texts of the Scriptures. By an expurgated Bible, the authors of this work endeavor to separate the ethics and the merely attendant circumstances; as, *e. g.* the family idea is not to depend upon the accounts of the patriarchal age, nor does the religious instinct need any such idea as the Aaronic priesthood for its public expression. No one will deny that the home pictures of the patriarchs and the public exhibition of the priesthood were mostly settings, but such settings as are hard to do without. Were it otherwise, the result would be something like a disembodied spirit; something we do not deny and cannot imagine.

The third movement, that to put the name God in the U. S. Constitution by amendment, proceeds upon the exceedingly false principle, that legislation will make a nation righteous. One may doubt whether all the sacred titles of the present king of Spain, to use only one illustration, has made him any more susceptible to the cries from Armenia than our own, perhaps, un-Christian country. We all labor to bring the name of God to every place and condition of the people of this country, but we must object to the awful levity of trading or voting our ballots labeled "for" or "against" God. The righteousness of the individual citizens of this country will make America Christian and not the mere name engrossed in a civil statute.—*Harry R. Carson.*

The Ascension News.

Vol. IX. PHILADELPHIA, SEPTEMBER, 1896. No. 7

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH ALL SEATS FREE

RECTOR:
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334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
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RECTOR'S WARDEN:
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WM. J. MORGAN,
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Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

SERVICES

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.

Children's Service, 3.00 P. M.

Shortened Choral Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.00 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS:

Morning Prayer and Litany, 10 A. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to John Hazlehurst Mason, 611-613 Chestnut Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

KALENDAR.—SEPTEMBER.

4 Friday—Fast.
6 Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity.
11 Friday—Fast.
13 Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity.
16 Ember Day—Fast.
18 Ember Day—Fast.
19 Ember Day—Fast.
20 Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity.
21 S. Matthew, Evang.
25 Friday—Fast.
27 Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity.
29 S. Michael and All Angels.

GUILD MEETINGS.

1 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

7 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild
Other Mondays, Recreation.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3 P. M.

Superintendent,
Secretary, Mr. Henry B. Hodge
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Mr. Frank Seddinger.

BIBLE CLASS.

Sundays, 3.30 P. M.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

THE BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW.

"He that gathereth not with me, scattereth."

We cannot stand still in our church life; we must either progress or recede, there is no middle ground. When our Mother, the Church, took us in her arms and blessed us, signing us with the sign of the cross, she enlisted us under that banner to be her good soldiers, to fight the battles of the cross until our life's end. Sunday by Sunday, we stand before her altar and renew our allegiance, swearing fealty to the great Captain of our Salvation, and then go home and forget all about it until next Sunday.

We do not intend to be sinful, in fact many of us would be very much offended if some one would bluntly call us to account for a sinful waste of time, in that we did not employ some of it in the Master's service. But just recall for one moment the parable of the last judgment, and note, that not one soul was condemned for a sin of commission. How runs the condemnation? "I was sick and ye visited me not, naked and ye clothed me not, hungry and ye gave me no meat," and "inasmuch as ye did it not to the least of these, my brethren, ye did it not to me." Sins of omission, every one of them.

O what a warning to the man who wastes the Lord's time. O the scorn and contempt we have for the able bodied man, who, in the hour of his country's peril, stays safe at home, while men sweat and toil, suffer, bleed and die, and we call him a craven and a traitor, and we, we who profess and call ourselves Christians, see our great Elder Brother sweat out great drops of blood, toil up that *via dolorosa*, suffer, bleed and agonize on the cross, till His great soul sinks under the load of our sins, which are laid upon Him, and He cries out in the agony of His soul, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken Me?" We sit idly by, as though it were no concern of ours, that He is crucified afresh every day of our lives; despised and rejected by men with whom we come in daily contact; scourged and spit upon in our streets, and we do not lift our little fingers to hinder it.

On Good Friday, we listen to the sad, sweet story of the world's redemption, and we say within ourselves that we would not have forsaken Him as His disciples did. "Woe unto you, Scribes and Pharisees, hypocrits! because ye build the tombs of the prophets, and garnish the sepulchres of the righteous, and say, if we had been in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets. Wherefore ye be witnesses unto yourselves, that ye are the children of them which killed the prophets."

"Thy kingdom come." O what a mockery of prayer, when we as individuals not only are not doing anything to hasten that coming, but by our neglect are actually a hindrance to its coming. It takes a manly man to follow in the steps of the Man of men. It takes more courage for a young man to carry his Christianity into his business than it does for him to shoulder his musket and go to war.

O for a Peter, the Hermit, to to preach a new crusade, to fire the hearts of our young men to rescue the Holy City, even our bodies, which are the temples of the Holy Ghost, from the infidels, from the irreligious, yes, anti-religious influences of our great cities, where money and pleasure are gods, whose creed is to get rich, honestly if you can, but get rich.

We have in this parish a Chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, an organization for the spread of of Christ's Kingdom among men, a little band of men struggling to do their duty in the church as best they can, now falling, now rising again, ever keeping this one object in view; quietly, without any flourish of trumpets or parade, but how it would cheer them if some of the other men in the parish would take an interest in their work, for every baptized man should be a member of the Brotherhood. If every baptized man did his whole duty before God, there would be no need for the Brotherhood.

Are there not some men in Ascension Parish to whom this means of doing their bounden duty and service to Almighty God will

commend itself as worthy of their acceptance and support?

"For the Day of the Lord is at hand, at hand,
Its clouds roll up the sky,
The world sleeps, starving on heaps of gold,
All dreamers toss and sigh,
But the night is darkest before the dawn,
When the pain is sorest the child is born,
And the Day of the Lord is at hand.

Gather ye, gather ye hounds of hell,
Famine and plague and war,
Idleness, bigotry, cant and misrule,
Gather and fall in the snare,
Hireling, mammonite, bigot and knave,
Creep to the battle-field, sneak to your grave,
In the Day of the Lord at hand.

Hasten ye, hasten ye Angels of God,
Freedom, mercy and truth,
O come, for the world has grown coward and old,
Come down and renew us our youth.
Wisdom, self-sacrifice, mercy and love,
Haste to the battle-field, stoop from above,
In the Day of the Lord at hand.

O who would sit down and sigh
For a lost age of gold,
When the Lord of all ages is here,
And brave hearts leap up at the trumpet of God,
And those who can suffer can dare,
Each old age of gold was an iron age too,
And the meekest of saints
May find stern work to do,
In the Day of the Lord at hand."

IN MEMORIAM.

The whole parish not only grieves with our Assistant Minister in his great affliction, but feels that it has itself met with a great loss, in the death of Mrs. Laupher. Though she had been out of health all winter, even her immediate family did not anticipate a fatal termination until shortly before it took place, June 18th. The burial service, including a special Celebration of the Holy Communion, was held in the church, June 20th, the body being taken afterwards to her home in Hartford, Conn., for interment.

From her first coming into the parish, Mrs. Laupher took a lively interest in its affairs. For one winter she taught, every Sunday, a young men's Bible class. For two years she has represented the parish in the Freedman's Committee of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions, and was very successful in raising money for that department of work. Being an expert needle woman, she rendered useful aid to the Embroidery Committee of the Altar Chapter of the Women's Guild of the parish. In these and other ways she has made herself most useful and will be greatly missed. Of the loss she will be to her husband and family we cannot speak, but all who knew her devout, yet happy, bright, kindly spirit, will realize what that must be.

For her we can only pray that she may rest in peace and that light perpetual may shine upon her.

Record for June, July and August.

Baptisms	7
Marriages	3
Communicants added—New	2
Removed	5
Died	2
Burials	5

OFFERINGS.

For Current expenses—	$662 80
" the Floating Debt	5 30
" the Schools	2 25
" Poor	19 68
" the Mortgage	100 00
Total	$790 03

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS.—3 dozen small palm leaf fans for the choir, a fair linen chalice veil, 6 yds. of serge for cassocks, 2 books for the Sunday School Library. The Rector received in the early part of the summer, a letter from a lady with whom he was not acquainted, telling him that her sister, who had lately died, was a member of the Episcopal Church, and that as she had resided within the limits of this parish and occasionally attended the church, she was anxious to make a gift to the church as a memorial of her. Accordingly the Rector called to see her and she presented him with a check for a hundred dollars. This he has appropriated towards paying the mortgage debt, making over $400 now in hand for that purpose. Will not some one else make it up to $500, that we can make another payment of that amount?

Such gifts as this, coming from unexpected quarters, are peculiarly gratifying, showing how far the influences of the church extend.

AN IMPROVEMENT.—Every one knows that the principal entrance to the church is only temporary, as according to the architect's plan, the tower to be erected there will include a handsome doorway. But in the meantime, not only is the chief doorway to the church very rough and unfinished, but at night it is very dark and uninviting. The attention of the Vestry was called to this fact and after considering various plans it was referred to the Building Committee to make some improvement. After consulting with the architect, they determined to erect over the door a gable or hood of wrought iron, carrying a small cross, underneath which will be a gas or electric light. This will give prominence to the door both by day and by night, and we trust will serve to make the church more prominent and attractive.

DEATH OF ONE OF OUR CARETAKERS.—Many in the parish will miss hereafter the familiar form of one of our caretakers, which has been seen daily in the church for the past four years, that of Mary Jane McClure. She succeeded her sister, Mrs. Fanny McCracken, in that position in December, 1892. About the middle of July she went on to New York to visit a niece, but was sick all the time she was there, and on her return was obliged to go to the Hospital, where she died August 12th. She was buried from the church on the 14th. R. I. P.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT.—We regret very much to announce the resignation of our Sunday School Superintendent, Mr. Francis B. Falkner, owing to his determination to remain out of town all winter. Mr. Falkner has been connected with the school for the two years past, and has been universally liked by the teachers and scholars. We are very sorry to lose him.

The Sunday School and the Young Men's Bible Class will recommence their sessions on the first Sunday of this month, and we hope there will be a large attendance of teachers and pupils.

BROTHERHOOD OF S. ANDREW.—Our parish chapter of the Brotherhood has kept up its sessions all through the summer without intermission. It has been engaged in revising its by-laws. The chief change in them will involve making one of its members the presiding officer, instead of one of the clergy as heretofore. It is a layman's organization and should be carried

on by the laity. It is intended to be a help to the clergy, not to be dependent upon them for its inspiration. We trust this change will carry out this purpose. There is work in the parish for such an organization to do, and we hope that in the coming winter not only the old members will do more effective work than ever, but that there are other young men in the parish who will join the Chapter and aid in the work of extending and strengthening the church.

THE REV. HENRY R. CARSON.—We had the pleasure of having one of our old boys, now the Rev. H. R. Carson, to take part in the service and preach for us one Sunday morning in August. He is taking his first holiday since his ordination, in a visit North. He has charge of three mission stations near New Orleans, La.

Another of the young men who have gone into the ministry from our parish, the Rev. William B. Gilpin, has become assistant in S. John's Church, Highlands, near Boston, Mass.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions to the NEWS have been received since the last issue:

Mrs. J. L. N. Smythe
Mrs. Carman
Miss Lavinia Smith
Miss Haynes
Miss Holbrook
Donation to Defict—Miss Haynes.

RULES OF THE CHURCH, &c.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Baptism is not to be deferred longer than the first or second Sunday next after the child's birth.

Without great cause or necessity, children should not be baptized at their homes. If the child which is baptized in a house do afterwards live, it is to be brought to the church, that the child may be received into the church as one of the flock of true Christian people.

For every male child there shall be two Godfathers and one Godmother; and for every female, two Godmothers and one Godfather.

When any persons of riper years are to be baptized, they are to be sufficiently instructed in the Principles of the Christian Religion, and exhorted to prepare themselves with Prayer and Fasting for the receiving of this holy Sacrament.

CONFIRMATION.

So soon as children are come to a competent age, and can say the Creed, the Lord's Prayer and the Ten Commandments, and are sufficiently instructed in the other parts of the church catechisms, they shall be brought to the Bishop to be confirmed.

Every person of riper years who shall be baptized, should be confirmed by the Bishop so soon after his baptism as conveniently may be, that so he may be admitted to the Holy Communion.

HOLY COMMUNION.

Those who come to the Lord's Supper must examine themselves whether they repent them truly of their former sins, steadfastly purpose to lead a new life, have a lively faith in God's mercy through Christ, with a thankful remembrance of His death, and be in charity with all men. When a person cannot go to the Holy Communion with a quiet conscience, he should go to some discreet and learned minister of God's Word, and open his grief, that he may receive Godly counsel and advice. Every parishioner should communicate at the least, three times a year, of which Easter should be one.

When convenient he should Communicate once a month or oftener.

If a Christian man cannot communicate on every Lord's Day, the least he can do, and the least that he ought to do, is to be present at the offering of the Holy Sacrifice.

When a communicant removes from one parish to another, he should take with him a letter from the Priest of the parish he is leaving to the Rector of the parish into which he removes.

Every communicant should keep Fridays and the other appointed days of fasting.

VISITATION OF THE SICK.

When any person is sick, notice thereof should be given to the minister of the parish.

"Forasmuch as all men are subject to many sudden perils, diseases and sicknesses, and ever uncertain what time they shall depart out of this life; therefore to the intent they may be always in readiness to die, whensoever it shall please Almighty God to call them, the ministers shall diligently from time to time . . . . exhort their parishioners to the often receiving of the Holy Communion of the Body and Blood of our Saviour Christ when it shall be publicly administered in the church; that in so doing, they may, in case of sudden visitation, have the less cause to be disquited for the lack of the same. But if the sick person be not able to come to the church, and yet is desirous to receive the Communion in his house; then he must give timely notice to the minister, signifying also how many there are to communicate with him, (which shall be two at the least); and all things necessary being prepared, the minister shall there celebrate the Holy Communion."

OFFERTORY.

"Be merciful after thy power. If thou hast much, give plenteously; if thou hast little, do thy diligence gladly to give of that little; for so gatherest thou thyself a good reward in the day of necessity.

Ye shall not appear before the Lord empty; every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord thy God which He hath given thee."—Deut. xvi., 16, 17.

Why We Use the Envelopes.

1. Because it is right and Scriptural that "upon the first day of the week every one should lay by him in store as God hath prospered him."

2. Because it insures regularity, being a weekly reminder of the obligation and privilege to support the Church according to the ability that God has given.

3. Because of its educational value to all, specially to the young, for the habit of thus systematically giving a fixed amount into God's treasury is not one that will lightly be given up.

4. Because it gives each one a sense of their fellowship in the Church, for by thus giving to its support they feel a closer bond between them and the Church.

5. Because such an offering is one method of the expression of Divine Worship, worship being an offering to Almighty God, a giving to Him out of the thankfulness of our hearts for what He is and what He does.

6. Because if we thus give we shall be the richer, and if we do not thus give we shall inevitably be the poorer.

7. Because, last of all, and least of all, and lowest of all, the Church needs it.—*S. Mary's Chimes.*

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SUNDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P. M.

DAILY:
Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

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KALENDAR—October.

2 Friday—Fast.
4 Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.
9 Friday—Fast.
11 Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.
16 Friday—Fast.
18 S. Luke, Evangelist.
23 Friday—Fast.
25 Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity.
28 SS. Simon and Jude.
30 Friday—Fast.

GUILD MEETINGS.

5 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild Other Mondays, Recreation.

6 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

13 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

28 11 A. M., Anniversary of Women's Guild.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3 P. M.

Superintendent,
Secretary, Mr. Henry B. Hodge
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Mr. Frank Seddinger.

BIBLE CLASS.

Sundays, 3.30 P. M.
For girls, Mrs. Neilson.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

THE HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH.

What do we mean when we say in the Creed, I believe in the Holy Catholic Church? Do we mean only the Episcopal Church? Or do we mean what the Roman Catholic means when he says it, the Church which is governed by the Pope? Or do we mean, as some teach, that those words describe an invisible body of the true believers in and followers of Christ? That the last is not the true meaning is evident from the fact that there is another article in the Creed which describes that body, viz: the Communion of Saints, that is the invisible Church of which no one but God knows who are the members. But the words Holy Catholic Church describe an outward, visible body or organization described by these terms, Holy and Catholic, and also in the Nicene Creed by the word Apostolic. What is that body? Where do we find? How do we know it?

In describing a large organization we can do so in various ways. Thus in speaking of the United States we can refer to the extent of territory it covers, or to the people who compose it, or to the government which rules it. So it is in speaking of the Catholic Church, we can refer to that society which is spread throughout the world, which is found wherever there are Christians, and if we refer to its membership we mean by it the body composed of all the baptized. Every one who is baptized is a member of the Catholic Church, for that is the mode of admission into the Church. No one, no matter how good he may be, is a member of the Church unless he is baptized. And even though a man may be a bad man, if he has been baptized he is a member of the Church, just as every one who has been born in, or has been naturalized, is a citizen of the United States, even though he may disregard its laws, or rebel against its government. So when we speak of the Catholic Church, we mean the company of all the baptized, no matter by whom, or whether they are good Christians or not, unless they have been actually excommunicated, that is cut off from the membership of the Church.

But when we speak of the Church as an organization, we refer to its government. And that is described by the term Apostolic, *i. e.*, governed by Apostles or Bishops. Our Lord committed the government of the Church to His Apostles, and they in turn committed it to others whom they chose and commissioned, and so the Church as an organization under a regular government has been continued throughout the Christian era. From time to time individuals and companies have rebelled against that government and set up organizations of their own, calling them Churches. But that did not make them parts of the historic church, or give them the legitimacy or authority which belongs to that body. The Holy Catholic Church is a definite historic organization which was founded by Christ, and has been in the world ever since. It may be divided into different parts owing to the different nationalties among which it has been planted. But it must have sameness of organization and historic continuity to make it a legitimate part of the one Church. A society, devised and formed for the first time in this age, or three or four centuries ago, cannot be that one and the same Church which Christ founded.

So when we speak of the Church as an organization, we mean bodies which are Apostolically or Episcopally—which is the same thing—constituted and governed, the Bishops having received their commission in direct succession from the Apostles. The three principal divisions of that body are the Roman Catholic Church, the Greek Church—comprising all the Christians in Russia and the East—and the English or Anglican Communion, which embraces the Church of England, and all the Churches which have derived their ministry from it.

Unfortunately these are more or less separated from each other, but they are historically, and in their constitution, parts of the one body. Whereas the great vanity of other Christian denominations are so diverse in their forms and character, and being the work of human founders

and not of our Lord Himself, they cannot be regarded as properly constituted and legitimate churches. Their members may be very good men, they are all individually members of the Catholic Church and entitled to all its privileges, but as organizations we cannot recognize them as churches. So a clergyman coming from any of those bodies must be ordained by a Bishop before he can be allowed to officiate in any of our churches. Whereas, one coming from the Roman Catholic, or Greek, or other Episcopal Churches, is received without re-ordination. It is the difference between legitimacy and illegitimacy, between unity and authority, and anarchy and individualism. It is because so many Christians have lost this idea of what the Church is, that they have become so hopelessly and uselessly divided, which has brought such discredit and weakness upon the Christian cause.

We should try to make all Christians realize that they have been baptized into one body, and so should all dwell together in one Communion and fellowship, and not be divided up into different camps, but all form the one Church of which Christ is the Head, those whom he has commissioned are the ministers, and the baptized are the members. The Church can never do its work until Christians are so united. Schism is to the Church what secession and rebellion are to the State.

Record for September.

Communicants added—New	2
Removed	2
Communions of the sick	1

OFFERINGS.

For Current expenses—	$242 81
" the Poor	10 84
" General Missions	25
" Schools	25
Of the Sunday School	1 50
Total	$255 45

PARISH NOTES.

WINTER SERVICES.—Our full round of winter services recommence with this month. On Sundays, the 4 P. M. Choral Evensong and 7.45 P. M. shortened evening prayer and sermon; the daily prayers at 10 A. M. and 5 P. M.; Wednesday evening service and lecture at 8 P. M. Let us hope for good attendance at all these services during the coming winter.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.—Owing to the illness of our Assistant Minister, which prevented his returning to his work last month, and the resignation of our Superintendent, Mr. Falkner, it was impossible to hold the regular sessions of the school last month. But the children's service and instruction was conducted each Sunday afternoon by the Rector, with a fair attendance. With this month, however, the school will be fully organized. We hope all the teachers will be back.

THE DAILY SERVICE.—We want to say a word about the Daily Service as it recommences for another winter. We consider this a very important feature of a live church. The worship of God should be daily, not simply on Sundays. And the church should provide for, and set the example of this worship. Not only should its courts be open every day in the week, but services should be held in them, and they will be of great benefit to those who use them. We know of nothing which will so bring religion into one's daily life, and guide and strengthen and comfort one, as attendance in God's House during the week-days. Persons have told us that they have enjoyed and profited by those services more than they have by the more crowded and stately services of Sunday.

But the privilege of the Daily Service, which we have had in this church from its first occupancy, has not been appreciated and used as it should be. We know that the church is not well situated for such a service, those having the leisure to attend such a service, generally living at a distance from it. Still there are those who could attend it if they would. And if each member of the congregation would, as we have often suggested, attend *one* service during each week, it would be of great use to them, and it would always secure a congregation being present, as all would not be likely to select the same service to attend.

Since the alterations of the rubrics in the Prayer Book, the Rector has made use of those allowing the shortening of the Daily Service, at least in the morning, hoping that that might be an inducement for many to attend the service who might otherwise be kept away by thinking it too long. But as he finds that has not been the result, he proposes this winter to follow his own preference and set the higher standard for devotion by saying the service in full.

THE DAILY LESSONS.—In the revised Prayer Book there is a rubric which says "that upon any day for which no Proper Lessons are provided, the Lessons appointed in the Calendar for any day in the same week may be read in place of the Lessons for the day." This allows the minister a discretion, not compelling him to read year after year the same lessons on each day. And as in this Church the Rector generally says Prayers in the morning, and the Assistant Minister in the afternoon, and generally the same persons go in the morning and the same in the afternoon, it follows that if the lessons are always read just as they stand in the Calendar, those who are at Church in the morning never read or hear those used in the afternoon, and those who go in the afternoon never those used in the morning. Thus nearly half of the lessons one or the other class is not familiar with.

To obviate this, the Rector proposes during the coming winter to read in the morning of each day during the week, the lessons appointed for the afternoon, and in the afternoon those appointed for the morning. If this is done every alternate year, it will make those attending only one service a day, familiar with all the parts of Holy Scripture appointed to be read as lessons both morning and evening.

OUR BUSINESS MANAGER.—Mr. John H. Mason, having resigned his position of business manager of this paper after a faithful service of two years, for which we return him thus publicly our thanks, Mr. John D. Henderson has most kindly consented to act in his place. Mr. Henderson's office address is 212 S. 3d Street, where all communications should be forwarded to him.

GUILD ANNIVERSARY.—We trust all the women in the parish will

remember that SS. Simon and Jude's Day is the Anniversary of the Women's Guild. All the female Communicants are regarded as members of this Guild, and all are asked to be present at this annual meeting, even those who may not have been able to take any active part in the work of the parish. If they will attend this meeting they will at least learn what is being done by others, and perhaps they may find some way by which they can assist, or manifest their interest, in the parish work. Surely the attitude and desire of all should be not to escape doing work, but to find out if there is any work that they can do. And at this meeting the reports of the various departments of women's work in the parish are read, and the work for the coming winter mapped out. And the Rector is especially anxious to have a large attendance at this meeting, as he wants to consult with the ladies what plan can be adopted for a systematic and united effort to reduce our indebtedness during the coming season.

Let each one think over in the meantime what can be done, and come to the meeting prepared to make suggestions.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions have been received since our last issue:

Mrs. J. Wilkes O'Neill	Mrs. M. E. Jackson
Mrs. T. B. Allen	Miss N. L. Bloomer
Miss Trucks	Miss M. M. Menah
Mrs. C. H. Darlington	Mr. Wm. Platt Pepper
Mrs. Calvin Bachman	Miss Anna M. Holbrook
Miss G. Kerr	Mr. Henry Kelly
Miss Martha E. Pancake	

We trust all subscribers in arrears will promptly pay up, and that all in the parish who can possibly do so will become subscribers, as we still owe our printer a considerable sum, and are very anxious to close up the year free of indebtedness.

Valuable Parishioners.

Parishioners may be divided into two classes. One class is composed of the faithful people who are a help and an ornament in the church and whose praise is in the hearts and on the lips of all who know them. They are a precious comfort to the rector and the mainstay of the parish. They are always in their places during divine service unless hindered by some necessity, ready ever with aid and sympathy and appreciativeness, and invariably to be depended upon to support every noble undertaking. In them we have the valuable parishioners.

The other class consists of those who, though their names are on the roll of communicants, are of no real account to their parish. Indeed, the parish is scarcely theirs except in a most remote sense. Nothing pertaining to the church arouses their interest. At the best they are spectators, and not very inspiring ones, either. They do not know what is going on, and they do not care and nobody expects them to do anything.

When parochial schemes and possibilities are canvassed they—their purses, co-operation, and even their good wishes—are left out of the calculations, just as though the individuals themselves were not in the land of the living. They are never counted upon for any good word or work. If they were only zeros, the case would not be so distressing, but they are a dead weight upon the parish, and by their example hinder the glorious work of saving souls and blessing the world. Let us not characterize them except to say that they are not valuable parishioners.

Everybody can be a valuable parishioner if he will. It does not require that he be rich, or a person of elegant leisure. All that is necessary is for him to do what is easily within his power.

Valuable parishioners are the faithful and devoted Christians of the congregation. Their godly lives are a blessing to the parish. People who are true to Christ commend the church. They are the best and strongest sort of argument for the existence of God, the gospel of Christ and for the American Church. Adversaries may attack our arguments but they cannot controvert a noble life. Every earnest Christian is a valuable parishioner.

Church going is one instance of the helpfulness of valuable parishioners. Although they attend divine service in order to worship Almighty God, and hear His Word and receive His Grace, their devotion is blessed as a ministry to others in cheering the pastor's heart, in giving a wholesome example to others, and in aiding the church to appear worthy of herself before the community. They love the courts of the Lord's house, and the negligence and indifference of others is not countenanced by them. To attend the services is one of the first Christian duties; it is also a powerful means of helping a parish. They who can do nothing more than this are of large worth.

A valuable parishioner will not stand aloof from the parochial activities. Guilds, the Sunday-school, and perhaps other spheres offer opportunities for serving God and the church, and the people who assist in at least one of these are of great account. Everyone might undertake at least one little task for the church, though it be nothing more than to attend a guild meeting.

Parishioners who are worth having will speak of the church. It is bad manners and a lack of charity to obtrude one's convictions in the social circle, and especially should we beware of introducing matters of a religious controversy. But occasions will often arise when the most sensitive propriety will allow and even command us to stand up for the church.—*Scranton Churchman.*

Church Money.

The Church depends upon the free will offerings of its worshippers and friends, for its maintenance. The "envelope system" has been adopted, not as a legally binding pledge, but as an excellent plan to stimulate regularity, and conscientious thoughtfulness in giving—that the offerings may not depend upon chance or feeling, but may be carefully adjusted to our means. The collection of the offerings is made a part of the Worship, at each Sunday service.

Envelopes, marked with a certain number, are furnished to the registered members of the parish, "and to all others applying." A list of persons holding these envelopes, with their respective numbers, is kept by the Warden.

As the offerings are given under cover, absolute secrecy is obtained; and strict Christian duty may be fulfilled, without exciting comment, either in the way of praise or blame. Regularity is secured, so that the Church does not suffer from the enforced absence of its members, on the account of illness or inclement weather.

The Ascension News.

Vol. IX. PHILADELPHIA, NOVEMBER, 1896. No. 9

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH ALL SEATS FREE

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REV. C. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. LOUIS A. LANPHER,
1310 Ritner St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
CHARLES L. S. TINGLEY.

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
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WM. J. MORGAN,
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Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

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Choral Evening Prayer, 4 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P. M.

DAILY:
Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to Mr. John D. Henderson, 212 S. 3d Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

KALENDAR.—November

1 All Saints.
6 Friday—Fast.
8 Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity.
13 Friday—Fast.
15 Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity.
20 Friday—Fast.
22 Sunday next before Advent.
27 Friday—Fast.
29 First Sunday in Advent.
30 S. Andrew.

GUILD MEETINGS.

2 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.

3 and 17 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

10 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Mothers' Meeting, Wednesday, 7.00 P. M.
Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3.00 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. William C. Mayne.
Secretary, Mr. Henry B. Hodge
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Mr. Frank Seddinger.

BIBLE CLASSES.

Sundays, 3.00 P. M.
For girls, Miss Grider.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10.00 A. M.

NATIONAL CHURCHES.

The only divisions that should ever exist among Christians should be the natural ones created by territorial lines. This is the only way the Church is ever designated in the New Testament, as the Church at Rome, Corinth, Ephesus, or the Church of Asia. All Christians living together in one locality and being united in one body, would naturally be described by the name of the place where they were living. And as each city in the primitive Church generally constituted a Diocese, the jurisdiction of a Bishop, that diocese was naturally called by the name of that city.

And so all the dioceses belonging to a nation, being composed of people speaking the same language, having the same manners and customs, and being under the same government and laws, naturally constituted a national Church.

And such a Church was independent of all others, in that it could propagate itself, if it had a sufficient number of Bishops, and direct its own internal concerns, such as formulating the laws for the government of its clergy and lay people, adopting or altering its liturgy, etc. But it could not act in any matter touching the faith or essential discipline of the Church, for those are unalterable, having been given by our Blessed Lord to His Church once for all. Nor could a national Church declare even what the faith of the Church is, except in the way of instruction. That is, it could not impose any articles of faith upon the Christians within its borders, which had not the sanction of the teaching of all Churches. Thus only a council composed of representatives, at least, of all national Churches could draw up a Creed, though a council of a single national Church could adopt a catechism or set forth articles for the instruction of its people on points already determined upon by all the Churches. That is the great difference in authority between the ecumenical creeds and our thirty-nine articles, for instance. The first are of faith because they have the sanction of the whole Church, for all the great branches of the Church received them, whereas the articles belong only to the English Church and are true only so far as they agree with what the whole Church teaches.

So in regard to the essential things in the discipline of the Church. No national Church could, for instance, abolish Episcopacy, for that has been from the beginning the universal form of Church government and our Lord committed the government of the Church to it. Nor could it alter the number or character of the Sacraments, for they are of divine ordainment. But all other rites and ceremonies or accessories of worship are under the control of a national Church. Originally even each Bishop set forth the forms of worship for his own diocese, but it is better and more natural that that power should be yielded to a council representing all the dioceses in a nation.

What *ought* to be the national Church of this country is that body which is called the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States. This is a most unfortunate and misleading title. It came about through the English government never having allowed the Church to be properly constituted here in colonial times, so that no Bishop ever set his foot in America until after the Revolutionary War. So there were no dioceses, no one to propagate or govern the Church. Hence it was that all the different sects into which Protestants had become divided, grew with great rapidity, and the Church most slowly. When, therefore, the separation from England took place, it seemed a misnomer to call the small body of Church people here the Church of the United States, when it was not such in reality. So this name was devised to show that it was Protestant against the claim of the Church of Rome to be the one universal Church, but Episcopal as having the Apostolic government, received from Christ and the Apostles. But the name seems to imply that there are other bodies in this country which are just as much parts of the Church as it is, and that it is a matter of indifference whether one belongs to one of these bodies or another.

Should we not all labor and pray that the day may not be far distant when all, or the vast majority at least, of the people of this country may be so united in the communion and fellowship of the one historic Church, that it may be actually and really what it ought to be called, *the Church of the United States.*

Record for October.

Marriage	1
Communicants added—New	2
By transfer	1
Removed	4
Burial	1

OFFERINGS.

For Current expenses	$341 55
" the Poor	10 38
" " Year Book	3 90
" " Schools	2 05
" Diocesan Missions	3 10
" General Missions	05
" the Mortgage debt	21 00
" " Floating debt	2 00
Of the Sunday School	2 72
Total	$386 75

PARISH NOTES.

WINTER WORK.—All our departments of work go into full operation with this month. The Industrial School every Saturday at 10 A.M.; the Mothers' Meeting on Wednesday after the service at 8 P.M.; the Embroidery Class on Thursday at 10.30 A.M., and the Ladies' Aid the same day at 3 P.M. The ladies have also in hand the making up of our missionary box. We look for volunteers in all these departments of work.

Those who cannot personally take part in the work of the Church, can aid in it by contributions. For all these different departments we need donations of money and materials. Cast-off clothing of all descriptions can be utilized in connection with the Mothers' Meeting.

The Rector has been very fortunate this year in securing the services of one of the students in the Deaconess House, who will give a part of her time to work in the parish. She will teach the young ladies' Bible Class on Sunday afternoons, and have entire charge of the Industrial School on Saturdays. After doing the necessary visiting in connection with the schools and Mothers' Meeting, she will devote the rest of her time to district visiting, from house to house, which is something we have long wanted to see done.

THE ANNIVERSARY of the Women's Guild was held after morning service on SS. Simon and Jude's day, October 28th. The reports for the past year were read and work arranged for the coming season, after which quite a discussion took place as to what steps the women of the parish could take towards a systematic effort to reduce our debt. It was finally agreed that a committee of twenty ladies should be appointed to formulate and carry out a plan for the collection of systematic offerings for this purpose. Another committee was also appointed to consider the advisability of having some entertainment later in the season.

The following minute was adopted at the meeting in regard to the death of Mrs. Laupher:

"At this, the first meeting of the Women's Guild of the parish, since its grievous loss, by the death of one of its most valued and beloved members, we desire to record our deep sense of bereavement.

Mrs. Laupher came among us an entire stranger to us all, and after the few years she was with us, we all feel as if we had lost a dear, personal friend, earnest, active, zealous, generous. Her departure is sadly mourned, and our heartfelt sympathy with her afflicted husband and children is most sincere. God grant her Thine eternal rest and let light perpetual fall upon her."

Mrs. T. Leaming Smith takes Mrs. Laupher's place on the Freedmen Missionary Committee, and Mrs. George Gray Knowles the place of Miss Zantzinger, who has resigned, on the Indian Committee.

S. JOHN AND S. MARY'S GUILDS have begun their regular classes. S. John's on every Monday and Thursday evening, and S. Mary's every Tuesday, the latter will have instruction in elocution as last winter, by Mrs. McIntosh. We should like to see all the young women in the parish in this Guild.

The Guild has presented Mrs. McIntosh with a very handsome silver-plated pitcher in acknowledgement of her services.

S. JOHN'S GUILD.—At the last regular business meeting of S. John's Guild, December 10th was adopted as the date on which to hold the annual Fall sports of the Guild. Judging from the hard work of the contestants in the gymnasium, we believe some records will be fractured this year, especially in the high and broad jumping events.

The Guild tug-of-war team will pull S. Michael's team of Germantown. This promises to be an exciting event, as the two teams are matched almost to a pound, making the contest very close.

The committee have worked very hard to make this year's sports better and more interesting than any previously held, and they would like to have the audience assembled in proportion. Tickets can be procured from George A. Dooley, Chairman of Committee.

BROTHERHOOD OF S. ANDREW.—Our parish Chapter of the Brotherhood recently sent invitations to some thirty men in the parish to meet its members, socially, for an evening in the Guild room. Quite a number accepted the invitation, and after addresses by the Rector, Mr. Ewing L. Miller of the Local Council and Mr. Tingley of our own parish, all sat down to a repast which had been prepared with the help of some of our ladies.

All seemed to enjoy the evening and we trust it will result in the work of the Brotherhood being better known and appreciated, and in its membership being enlarged. There is work in the parish to be done, if men can be found to do it.

The Chapter is arranging for a series of services one Sunday evening each month during the winter. The first will take place the last Sunday evening of this month, when the preacher will be the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Delaware.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT.—We are glad to announce that a Superintendent has at last been found for our Sunday School, Mr. William C. Mayne having accepted the position. He has been a member of our congregation for some two years past and has had experience in teaching. We bespeak for him a warm welcome and hearty support on the part of the teachers and scholars.

NEW CASSOCKS.—The choir are greatly in need of some new cassocks. If any one would donate a piece of material for this purpose, the Ladies' Aid will gladly undertake to make them up.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—We still owe a large amount to our printer. Will not all subscribers promptly pay up?

The following subscriptions have been received since our last issue:

Miss E. Ward	Rev. G. Woolsey Hodge
Mr. Llewellyn Barry	Mrs. G. Woolsey Hodge
Mr. Theodore Ladd	Mr. Carroll Hodge
Mrs. M. M. Dicht	Miss Alice Young
Mr. Geo. W. Welsh, Jr.	Mr. J. D. Henderson

A NEW HOME.

We have been requested to call the attention of the members of our congregation to the fact that a boarding and temporary home for colored children under the name of "The House of the Holy Child" is to be established about November 15th in this city.

This Home, it is hoped, will supply a longfelt need, as heretofore there has been no place where colored women at service could have their little children properly cared for.

In the past year practical test has been made, by individual effort, of such a home. It has been eminently successful, and in order that the work may be enlarged, the aid of the charitable public is now solicited.

A house, 1819 Fitzwater Street, has been rented, and visitors will be cordially welcome at any time. November 19th will be Donation Day.

The religious training will be that of the Episcopal Church, but the home will not be connected with any parish.

MISS EDITH WHARTON DALLAS,
Manager, 1514 Pine Street.

MR. GEORGE WHARTON DALLAS,
Treasurer, 606 Chestnut Street.

The Mercer Memorial Home at Atlantic City.

We are requested to state that this excellent charity is very much in need of funds. It has been obliged this year to close its doors earlier than usual on this account.

CHURCH TRAINING AND DEACONESS HOUSE

OF THE DIOCESE OF PENNSYLVANIA,
708 SPRUCE ST., PHILADELPHIA.

We print again this year the scheme of studies of this institution in the hope that there are those in our congregation who will be glad to avail themselves of its privileges.

A copy of this schedule will also be hung up in a frame in the vestibule of the Church, where it can be consulted from time to time.

FIRST YEAR'S CLASS.

MONDAY.

A. M.—10-11—Ancient Church History,
REV. R. S. EASTMAN.
11-12—Life of Christ, MISS AERTSEN.
P. M.—

TUESDAY.

A. M.—10-11—Bible Class Teaching,
MISS BIDDLE.
11-12—Lessons in English,
MISS MCVICKAR.
P. M.—3-4—History of the Prayer Book,
REV. L. M. ROBINSON.

WEDNESDAY.

A. M.—10-11—Acts of the Apostles,
MISS COLES.
11-12—The Creed,
REV. WM. ELY, D. D.
P. M.—2-2.45
2.45-3.30—I and II Corinthians,
PROF. MICOU.
3.30—Old Testament,
PROF. BATTEN.

THURSDAY.

A. M.—10-11—Business Methods,
REV. H. F. FULLER.
11-12—Hygiene and Home Sanitation,
SENECA EGBERT, M. D.
P. M.—Practical Training.
FRIDAY—Practical Training.
SATURDAY, A. M.—9—Missionary Society.

SECOND YEAR'S CLASS.

MONDAY.

A. M.—10-11—New Testament use of O. T.,
REV. DR. PERRY.
11-12—Emergencies (Adv. Term.)
SENECA EGBERT, M. D.
P. M.—Practical Training.

TUESDAY.

A. M.—10-11—Bible Class Teaching,
MISS BIDDLE.
11-12—
P. M.—4-5—Sources of the Prayer Book,
REV. L. M. ROBINSON.

WEDNESDAY.

A. M.—10-11—The Thirty-nine Articles,
REV. WM. ELY, D. D.
11-12—St. Paul's Epistles,
MISS COLES.
P. M.—2-2.45—General Epistles,
PROF. MICOU.
2.45-3.30—
3.30—Old Testament,
PROF. BATTEN.

THURSDAY.

A. M.—10-11—Modern Church History,
REV. J. R. MOSES.
P. M.—Practical Training.
FRIDAY—Practical Training.
SATURDAY, A. M.—9—Missionary Society.

All of these courses are free to day students. The only charge is for the necessary books.

Tickets for any course can be obtained by applying to the House Mother, 708 Spruce Street.

Applications for admission as residents should be sent to Admission Committee, 708 Spruce Street, Philadelphia.

Instruction will be given to resident students by experienced teachers in voice culture, kindergarten methods, sewing and cooking.

The school year began Wednesday, October 7th, 1896.

STATUARY ON THE CHURCH HOUSE.

Since the statuary is now in position on the Church House, and entirely completes it, our readers may like to know whom the various statues represent.

The scheme adopted by the committee to whom the erection of the House was entrusted was as follows: The two large statues over the entrance on Walnut street are St. Peter and St. Paul, the two greatest instruments in the founding of the Church. Those on the top of the House represent first a great Eastern saint, St. Athanasius, on the eastern end of the Walnut street front. Next is a great Western saint, St. Augustine, of Hippo. Next, as the connecting link between the Western and the English Church, St. Augustine, of Canterbury. Standing next to him, at the corner of Twelfth and Walnut streets, is an English saint, St. Alban, the Protomartyr of the British Church. Then next on the Twelfth street front is a Scottish saint, St. Columba, and last, the Irish Church is represented by St. Patrick, its founder.

These statues have been very carefully executed by competent artists under the direction of the architect, with such assistance as the committee could afford him. Attention has been given to the proper dress, symbols, etc., and we think all will acknowledge that they are not only most appropriate and suggestive, but an immense addition architecturally to the building.

There still remain two niches on the Walnut street front of the building which have been left vacant on the plan by the architects, but which could be most appropriately filled by statues of Bishops White and Seabury, the two connecting links of our Church with the English and Scottish, and one the founder of our own diocese. Perhaps some generous donor may like to add them to complete this series of ornamental and suggestive statuary.

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KALENDAR.—December

4 Friday—Fast.
6 Second Sunday in Advent.
11 Friday—Fast.
13 Third Sunday in Advent.
16 Ember Day—Fast.
18 Ember Day—Fast.
19 Ember Day—Fast.
25 Christmas Day.
26 S. Stephen.
27 S. John Evangelist.
28 Holy Innocents.

GUILD MEETINGS.

1 and 15 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

7 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.

8 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

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Secretary, Mr. Henry B. Hodge
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Mr. Frank Seddinger.
Mr. George W. Welsh, Jr.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eyre.

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For girls, Miss Grider.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10.00 A. M.

REDUCING OUR DEBT.

Our ladies have taken in hand very energetically the work of reducing the debt on our church. The Rector called their attention to it at the anniversary of the Women's Guild on SS. Simon and Jude's day, when the matter was quite thoroughly discussed. At a meeting of the Vestry held November 5th, the following preamble and resolution were adopted:

Whereas, In the opinion of the Vestry it is expedient that an effort should be made by the parish to reduce the debt during the coming winter, therefore

Resolved, That the women of the parish be requested to aid the Vestry in making a special effort to this end.

This the Rector read to the congregation at the morning service on the following Sunday, and invited all the women of the parish to meet the next day in the Parish building to act in response to this call. And though the attendance at this meeting was not as large as we should have liked to have seen it, still those who were present manifested a good deal of interest in the matter and expressed their determination systematically to take hold of it.

Various plans were considered, and finally the following were adopted: First, it was agreed to try and get all the members of the parish to fill up slips containing the following pledge, which were printed some time ago when an effort of this kind was first made:

I promise to give the sum of $—— towards the extinguishment of the debt of the Church of the Ascension, Philadelphia, payable either quarterly, semi-annually or yearly, or extending over a term of years.

Secondly, it was determined to use the cards—of which there are a great many still on hand—which we used when building the church, each of which covers five dollars, obtainable in ten cent, twenty-five cent, fifty cent and one dollar subscriptions.

Thirdly, the Rector undertook to provide for those who preferred to use them what are known as "Gleaners." They are a sort of book containing places cut out to hold fifty ten cent pieces. The advantage of these is that almost any one will give ten cents towards a charitable object, so that the money is easily collected. And when the amount has been turned in, it can be refilled again and again if desired.

These three schemes it was determined to put before the congregation, with the belief that every one connected with the church would use at least one of them, and so, if all are thus engaged in collecting, a considerable sum will certainly be realized.

Five ladies volunteered to go round and see the members of the congregation who were not present at the meeting, urging their interest and participation in the work. So far two ladies have pledged fifty dollars each, one twenty dollars, another five dollars a quarter; over fifty of the Gleaners have been taken and quite a number of the cards. If there are any in the congregation who have not been reached by the ladies, let them apply after any service to the Rector and he will furnish them with forms of the pledges or Gleaners or cards.

Our debt now consists of $21,500 the remains of the original mortgage of $25,000 placed on the property when we took it. Against this we have something over $500 now in hand, and a payment of that amount will be made this month, which will leave $21,000 still to be provided for. We have also $900 floating indebtedness, which has been hanging over us for some years, made up by deficits in our current expense account which have been allowed to accumulate year after year. This last amount must absolutely be paid off, and we want to make as large a reduction of the mortgage debt as possible, and keep on making it until it is all paid off, and our church free from danger, and free to be consecrated, and to enlarge and strengthen its work. Eighteen months ago our ladies by their efforts raised and paid off $1500 of our debt. Let us see if they cannot do all of that and more than that this year. In addition to the above modes of collecting, the special envelope marked for "The Debt," which is sent out to those taking the envelopes, can also be used for contributions for this object.

Record for November.

Baptisms	3
Marriage	1
Communicants added—New	3
By transfer	9
Died	1
Removed	9
Burial	1

OFFERINGS.

For Current expenses	$478 74
" the Debt	142 50
" " Poor	9 54
" " Schools	8 25
" Indian Missions	1 00
" Freedmen Missions	1 00
" General Missions	1 10
" Diocesan Missions	3 10
" the Episcopal Hospital	30 58
Christmas Festival	10 00
" " Year Book	50
Of the Sunday School	8 75
Total	$695 06

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS.—A filterer for the sacristy, a book for the Parish library, material for a cassock, pieces of carpet for foot stools, orders for 12 tons of coal, and several donations of clothing for missionary box.

THANKSGIVING.—Fifteen families connected with our Mothers' Meeting were supplied with most bountiful Thanksgiving dinners by the girls of Miss Anable's school; the rest we took care of ourselves. We appreciate very much this generous act of the young ladies, none of whom belong to our parish. The fruit placed on the Altar was as usual distributed, after the service, among the choir boys, to their great delight.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.—At last we have had put in place the electric light under the new hood over the main door of the church. It is a great improvement, shedding a flood of light and making the entrance brilliant and attractive, which before was dark and obscure at night.

MISSIONARY WORK.—The Rector is anxious to extend and perfect the missionary work of the parish. We have always had the parish represented on the different departments of the Women's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions, but we have never have had a regularly organized parish branch. Has not the time come when we should have one? The advantages would be that, if there were stated meetings of all in the parish willing to take part in missionary work, greater interest would be excited; the delegates to the various branches could report their special needs, and ways might be found to meet them; plans could be discussed to improve methods of collection, etc. The Rector would like all the ladies in the parish who are willing to take part in this work to meet in the Guild room after morning prayers on Friday, December 4th. This being the first Friday in the month, it is the day when the Board of Missions requests the prayers of all on behalf of its missionary work. It is, therefore, a most appropriate time for a meeting for this purpose; special prayers for Missions will be said at the service. We hope there will be a large attendance.

S. JOHN'S GUILD SPORTS.—Do not forget that the 10th is the night of the annual exhibition of the athelic sports of S. John's Guild. We hope the congregation generally will patronize them, and we are sure they will be entertained.

S. MARY'S GUILD.—Mrs. Henry C. Pollock having resigned the position of superior of S. Mary's Guild, which she has held most acceptably for some years, the Rector has been fortunate in securing in her place Mrs. I. C. Clark, who has had former experience in another parish as a director of a branch of the Girls' Friendly Society, which qualifies her admirably for this position. There is some idea of bringing S. Mary's Guild into affiliation with that society.

OUR SCHOOLS.—We are glad to see both our Sunday and industrial schools rapidly filling up, under the the new superintendants, Mr. Wm. C. Mayne, and Miss Grider. They will both soon be in a flourishing condition. Preparations are already begun for a special Christmas entertainment for the Sunday School, which will take place on the evening of Monday the 28th, Holy Innocents' Day.

SPECIAL SERMONS.—The Bishop of Delaware having found it impossible to be present at the special Brotherhood service on the last Sunday evening in November, his place was kindly taken by the Rev. Dr. Olmsted, the new Rector of S. Asaph's Church, Bala. He preached an excellent sermon.

The preacher on the last Sunday evening of this month will be the Rev. Cyrus T. Brady, Archdeacon of the diocese.

On the remaining Sunday evenings in Advent, the Rector proposes to preach on the last four things; Death and Judgment, Heaven and Hell.

INCREASE.—We are glad to see this autum a large number of new faces in the congregation, and it will be seen by the record that a good number of new names have been added to the communicant list. The Rector would like to have the names of all attending the Church, who are personally unknown to him. He asks this not only that the Church may know who are its parishioners, but for the sake of the persons themselves, as it will be much better for them to feel that they belong definitely to some parish, rather than that they should have no spiritual home.

THE CHRISTMAS OFFERING.—As in other years, special Christmas offerings are asked from each member of the parish on Christmas Day. And the congregation will remember that we depend on this offering to meet the semi-annual interest on the mortgage on our property, which is due this month, and to make up for the small collections we have during the summer. Those especially who do not use the envelopes should remember that it is only by making special large offerings from time to time, that they can make up for the Sundays that they are away from the Church, and do not give anything. We hope also the congregation will remember to give something for the Christmas treat for the children, one of the alms boxes in the vestibule will be designated for this purpose.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES.—There will be additional celebrations of the Holy Communion on Christmas Day at 6.30 and 8.30 a. m., so as to give all, the opportunity to make their communions. The music at the mid-day service will be Schubert in C, the whole of which will be sung for the first time. There will also be a new Te Deum.

YEAR BOOK.—The new Year Book of the Parish was ready for distribution on the First Sunday in Advent. Copies may be obtained from the Sexton.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—Will not *every* one in the parish subscribe to the NEWS? It is most useful as a channel of communication with our people, but we owe our printer a large bill which *must* be paid.

The following subscriptions were received last month:

Mrs. A. Jackson	Mrs. John H. Goodrich
Mrs. D. P. Deitrich	Mrs. W. M. Amable
Mr. H. C. Kerr	Mrs. Walter Cox
Mr. Jno. G. Borbek	Miss Lloyd

HISTORY OF THE CHURCH.

We begin with this number the reprint of the following history of our parish, which was written some years ago for the *Church Standard*, thinking it will be interesting to those of its members who have joined it in late years, and may not be familiar with its past history.

History of the Church of the Ascension.

Broad Street below South, Philadelphia.

In 1833, when there were but ten churches within the then city of Philadelphia, a number of persons, chiefly connected with St. Peter's Church, associated themselves together for the purpose of building, a new church "in the southwestern part of the city," which should be conducted on the principle of "dispensing with the selling and renting of pews, and depending wholly upon free contributions and stated subscriptions." The Rev. Robert Piggott, who died recently at an advanced age, at Sykesville, Md., was chosen rector, and the first service was held January 27th, 1833, in a school building in Ramstead Court.

On February 24th the services were removed to the saloon of the Adelphi building on Fifth Street below Walnut, where they were held regularly, Sunday morning and evening, and a congregation of some four hundred persons of all ages collected. The parish was organized under the title of All Souls', probably in reference to the free system on which it was to be conducted, a principle which was entirely novel, this being not only the first movement of the kind in Philadelphia, but perhaps in the whole of the United States, though now it is so widely accepted that more than two-thirds of our churches are conducted in this way. About $2000 was soon subscribed for the erection of a church edifice, and various sites were contemplated, chiefly a lot then vacant on Broad Street below Spruce.

But finally—doubtless through motives of economy, on which the Church is so often forced to act to the great detriment of its work—a lot about eighty feet square, on Lombard Street above Eleventh, was selected. Plans for a plain two-story brick building were adopted, and on April 10th, 1834, the corner stone was laid by the venerable Bishop White, assisted by Bishops Onderdonk and Doane. The latter preached a sermon on the occasion, entitled "The Cross and the Church," a few printed copies of which still remain, in which he strongly advocated the peculiar principles of freedom of seats and equality of worshippers which were to distinguish the new church. The walls of the structure were carried up to the top of the first story, when the parish became involved in such financial difficulties that the property was sold out by the Sheriff.

But in May, 1835, it was transferred to another congregation which had been organized under the title of The Church of the Ascension. It was composed of many of the same persons who had formed the

All Soul's congregation, but was backed by several gentlemen of means and influence who belonged to other parishes, notably Mr. John Welsh, Wm. H. Newbold, James S. Newbold, Jacob Lex, William Stavely, P. G. Hamm and others. These gentlemen purchased the property with the intention of carrying out the original purpose of its previous owners of affording additional church accommodation in that part of the city, in which there were then no churches, but they did not adhere to the principle of free seats and voluntary offerings, though they determined to maintain a "low rate," of pew rents in order to reach those who were "in limited circumstances."

The building was at once carried on to completion, and the Rev. John B. Clemson, was called to the rectorship. The first service was held in the basement on the first Sunday in January, 1836. The church itself was finished, and consecrated by Bishop Onderdonk, September 27th of the same year. The church seems rapidly to have filled up, and all the annual reports of the Rector speak of its prosperity. The number of communicants reached over 200, and from 75 to 80 baptisms were performed each year.

But within a few years other churches were erected in its immediate vicinity: S. Luke's on the north, and All Saints' on the south, both more attractive edifices, and the Ascension began to decline. The Vestry were obliged to reduce the salary of the rector, which led to his resignation in October, 1841. The Rev. N. Sayres Harris was elected rector the following month, but he remained only until the succeeding July, when he resigned to become secretary and general agent of the Domestic Committee of the Board of Missions. He returned to the city, however, shortly after and became the founder of the Church of the Nativity in the northern part of the city. Dr. Bedell, then rector of Holy Trinity Church, West Chester, afterwards Bishop of Ohio, was then called to the rectorship, but declined. In October, 1842, the Rev. Frederick Ogilby was chosen rector and soon after entered on the office.

(To be continued.)

THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM.

"We have seen His Star in the East, and have come to worship Him."

Gleaming Star! with joyous wonder
Sages watched thy path of light:
While the Shepherds and the Angels
Saw the heavens with thee bedight.

Star of Heaven! Star of Glory!
Beauteous Star of Bethlehem!

Star of morning! Star of evening!
Star of life's most dismal day:
Star of all the stars the brightest,
Star that guides our devious way.

Star of Heaven, etc.

Like a golden scepter shining,
O how full of peace thy light!
Guide us thro' life's darkest dangers,
With thy rays of hope so bright.

Star of Heaven, etc.

Star of lambent beauty, guiding
Onward to the manger-bed:
Touch our souls with adoration,
In the Christ-Child's "House of Bread."

Star of Heaven, etc.

Fairest Star of all the ages!
Star of Love, now lead us on:
With the Shepherds and the Wise Men,
Jesus' face to gaze upon.

Star of Heaven, etc.

H. G. B.

The Ascension News.

Vol. X. PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY, 1897. No. 1

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH ALL SEATS FREE

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. LOUIS A. LANPHER.
1310 Ritner St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
CHARLES L. S. TINGLEY.

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2022 Evergreen St.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

SERVICES

SUNDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P. M.

DAILY:
Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to Mr. John D. Henderson, 212 S. 3d Street.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

KALENDAR.—JANUARY

1 Circumcision.
3 Second Sunday after Christmas.
6 Epiphany.
8 Friday—Fast.
10 First Sunday after Epiphany.
15 Friday—Fast.
17 Second Sunday after Epiphany.
22 Friday—Fast.
24 Third Sunday after Epiphany.
25 Conversion of S. Paul.
29 Friday—Fast.
31 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany.

GUILD MEETINGS.

4 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.

5 and 19 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

12 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Missionary Society, first Friday, 10 A. M.
Mothers' Meeting, Wednesday, 7.00 P. M.
Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3.00 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. William C. Mayne.
Secretary, Mr. Henry B. Hodge
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Mr. Frank Seddinger.
Mr. George W. Welsh, Jr.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

BIBLE CLASSES.

Sundays, 3.00 P. M.

For girls, Miss Grider.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10.00 A. M.

MISSIONARY WORK.

The Church must always do missionary work. Her commission from her Divine Master was to go into all the world and make disciples of every creature. We must never forget that command. No parish should ever exist simply for the sake of ministering only to its own people. The very lowest and most unworthy conception of the Church is, that it is simply to maintain services and administer the sacraments to those who enjoy and want to receive them, and can pay for them. We believe that every Church should be a mission, that is, should be so conducted as to be always trying to bring in those who are indifferent and careless about religion. And we believe that every parish, even the poorest, should contribute something towards the missionary work of the Church in the new and poorer parts of our own country and in foreign lands.

We try to carry out these principles in this parish. In the first place, our Church is free. Those who support it do not reserve its seats only for their own use. Its doors are wide open for any and every one who cares to enter them, and we make all the efforts we can to draw into them those who belong to, or go to, no other Church. In addition to this, we have always tried to do something for the missionary work of the Church at large. We send to the registered

members of the congregation each year a special envelope marked for "Diocesan Missions," and another marked for "General Missions," that is, for the missions carried on in the poorer parts of our own Diocese, and for the Domestic and Foreign Missions of the Church. **No one should neglect to return these envelopes with as large an offering as they can make, in addition to what they give for the support of the Church and its own charities.**

Then we have always had representatives from the parish on the four committees of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions. These are expected to attend the monthly meetings of the committees to which they belong, which are held at the Church House, where they hear the various letters and appeals which come from the missionary field, and then they should come back and see what the parish can do in any particular instance to meet them. They collect funds, which go entirely through the Woman's Auxiliary, and make up missionary boxes. The amount which they have collected has varied with the zeal and efficiency of the delegates, but has always amounted to between one and two hundred dollars, and they have each sent out one or more missionary boxes. This is what we have been doing for years.

But it is a question whether we could not do more, whether especially the women's work might not be more systematized and enlarged. We have never had an actual Parish Chapter of the Woman's Auxiliary. The delegates, after attending the meetings, have not had any body to which they could report and whose interest they could excite. To remedy this, and consider the question of forming a parish branch of the auxiliary, the Rector requested all the women of the parish to attend the morning prayers of the Church on the first Friday in December, at which he said the special prayer for missions, this being the day on which the Board of Missions requests special prayers on behalf of its work. And after prayers, a meeting was held in the Guild room, to consider the advisability of forming a Parish Missionary Society, which should be a chapter of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Diocese. Some dozen ladies attended this meeting, and after an explanation by the Rector of its purpose, it was unanimously resolved that such a society be formed, which was accordingly done, and the following officers elected: Mrs. Thomas Neilson, President; Mrs. T. Leaming Smith, Treasurer, and Miss Mary Chamberlaine, Secretary.

It was resolved to meet after morning prayers on the first Friday of each month, and all the ladies of the congregation are invited to join it. There will be no membership dues. It is simply for the purpose

of hearing about the work of the different departments of the missionary service, of consulting how best to raise money and answer the appeals that may be presented, and of making up missionary boxes.

We do hope that the ladies of the congregation generally will attend and take an interest in the meetings. We are sure, that if they do so, they will lead not only to our parish doing more for missions, but they will stir up more life and activity and interest in the parish itself. We all live too much for ourselves and are too absorbed in our own interests. We should think, also, on things of others, and try to see what we can do to bless and benefit those who are not as well off as we are, and extend the influence and power of the Church of God.

As the first Friday of this month was New Year's day, the meeting of this Society will be on the second, instead of the first Friday of January. We shall hope for a large attendance.

A Bequest to the Church.

Just as we are going to press we hear of a very handsome bequest which has been made to the Church by Miss Julia A. Pleasanton, one of our parishioners, who died shortly after Christmas. Miss Pleasanton and her mother became connected with the parish in 1890, and were much interested in it. Mrs. Pleasanton assisted in the Mothers' Meeting and Miss Pleasanton taught a class in the Industrial School for two winters. For the last two years they have been away at Atlantic City and in Europe. They did not, however, forget the Church, and in her will, which was drawn in November, 1895, Miss Pleasanton leaves one-half of her residuary estate to our parish. We do not know exactly what it will amount to, and it is only payable in part after the death of her mother, and part after the death of another relative. But it is a provision for the future of the parish, for which we are most devoutly grateful, and we sincerely trust that her example will be followed by others. Not until all our debt is paid off and the Church is *endowed*, can we feel that it is in a secure position to carry on its work as a free Church for all people.

Record for December.

Marriage	1
Communicants added—New	3
By transfer	4
Died	1
Removed	5
Burial	1

OFFERINGS.

For Current expenses (including the Christmas offering)	$952 11
" the Debt	40 58
" " Poor	6 67
" " Schools	9 50
" Diocesan Missions	05
" Christmas Festival and Decorations	21 80
Of the Sunday School	8 85
Total	$1039 56

PARISH NOTES.

Gifts to the Church.—Orders for four and a half tons of coal, box of soap for sacristy, book for parish library, five for the Sunday School library, new gown for verger, black silk girdle for the Rector; cake, oranges and bananas for Christmas festival.

Christmas.—We kept the feast much as usual. The weather was ideal, and the congregations good. We were particularly pleased that the number of communions made was nearly fifty in excess of last year. The offerings were about the same, but did not reach the sum of $1,000 needed. This will have to be made up in some way.

Children's Festival. — The children had a particularly pleasant and successful entertainment on the evening of Holy Innocents' day. This was due to the care and attention given to it by the superintendent and teachers. The Church was well filled with the children and their friends, when the carols were sung and an address made by the Rector. Afterwards in the school room, a regular programme was provided, of singing, exhibitions by "a Professor," the appearance of Santa Claus and distribution of gifts, consisting of a box of candy, a piece of cake, an orange and a banana for each child. If the congregation could have seen the appreciation of the children, some coming before five o'clock so as to be there for its beginning at half-past seven, they would feel rewarded for the contributions they made towards it.

Gleaners.—Over seventy of the five dollar "Gleaners" have now been taken by members of the congregation, to make collections for the payment of our Church debt. Four have already been returned filled, and in each case the "Gleaner" has been taken back again to be refilled. The Rector has a hundred of these, and he wants to have them all taken. Who has not got one? The Rector will give them out after any service. The hundred ought to bring in at least $500, but we want a great deal more than that.

S. Mary's Guild proposes giving a tea some evening this month, in honor of the new Superior, Mrs. I. C. Clark. The young ladies of the congregation who have not yet joined the Guild, and the members of S. John's Guild, and other young men in the congregation, will be invited.

Brotherhood Services.—The members of our Parish Chapter of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew are making vigorous efforts in connection with their monthly service, distributing posters in the neighborhood and cards on the street. Unfortunately, the special preacher for last month, Archdeacon Brady failed at the last moment to appear, owing to a severe cold, and the Rector had to take his place on short notice. The special preacher for this month will be the Rev. H. L. Duhring, Superintendent of the City Mission.

Missionary Box.—Our ladies sent off their missionary box, so that it might get to its destination before the cold weather set in, though they had not money enough to get the clerical suit needed. If sufficient funds come in this can still be sent. The following letter of acknowledgment has been received, which we print that the

donors to the box may see how much their gifts are appreciated :—

Trinity Mission
Emmetsburg, Ia., Dec. 26, 1896.

Dear Mrs. Gilpin :

The box came safely and in good condition to our home before Christmas, freight charges prepaid, and I hasten to express our heartfelt thanks to yourself for your devoted sacrifice and interest; to your good and worthy Rector and his assistant ; to the ladies of the Auxiliary, and to all who have aided in giving us such a pleasant and substantial Christmas greeting.

Master Herbert is greatly pleased with his new suit, which fits him nicely, and for the very ingenious toys: Grace is very thankful for the nice box of candy. Mrs. Jackson will write a line for herself, and I am very grateful, also, for the nice dress and other garments given her.

As for myself, I want to thank you royally for your many kind gifts to me. The shirts, collars, neckties, socks and underwear will be very acceptable. The garments partly worn will all be turned to good account. One coat fits me very well, vests and trousers can be changed and made serviceable. If any can not be fitted to my use, I will see that they do service in the hands of our Ladies' Guild or Charity Committee.

And now it moves me much to know and feel that you have all done this for love of our dear Saviour and His Church. This makes your gift very precious to us. I wish I could see you all and thank you in person. I can only pray in behalf of myself and family, that the rich blessings promised to the liberal soul may be abundantly granted to you as individuals, and to the Church of the Ascension, that it may continue to be "fruitful in every good work" being strengthened with all might according to His glorious power."

I am gratefully and sincerely yours,
W. T. Jackson.

Mrs. Jackson adds :

My Dear Mrs. Gilpin :

The very nice box that your Ladies' Guild prepared for us, reached safely and furnished many pretty as well as useful Christmas presents for us.

I cannot mention each article, as all seem to be just what we need. Please accept for yourself and the other kind ladies that helped to prepare the box, our most sincere thanks. We pray that God may reward you all for your labor of love.

Hoping that your Guild may continue to make other missionaries' lives happy by your deeds of kindness, and with our kindest wishes for your health and happiness, I am most cordially yours.

S. John's Guild Sports took place on the evening of December 10th, in the presence of a large number of spectators. They proved very entertaining, and showed good training on the part of the boys. The following was the programme :

EVENTS—First Part.

Piano Selection . . Miss E. E. Philips
1 Running high jump.
2 Potato race.
3 Running broad jump.
4 Exhibition . . . . . Wrestling
F. Peters vs. R. Ramsey, of S.B.Y.M.C.A.
5 Tug of war.

S. John's Guild Team		*Band of S. Michael's Team*
J. Brown	1st Position	Thomas Cross
A. Dooley	2d Position	George Brand
H. Ellis	Anchor Support	C. Hilderbrand
Wm. Perry	Anchor	Charles Taylor
E. McCann	Judges	S. Warren
D. Dunn	Timekeepers	N. Warren

6 Exhibition . . . . . Select
F. Peters. R. Ramsey.
7 Dumb bell race.
8 Standing broad jump.
Extra exhibition . . . Bag Punching
By Walter Conger of S. John's Guild.

EVENTS—Part Second.

Piano solo . . . . . Richard Philips
9 Tug of war . . . Second Heat
10 Exhibition . . Fencing, single sticks
L. Dillon vs. R. Brugan, of S.B.Y.M.C.A.
11 Bar vault.
12 Indian club race.
13 Standing hop, step and jump.
14 All-fours race.
15 Exhibition . . . . . Select
By Prof. Charles Moore, of S.B.Y.M.C.A.
16 Putting shot, 16 pounds.
17 Sack race.

Judges for the Events.

Mr. E. McCann Mr. D. Dunn

Prizes awarded for each event by Miss M. J. Gilpin.

Mr. David Patchell carried off three prizes, viz.: that for the potato race, the dumb bell race and putting the shot.

Mr. Wm. Perry won the bar vault and high jump, and Mr. Brown the broad jump.

Mr. Gardiner managed by a large amount of good fortune to win the sack race.

We do not, this time, have to tell how we lost the tug-of-war. We leave that to St. Michael's. They have our sympathy. We know how they feel.

The success of the sports was mainly due to the untiring efforts of Mr. Geo. Dooley. We extend him our hearty thanks.

Subscriptions.—We have to acknowledge the following subscriptions received during December:

Mrs. N. S. Jensen Miss M. Wurts
Miss Mary McKnight Miss M. S. Hamilton
Miss Isabel Schell Miss M. H. White
Miss M. A. Pierce

We are still largely indebted to our printer. Will not all present subscribers pay up, and will not everyone in the parish give fifty cents a year to help pay for this very useful paper?

History of the Church of the Ascension.

Broad Street below South, Philadelphia.

All this time the church property was held under the original articles of association, by which the vestrymen were elected for life, with power to fill the vacancies as they occurred. It was not until 1845 that the church passed into the hands of the congregation, which was then regularly incorporated, and the vestrymen henceforth were elected in the usual way. The property was embarrassed with a debt of $8,000, which, however, by liberal contributions, chiefly from the original inaugurators of the work, was finally reduced to a mortgage of $2,000. A considerable congregation attended the church at this time and a good work was done.

By 1847, however, owing to the constant difficulty which was experienced in meeting the expenses of the Church, it was felt that something must be done to make the Church more attractive. As originally built there were two rows of square windows on the sides, hung with Venetian blinds; the staircases came directly up into the Church, without any vestibule ; in the chancel a large wooden structure in the center served for a pulpit, with a small table in front of it; the Church was lighted with lamps, and there was a small and very poor organ. Two architects, Mr. Upjohn, of New York, and Notman, of Philadelphia, both advised the sale of the edifice and the erection of a new building, rather than the attempt to improve it. Funds, however, not being forthcoming for the purpose, at the cost of some $4,000, it was remodeled by having long, narrow, rounded windows, filled with colored glass, placed in the sides ; vestibules erected ; the Church repainted ; a new organ built, and the pulpit moved from the center to one side of the chancel and an altar, covered by an altar cloth, put in its place.

These improvements do not seem to have had the desired effect, for only two years afterwards, in 1849, the consent of the Standing Committee was asked and obtained for the sale of the Church for a public school.

The sale, however, was not consummated. In 1855, after a rectorship of thirteen years, Dr. Ogilby resigned to accept the position of one of the assistant ministers in Trinity Church, New York, which position he held until his death some years ago.

(*To be continued.*)

The Ascension News.

Vol. V. PHILADELPHIA, FEBRUARY, 1897. No. 2

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH ALL SEATS FREE

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334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
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1310 Ritner St.

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Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

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KALENDAR.—FEBRUARY

2 Purification.
5 Friday—Fast.
7 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany.
12 Friday—Fast.
14 Septuagesima.
19 Friday—Fast.
21 Sexagesima.
24 S. Matthias.
26 Friday—Fast.
28 Quinquagesima.

GUILD MEETINGS.

1 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.
2 and 16 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
9 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Missionary Society, first Friday, to A. M.
Mothers' Meeting, Wednesday, 7.00 P. M.
Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3.00 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3 P. M.

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Secretary, Mr. Henry B. Hodge
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Mr. George W. Welsh, Jr.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

BIBLE CLASSES.

Sundays, 3.00 P. M.

For girls, Miss Grider.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10.00 A. M.

DIOCESES AND PROVINCES.

A Diocese is the territorial jurisdiction of a Bishop. Wherever the Church has been established the whole of the national territory has been divided up into districts, each of which is placed in charge of a Bishop, and he becomes the spiritual ruler and pastor of all the people therein. It is his duty to see that the offices of the Church are duly and properly performed. All the clergy in that district derive their authority and right to officiate from him. He confirms the laity and ordains the clergy. He administers discipline and acts as judge and arbiter in all cases of dispute and difficulty. But he is not an absolute ruler. The Episcopate is one. Each individual Bishop is controlled by the other members of his order. He cannot teach or require as of faith what the others do not agree to, or if he does, they can discipline or depose him. And even in the government of his diocese he takes counsel at least with his clergy and laity. The ancient saying was, that as nothing should be done without the Bishop so the Bishop should do nothing without the Presbyters. Hence the Bishop holds from time to time what is known as a Diocesan Council or convention composed of the clergy of the Diocese and representatives of the laity. These consult together as to the interests of the Diocese, and with the consent of the Bishop, set forth constitutions or rules for the regulation of the churches therein.

Thus the Bishop, with the clergy and laity of his Diocese, form, as it were, a family or complete body. Each is a necessary part of it. There can be no Bishop without a Diocese, the clergy can act only from the authority and under the government of a Bishop, and the laity would have no head or pastors without the Bishop and his clergy.

So all the members of a Diocese should take an interest in the work for the Diocese, not simply for the individual congregations to which they belong. They should try to extend and strengthen the Diocese, build up and support its general institutions for educational, benevolent and missionary work. The clergy and laity of different parts of the Diocese should be brought together, and come to know each other, and feel they have common interests and a common work to do. They should all look upon the Bishop as their leader and chief pastor, and hold up his hands and further his plans and heed his instructions. There should be one chief church in each Diocese called the Cathedral, from the Greek word cathedra, a seat, because the Bishop has his seat or throne there. It is the Bishop's church, and by its size and beauty should attest the importance and glory of religion. It should be large enough for assemblies of the clergy and laity and great special congregations, and by its services, music, etc., should set the standard of worship for the other churches in the Diocese. Such a church would be a centre and bond for all the other churches in the Diocese.

But while the Diocese is thus complete in itself it is not independent. It cannot propagate or continue itself. Its Bishop cannot consecrate his own successor, nor can a single Diocese legislate upon anything that is fundamental in Doctrine, Discipline or Worship, for our Lord's promises were not to a single part of His Church but to the whole body. So Dioceses have long been associated into Provinces, that is a number of Dioceses formed together by neighborhood or common ties. It alone can pass canons or rules for the government of the Church within its boundaries. The Bishop of the chief Diocese, or sometimes, as with us, the oldest Bishop by consecration, is the President Bishop or Archbishop. That is, he does not belong to a separate order, but is first among equals. He calls the meetings of and presides at the Provincial Synod or Council. He governs any Diocese in the Province during a vacancy in the Episcopate, and consecrates the new Bishop when he is elected.

In this country the Church still consists of but one Province. But it is getting so large and unwieldy that our General Convention or National Council has long been discussing plans for cutting it up into several Provinces, and it doubtless will be done before long.

In England there two Provinces, those of Canterbury and York, and

in Ireland, Armagh and Dublin, while in Canada and other parts of the British Empire there are quite a number. And the title of Archbishop has lately been given the presiding Bishops of those in Canada. It is the oldest and simplest title, though such Bishops are also called Metropolitans and Primates. It is much to be desired that the same and ancient nomenclature of the Church should be adopted everywhere.

Record for January.

Baptism	1
Communicants added—New	1
By transfer	2
Removed	2
Died	1
Communion of the sick	1
Burials	2

OFFERINGS.

For Current expenses	$514 21
" the Debt	157 05
" " Poor	7 19
" " Schools	50
" General Missions	10 00
Of the Sunday School	11 21
Total	$700 16

PARISH NOTES.

BROTHERHOOD OF S. ANDREW.—We omitted to announce in our last number that at the annual election for officers of our parish chapter of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew, held in December, the following were duly chosen: Director, Mr. C. L. S. Tingley; Vice-Director, Mr. Richard Gilpin; Sec'y and Treasurer, Mr. Henry Kelly.

THE LADIES' AID proposes to take as the object of their charitable work this coming Lent the Howard Hospital. This hospital is in our immediate neighborhood, and on more than one occasion members of our parish have been cared for there, and several of the staff of nurses attend our Church. It is, therefore, very appropriate that we should do something for it. The members of the Aid will be very glad if any ladies of the parish will join them. They meet in the parish building every Thursday, at 3 P. M.

MISSIONARY MEETING.—We hope our ladies will not forget to attend the monthly missionary meeting, after morning prayers, on the first Friday of each month. Only *seven* were present last month. Are they the only ones in the parish who have any interest in or sympathy for the brave, self-sacrificing missionaries of the Church, who are laboring in the hard places in the field? If the ladies will only come and hear about the work they cannot fail to take an interest in it. Are we not hardening our hearts and "shutting up our compassions" from those who need them, if we deliberately stay away from such occasions, when our sympathies are appealed to?

THE GLEANERS.—We hope that all who have taken the Gleaners, are making good speed in getting them filled. They should all be returned before Easter. There are still a few more to be given out. Who will take one?

S. MARY'S GUILD gave a very pleasant Tea on the evening of January 28th, in honor of their new superior, Mrs. T. C. Clark, about ninety persons were present. The evening was taken up with the performance of a short piece called "Young Doctor Divine," by the members of the Guild, under the direction of their instructress, Mrs. McIntosh, followed by some musical recitations, etc., and a repast of tea, sandwiches and cake and ice cream. Such occasions certainly tend to promote sociability among the young people of the parish.

NEW SEATS.—Owing to the increase in the attendance of the Sunday School and Bible Classes, we are in need of more chairs in the parish building. In order to provide them, the building committee of the Vestry, has availed itself of a resolution passed by the Vestry, some time ago, authorizing it to have new pews made for that part of the nave of the Church near the north end, which is now occupied by chairs. These now have been ordered, and the chairs, some thirty-six in all, whose place they take, can be used in the school rooms, and the new seats will add to the uniformity of the Church. They are being made by Mr. G. H. Botwright, one of our members, he being the lowest bidder out of three who gave estimates.

THE SPECIAL PREACHER for the Brotherhood service on the last Sunday evening of this month will be the Rev. Dr. Mortimer, Rector of S. Mark's Church.

CHANGE OF MANAGEMENT.—We have made another change in the business management of this paper, having accepted the offer of Mr. F. W. H. Clarke, who undertakes, as a matter of business, to make it pay. We sincerely trust that he will be able to do so, as we consider this publication a very important adjunct to the work of the Parish, and yet it ought not to be a burden to it, but at least pay its own way, if not do more. Mr. Clarke has opportunities for obtaining advertisements, and as he can devote a large portion of his time to this sort of work we have no question but that he can make it a success, and relieve us of the chronic state we have been in for some years, of always being in debt to our printer.

Our hearty thanks are due to Mr. Henderson, who so kindly undertook the care of the paper in the midst of his own engrossing business. We are very glad to be able to relieve him of it.

CONFIRMATION.—The Bishop of the Diocese has appointed the evening of April 7th to administer Confirmation in this Parish. The clergy will be glad to receive the names of persons desiring to be presented at that time. A course of preparatory instructions will be given by the Rector, on Mondays at 4 P. M., beginning with Monday, February 22d and by the Assistant Minister a course on Thursdays at 8 P. M., beginning February 25th. The candidates are expected to attend one of these courses.

History of the Church of the Ascension.

Broad Street below South, Philadelphia.

He was succeeded by the Rev. Mr. Dalzell, of Georgia, now of Louisiana, who had married a daughter of Bishop Onderdonk. He remained until April, 1857, when the Rev. Samuel Cox, now Dean of the Cathedral of the Diocese of Long Island, became rector. He had the organ moved from the gallery to one side of the chancel, and introduced what he called "a familiar style of chanting," and had the Church open for daily

prayers during the greater part of the year. At first he reported the Church as gradually filling up, but he regarded the neighborhood as becoming more and more unfavorable for it. So much so, that propositions were again made for its removal; but finding that there was no prospect of this being carried out, and the financial condition becoming more and more critical, Mr. Cox resigned, Easter, 1861, determining to undertake himself the formation of a new church in the western part of the city, to be called S. Chrysostom's. A large part of the congregation followed him, and services were for some time held in the chapel of the Episcopal Academy. The effort, however, fell through and Mr. Cox accepted a call elsewhere.

At this juncture, the vestry of the Church accepted a proposition of the Rev. Dr. Howe, then rector of St. Luke's Church, to take the property and convert it into a chapel for his parish. The legal corporation, however, was maintained, the vestrymen vacating their places, the vestrymen of St. Luke's Church being elected in their stead, Dr. Howe being elected rector. The Rev. J. A. Childs was placed in charge of the chapel as assistant minister. He was succeeded in 1862 by the Rev. C. W. Duane, afterwards rector of St. Andrew's Church, West Philadelphia, and he in turn, in 1864, by the Rev. Wm. H. Hare, now Bishop of Southern Dakota. During Dr. Hare's administration the Church so improved in numbers and ability, that in a few years it was thought best to sever the connection with St. Luke's Church and for the parish to rely on its own resources. This was done in 1867.

During the period it was a chapel of St. Luke's all the indebtedness on the property was removed and the system of free seats was adopted, but when it became independent again pew rents were resorted to. In spite of the improvement which had taken place in the congregation Dr. Hare soon came to feel that it would be impossible to build up a really strong and efficient parish in the locality, and negotiations were entered into for the sale of the Church to St. Thomas' Parish and for the erection of a new building on the identical lot on Broad Street on which the new Church now stands, plans for which were drawn. The negotiations, however, fell through, and in consequence Dr. Hare resigned, to become, like his predecessor, Dr. Harris, one of the secretaries of the Board of Missions in New York. Two years later he was elevated to the Episcopate.

After an interregnum of a year the Rev. H. M. Stuart became rector. He was a well-read and worthy man and esteemed a fine preacher; but during his rectorship the process of deterioration in the neighborhood went on; many influential persons removed from the parish, and it became more and more difficult to sustain it, until finally on Mr. Stuart's resignation, in 1878, the vestry resolved to close the Church and hand the keys to the Bishop, for him to make such disposition of the property as he thought best. This would have been done had not a single member of the vestry, the late Dr. Roger Keys, offered to keep the Church open at his own risk. Services therefore were continued without intermission, various clergymen officiating for a few months at a time. At each change, however, more and more persons left the parish, until, in May, 1880, but thirty-two communicants were reported as belonging to it.

(To be continued.)

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions have been received since our last issue:

Miss Emily Casey	Mrs. H. C. Pollock
Mrs. Anna Macartney	Miss M. W. Harper
Miss E. Wandell	Miss M. G. Harper
Mr. W. H. Cope	Mr. Thos. Neilson
Mrs. W. H. Cope	Mr. T. L. Wilson
Miss Parmalee	Mr. Richard Stevenson
Mrs. G. A. Nicholson	Miss R. McElhinney
Mrs. I. W. Stokes	Mr. W. M. Newnam
Miss Sarah Vodges	Mrs. Alexander
Mrs. J. P. Roper	Mr. W. C. Mayne
Miss H. Dickerson	Mrs. Milliken
Mr. F. S. Keese	Miss Barrington
Mr. and Mrs. William Platt Pepper	

DONATIONS RECEIVED.—Mr. William Platt Pepper, $1.50; Mr. F. S. Keese, 50 cts.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

In no part of the machinery of parish work is it so essential that the clergy should be supported by the personal aid of the laity as in the Sunday School. Here is the young life of a parish; here are to be fostered and cultivated the minds which shall later produce the active element, the people of the parish. In order that these people should be, not empty or careless, but spiritually minded, well taught in the Faith and Truths of the Church, it is vitally necessary that this teaching should begin in early youth. The Sunday School offers the best opportunity for such teaching; but it is not intended that its instruction shall entirely absolve the parents from home guidance of the youthful minds. There is first taught veneration for holy things, reverence for God and His Church, and the school develops these ideas, teaches the reason why, and so brings the child to full understanding of the Christian faith. In every parish, then, the Sunday School should express the life which is within its workings. The children should all be in the school; but not alone with the children must the responsibility rest, but with teachers as well, for theirs is the privilege, and theirs the responsibility of assisting the clergy in building not for to-day, but for future years, the strength and usefulness of every parish as a bulwark in Christ's Church.—*Ex.*

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KALENDAR.—MARCH.

3 Ash Wednesday.
7 First Sunday in Lent.
10 Ember Day.
12 Ember Day.
13 Ember Day.
14 Second Sunday in Lent.
21 Third Sunday in Lent.
25 Annunciation, B. V. M.
28 Fourth Sunday in Lent.

All days in Lent except Sundays are fasts.

GUILD MEETINGS.

8 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.

2 and 16 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

9 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

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For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

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Saturdays, 10.00 A. M.

PARISHES.

A parish is a sub-division of a Diocese which is in charge of a Priest. Just as all the territory of a Christian country is divided up into Dioceses, so every part of each Diocese should be included in some parish, so that there will be a clergyman responsible for the work of the church therein. He is the pastor of that company of Christians, he should minister to, and look after and celebrate the Offices of the Church for them. And if there are any within its bounds who are ignorant of or neglect their religious duties, he ought to go after them and try to win and teach and lead them. Thus every portion of every Christian country would be under the oversight of a Christian Priest. He ought, if possible, to know every soul in his parish and look after his spiritual welfare. Thus the work of the Church would be thoroughly and effectually done. This is the ideal, and we believe that every part of the Catholic Church has been thus constituted except, unfortunately, our own.

We have no territorial parishes, except in the States of Virginia and Maryland, where they were constituted before the Revolutionary war, and even there the lines have not been altered to suit the growth of the population, so that the condition of things, especially in the large cities, is not different from what it is in other States. With us, we build churches where the means can be obtained for the purpose, and the persons who choose to attend them, or who can be induced to do so, form the congregation. But no particular district being assigned to the clergyman, he does not feel any responsibility for the population at large, or if he attempts to do any missionary work, he does not know where to do it. If he goes on one side, he may be intruding on the cure of another Priest, or two Priests may be going over the same district, and other large districts may have no one to look after them. The reason we have no territorial parishes in this country, except in Maryland and Virginia, is that the Church in those States only, was established before the Revolution. In the others it was barely tolerated, and in all the States after the Revolutionary war was ended, it was in such an unsettled condition that it thought only of preserving itself, and securing the privileges of the Church for its own members. Such a thing as making provision for all the population never occurred to it. It is only of late years that the Church has grown so that it is catching up at all with the increase of the population and absorbing them in such numbers as to make it possible for it to undertake to look after all. So in New York City and some other places, the system of territorial parishes has been to some extent introduced. It ought to be adopted everywhere, and until it is, the work of the Church cannot be thoroughly and systematically done.

But there are objections to its introduction on the part of many from the idea that if territorial lines were established, all would be obliged to attend and support the Church in whose parish they were living, whether they liked the clergyman or its services or not, and that no one should go to any other than their parish church. But while this would be the ideal, it would of course be impossible to enforce it. In so many places the churches are so close together, and there is such a difference in the way in which they are conducted, that it would neither be wise nor right to compel people to attend or support churches they did not like. So that in any establishment of the system the right of persons to go to any church they prefer, must be fully recognized, and also the right of the clergyman to minister to those attending their churches, even though they are living within the bounds of other parishes. But these rights being recognized it would not interfere with the great object of the system which is to provide for the thorough shepherding of all the people, having some one appointed whose duty it should be to look after every home, and search after and reach every soul. We cannot but hope that before long our Church like every other part of the Catholic Church will be thus constituted.

But even where parish lines are not established, every Christian should see that he has a Parish

church. That is, a church to which he belongs, where he has his privileges and his duties, that there is some particular clergyman whom he regards as his Pastor, who personally knows him and has his name enrolled as a member of his church. Of course, one can attend and receive the sacraments in any church, but unless there is some particular church to which he belongs, he will never have the same feeling towards it, or interest in it, or discharge his duty towards it as he should.

And in removing from one place to another one should always take a letter of transfer from his Pastor to the new parish he intends to join.

Not to belong to a particular church is like not having a permanent home.

Record for February.

Baptisms	2
Communicants added—New	2
By transfer	2
Removed	2
Died	2
Burials	2

OFFERINGS.

For Current expenses	$363 36
" the Debt	61 10
" " Poor	19 86
" General Missions	50
" the Jews	1 50
" Diocesan Missions	16 30
" Church Building	2 00
Of the Sunday Schools	9 46
Total	$474 08

"It is a part of our perfection to find ourselves imperfect."

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—The Ladies' Aid have received a piece of alpaca for choir cassocks, and twenty-five yards of muslin from Strawbridge & Clothier. The embroidery class has made and presented to the church a violet silk maniple embroidered; twelve books were received for the parish library; an iron bed and mattress were given to a poor woman, and a hat rack for the ladies work room.

NEEDS.—The Ladies' Aid ask for donations of muslin for under wear, also muslin for sheeting and pillow cases for the Howard Hospital, for which they are working this Lent, and they will be glad if any ladies of the congregation would join with them in sewing on Thursdays at 3 P. M.

There is also need of donations of money and clothing especially for men and boys, for the benovelent work of the Parish. Any person having clothing to give away can notify the sexton and he will call for it.

LENTEN SERVICES.—As usual during Lent, the boys of the choir will be present at the daily 5 P. M. service, and there will be a short lecture after prayers on Fridays.

JUNIOR AUXILIARY.—On the last Sunday of February the Sunday School of the parish was constituted as part of the Junior Auxiliary to the Board of Missions, and the usual mite boxes for collections for Missions during Lent given out. It is hoped that the interest of the school in Missions may in this way be enhanced.

CONFIRMATION.—Instructions are given every Thursday at 8 P. M. in the Guild room. All wishing to be confirmed this year are expected to attend this course of instruction. The Confirmation will take place on the evening of April 7.

THE ASSISTANT MINISTER has had so much trouble with his throat since he returned to work in the Autumn, that at the suggestion of the Rector, he has been given a month's holiday so as to let his voice have entire rest. He has gone for a short trip to Florida. His place is being supplied by the Rev. H. Page Dyer, who last winter was in charge of the Church of the Holy Comforter.

THE SPECIAL PREACHER at the Brotherhood of St. Andrew service on the last evening of this month will be the Rev. Dr. Blanchard, Rector of St. James Church. The Rev. William P. Lewis, D. D., kindly took the place of the Rev. Dr. Mortimer who was prevented from being present at the service in February as was announced.

SPECIAL SINGERS.—We were favored one Sunday afternoon last month in having in our choir Mr. Frank Potter, of New York, a brother of the Bishop. He is a professional musician having a very fine and highly cultivated tenor voicee. He sang as an anthem, a selection from the oratorio of Elijah. Mr. Ryder, of the Drexel Institute, has also favored us with a solo on one or two occasions at the night service, and Messrs Van Lear and W. D. Miller with a duet.

THE GLEANERS.—We hope all who have taken these books or the cards to collect for our floating debt are trying to get them rapidly filled up. They should all be returned before Easter and we expect to receive at least $500 from this source.

SPECIAL ENVELOPES for Diocesan Missions were sent out for this quarter, and we trust will be returned with enough to make up the amount this parish is expected to contribute to this purpose, which is, together with the Sustentation Fund $126.35.

The Arch-deacon of the Diocese made a very forcible appeal in behalf of this Fund, on the first Sunday in February.

SPECIAL SERVICES.—We are requested to call the attention of the members of the congregation to the following meetings to which they are invited.

Quiet Day for Women.—Thursday, March 11th. at St. Luke's Church, Thirteenth street, below Spruce. Beginning with Holy Communion at 9.30 A. M. Service for men and women with address at 8 P. M.

Conference of Church Workers.—Friday, March 12th, at the Holy Trinity Guild House, Twentieth street below Walnut, 10.30 A. M.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions have been received since our last issue:

Mrs. H. C. Mayer	Mrs. W. E. Eckert
Mr. I. H. Butler	Miss A. H. Chamberlain
Mr. C. J. Yost	Mrs. Hulings
Mrs. W. G. Price, Jr.	Mrs. T. S. Parvin
Mr. Thos. Robb	Mr. C. H. Tingley
Miss McElhaney	Mrs. L. Smith
Mrs. Kease	Mrs. S. A. Smyth
Mr James Lesesne	Mr. H. C. Selby
Mrs. J. G. Johnson	Miss Davis
Mr. W. C. Lloyd	Miss Zantzinger
Mr. Kinzle	Mrs. C. L. Leiper
Mrs. Hawkins	Mrs. Connelly
Mrs. Mushall	Mr. Samuel Wetherill
Mrs. S. Tait	Miss Price
Mr. R. Stevenson	Mrs. Harmar
Mrs. C. Loughlin	Mr. Geo. Wharton
Mrs. G. W. Biddle	Mrs. John Waterall
Mrs. Lehman	Mrs. Knowles
Misses Epprecht	Mr. F. R. Stevenson
F. S. Pierce, M.D.	Mr. Samuel Milliken
Jos. W. Crowley, M.D.	Miss Holbrook

DONATION—W. C. Lloyd, 50 cts.

History of the Church of the Ascension.

Broad Street below South, Philadelphia.

In November of that year the Rev. G. Woolsey Hodge became rector. Various improvements were then made. The organ, which had been set up again in the gallery, was once more brought down to the body of the Church. A handsome stained glass window representing the Ascension was put in the chancel, a surpliced choir was introduced, a weekly Eucharist and daily service established, and the system of free seats and voluntary offerings, for which the Church was originally designed, was resumed, and has ever since been maintained. Under this changed condition of things the Church improved. The communicant list rose to over two hundred, an indebtedness which had accumulated was paid off, and the expenses of the Church were readily met. Still it was felt that neither the building nor the location were adapted for a strong and permanent work among white people. Accordingly, in 1885, an offer for the purchase of the property by a colored congregation was accepted, and a lot on Broad street below South, having a frontage of 130 feet on Broad street, was secured for the erection of a new Church. A commodious brick school building was erected on the rear of the lot and the foundations of the Church were laid during the summer. The large school room on the upper floor was fitted up as a chapel and used for Church services from November, 1885, to December, 1886, when the nave and aisles of the Church were completed and taken into use, a temporary chancel being arranged at one end of the nave. During the summer of 1889, the chancel proper, together with the organ chamber and vestry, were erected. And in 1890, a fine Roosevelt organ, costing over $4,000, was put in. In 1891, the late Mr. Benjamin Johnson, left the Church $10,000, as the beginning of an endowment fund.

The Church is built of gray Leiperville stone, and is now completed with the exception of the tower. The ridge of the roof of the nave and chancel runs through at the same height, a fleche, covered with copper, rising over the chancel arch, and an iron cresting distinguishing the roof of the chancel from that of the nave. The Church is lined in the interior with colored brick, the clerestory walls resting on columns of unpolished red Scotch granite with carved capitals. The chancel, which is separated from the nave by a dwarf screen of brick and stone, has an apsidal termination; it is lighted by eight single lancet windows and, with the Church, has an open timbered roof. The windows of the aisles have been filled with handsome stained glass representing scenes from the life of our Lord, and five of those in the chancel with similar ones. It is hoped some day to erect a handsome altar and reredos.

Since the removal of the Church to Broad street it has continued to improve, the communicants at the last report numbering 504 and the yearly contributions have amounted to from $8,000 to $10,000. The total amount expended in building has been about $47,000, the cost of the lot being $25,000 in addition.

In its now prominent and central position, in its handsome and attractive edifice, with its bright, hearty services and free seats, there seems every prospect of a strong and permanent parish being built up. Services are held six times every Sunday, and twice daily from October to June, and on Wednesdays and Fridays, and on all the Holy days throughout the Summer. The church is always open for private devotion.

DRAW NEAR WITH FAITH.

"Let us draw near with a true heart, in full assurance of Faith—*Heb. x.*

Unto Thy holy altar, Lord,
Our heads and hearts bowed low,
Where Thou art most to be adored,
We come Thy Grace to know.

Wearied and wounded in our strife
With Satan and with sin,
We come to Thee, the Bread of Life,
New strength and hope to win.

We do not ask how it can be,
That Thou Thyself should'st give
Into our hands and hearts; but we
Receive Thee there and live.

Oh, dwell within us when we turn
Back on our earthly way,
And may we by Thy presence learn
To love Thee more each day.

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COAL
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WOOD
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1725 Chestnut Street

The Ascension News.

Vol. X. PHILADELPHIA, APRIL, 1897. No. 4

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ASSISTANT:
REV. LOUIS A. LANPHER,
1310 Ritner St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
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CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
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SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2022 St. Alban's St.

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Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P. M.

DAILY:
Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

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A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

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Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

KALENDAR.—April.

4 Passion Sunday.
11 Palm Sunday.
12 Monday before Easter.
13 Tuesday " "
14 Wednesday " "
15 Maunday Thursday.
16 Good Friday.
17 Easter Even.
18 Easter Day.
19 Monday in Easter Week.
20 Tuesday " " "
23 Friday—Fast.
25 Low Sunday.
30 Friday—Fast.

All days in Lent except Sundays are fasts.

GUILD MEETINGS.

'5 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.

6 and 20 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

6 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Missionary Society, first Friday, 10 A. M.
Mothers' Meeting, Wednesday, 7.00 P. M.
Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3.00 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. William C. Mayne.
Secretary, Mr. Henry B. Hodge
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Mr. George W. Welsh, Jr.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

BIBLE CLASSES.

Sundays, 3.00 P. M.

For girls, Miss Grider.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10.00 A. M.

THE PARISH CHURCH.

We spoke last month of Parishes, and how important it was that every one should be definitely connected with some one church. How that connection will endear the church to us, especially if we have gone to the same church all our lives, and perhaps our parents before us. What a center of attraction is the parish church of an English village, which has stood perhaps for centuries, the most prominent and beautiful edifice in the village, its tower rising high above the tree tops, with its bells reminding the people of Sunday and Holy Day and calling them with their sweet tones to prayer. And how does the grave yard—called in old English, God's acre—surrounding the church with its quaint tombs, where generations of villagers have been laid to rest, hallow the church and the church hallow it.

And even though in this country we have not all those historical associations and the picturesqueness, still a church one has belonged to for years becomes very dear and hallowed in our eyes. Everything about it is dear to us from its associations, the lines of its architecture, the pictures in its windows, or tablets on its walls, its altar piece, its hangings—telling of the changing seasons in the church's year—its font where we were baptized, its chancel rail where we were confirmed and received our first communion and have knelt many a time since in joy to give God thanks, in sorrow to bring our woes to Him, in trial to seek His grace, that sacred spot just in front of the sanctuary, where happy couples have stood to be married, and where the dead bodies of those we loved best have rested for the last time on their way to burial, the lectern from which has been read to us all the wonderous story of the Gospel and the teachings of God's word, the pulpit from which we have heard burning words of exhortation, or instruction, which have moved, uplifted and inspired us, the organ, whose tones have soothed and melted us or filled us with religious fervor. Is there any spot or building on earth which is so intimately and tenderly associated with one's most solemn and sacred memories and feelings in the most important issues and epochs of one's life as a Parish Church? One has the same affection for it as he has for the home of his childhood, or one that has been in the family for years, a feeling one cannot possibly have for a church he attends only casually and with which he is not familiar. Just as one living in a boarding house and changing about all the time does not feel that he has a home at all.

Hence the importance of having a Parish Church, one particular church to which we belong, which is our spiritual home. And hence the importance of building churches in such a way that they will be permanent, not light, unsubstantial things which, like tents, can be taken down from time to time and moved about. A church should be built of such material and in such a way that it will last. We have in this city churches, like the old Swedes,' Christ Church, and St. Peter's, which have stood, the same buildings on the same sites, for a hundred and fifty or two hundred years with scarcely any change, and you know how attached their parishioners are to them. Why should not our Parish Church here last in the same way? We have built it of solid stone and brick, which will seldom need any repairs and no constant redecoration. We have already adorned it with a number of memorials—an unusual number, we think, for so recent a building. And we hope our parishioners will go on and add others, each making it more attractive and more sacred, and we hope that they will see that it is soon freed from all indebtedness and well endowed, and its tower completed and parish building enlarged. If all this can be done, then there is no reason why it should not stand here in its central and prominent location for years and years, doing its blessed work to thousands who might not be able to supply or support such a church for themselves.

Every one who builds or contributes towards a church should feel that he is not only providing or helping to provide what is the most

necessary and valuable thing for himself and his own family, but that he is providing as well a spiritual home for the fatherless, the widow, and the stranger, and for generations to come, and that the good he may do thereby may be simply incalculable.

Let each one have, and appreciate, and love, and do all he can for, his Parish Church.

Record for March.

Baptisms	2
Communicants added	
By transfer	3
Removed	1
Communion of the sick	1

OFFERINGS.

For Current expenses	$301 53
" the Debt	36 00
" " Poor	5 72
" General Missions	15
" Diocesan "	25 35
" Missionary Box	59 00
" the Jews	10 00
" " Seamen	5 00
" " French	5 00
" " Italians	5 00
" " Deaf	5 00
Sustentation Fund	1 00
Of the Sunday Schools	8 75
Total	$527 50

PARISH NOTES.

HOLY WEEK.—We shall have the same services in Holy Week as we have had in other years and which have proved so useful. There will be the usual procession of palms at the mid-day service on Palm Sunday, Daily celebrations of the Holy Communion at 7.30 A. M. and after morning prayers at 10 A. M., except on Good Friday, when the mid-day service begins at 11 A. M., and consists of morning prayer and Litany, followed by the singing of the Reproaches and the preaching of the Cross from 12 to 3 P. M., Daily evening prayer at 5 P. M. and a sermon every night at 8 P. M.

On Easter Day there will be plain celebrations of the Holy Communion at 6.30, 7.30 and 8.30 A. M., and a choral one after morning prayer at 10.30 A. M. At 2.30 P. M. the children will have their Easter service, for which they are now practicing special carols. At this time the contents of the missionary Lenten mite boxes will be presented. There will be also the usual choral evensong at 4 P. M. and evening prayers and sermon at 8 P. M.

EASTER MUSIC.—The choir will sing on the morning of Easter and Low Sunday Gounod's S. Cecilia.

EASTER OFFERINGS.—As usual we ask from all our people special offerings on Easter Day, which will be entirely devoted to the floating debt. Let us see if we cannot wipe it out altogether. The amount consists of three notes, one of $600, one of $500 and one of $300, making a total of $1400.

Last year our Easter offerings amounted to something over $1100. Can we not exceed that amount this year, by the additional sum needed to clear off this indebtedness? Let each one in the congregation make an effort to give as large a special offering as possible and we are sure the sum can be raised. Put your offering in the envelope marked "Easter Offering" which you have received or you will find in the rack near the door of the Church.

Offerings for the Easter flowers may be put in the alms box, which will be marked for them, in the vestibule of the Church.

The Rector would also be glad to receive contributions to provide the annual Easter Festival for the children of the Industrial School, which will take place on the Saturday after Easter, after the 10 o'clock morning service. We should be glad to have members of the Congregation come and see the School and examine the work that has been done during the year.

CONFIRMATION.—Our annual confirmation occurs on the evening of April 7th, at 8 P. M.

MEMORIAL.—We are happy to announce that the daughters of the late Mrs. Wm. Penn Chandler, who gave us our brass lectern and our altar rail, have determined to place brass gates at the entrance of the choir as a memorial to their mother. It will be most appropriate that there should be a memorial to her in the Church so near to that of her husband and so like it. And these gates will not only be an additional ornament to the Church, but will be a protection to the Sanctuary, an important thing in a church which is always left open.

They are expected to be in position by Easter Day.

A SMOKER.—The Men's Guild of the Parish gave a smoker in the parish building on the evening of Feb. 25th. The object was to bring the older men of the parish together that they might come to know one another and be more interested in the Church. About eighty invitations were sent out, fifty-two accepted and some thirty came. Pipes and tobacco were provided, under whose genial influence a pleasant evening was passed. Some music was rendered by Mr. Ryder of the Drexel Institute, and by some members of St. John's Guild. Mr. Harry G. Davis, of St. Luke's Church, Germantown, gave a short talk. The occasion was so appreciated by those present tha it was resolved to repeat it in the near future. The men attending the same church ought to know each other and we are sure it will be for the interest of the church to bring them together.

ST. JOHN'S GUILD ENTERTAINMENT on the evening of March 1st, was a great success. The large school room was filled and the performers all distinguished themselves. We do not think professional minstrels could have surpassed them. We were particularly pleased with the punctuality and promptness with which everything went off. This was largely due, we imagine, to our Sunday School Superintendent, Mr. Mayne, who kindly took the direction of things and not only worked hard over it that way, but himself appeared as one of the performers. The boys are themselves so well pleased with their success that they are thinking of repeating this or giving a similar entertainment after Easter.

AN ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE SUNDAY SCHOOL was given on the evening of Shrove Tuesday. The performers were chiefly some of the smaller children in the school, who sang and recited various pieces, followed by a presentation of "The Peak Sisters" by some of the members of St. Mary's Guild. A very fine and attractive programme of the proceedings was printed. The entertainment was free.

S. MARY'S GUILD.—Owing to the second Tuesday of the month occurring in Holy Week, the regular

business meeting of the Guild will be held this month on the evening of the first Tuesday.

THE JUNIOR AUXILIARY.—On the first Sunday in Lent the Sunday School of the Parish was constituted a member of the Junior Auxiliary to the Board of Missions of the Diocese. For some years the school has been collecting for missions during Lent, and it was thought better to have the school made a regular member of the Auxiliary, that it might have its representatives at the meetings and take more interest in the work. The Rector made a speech setting forth the character and purposes of the Auxiliary, and he was followed by Mrs. Thomas Neilson, who gave an interesting account of what other Sunday Schools and children were doing for Missions. It is proposed to have a Mission Sunday in the School from time to time.

LENTEN SEWING.—As we have announced, the members of the Ladies' Aid are sewing this Lent for the Howard Hospital. They are assisted by the members of St. Mary's Guild, who meet each Friday evening for the same purpose. A class of young girls is also meeting weekly at the house of the Rector to sew for the Sheltering Arms, for which a very earnest appeal for baby clothes was received.

THE GLEANERS.—We again remind all who have taken Gleaners that they are all expected to be returned before Easter, and we depend largely upon them for the reduction of the floating debt we are striving so hard to get rid of this ear.

ADVERTISEMENTS.—We call the attention of our readers to the fact that, through the exertions of our new agent, we have obtained a whole additional page of advertisements, and we should be very glad if our people would notice them and patronize those advertising whenever possible.

SPECIAL SERMONS.—In addition to his work in the Parish, the Rector has taken engagements this Lent to preach in the Church of the Transfiguration, the Advocate, S. Barnabas', Kensington; S. Barnabas', Haddington; S. David's, Manayunk; twice in S. Paul's Church; and in the Holy Trinity, West Chester; and Christ Church, Riverton, N. J.

He was fortunate in securing the Rev. H. Page Dyer to assist him during the absence of the Assistant Minister.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions have been received since our last issue:

Miss Williamson	Mrs. E. Snyder
Miss Boyd	Mrs. Dr. Christian
Mr. Chas. Hall	Miss Jordan
Mrs. Volmer	Mrs. R. Mason
Mr. J. E. Carpenter	Mrs. Clark
Miss S. S. Miles	Miss Dougherty
Mrs. W. H. Barrett	Miss Rousseau
Mr. R. Gilpin	Mrs. Lazalere
Miss Gilpin	Mr. F. B. Falkner
Miss Sinnickson	Rev. J. B. Falkner, D.D.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

In case any one is thinking of leaving property to the Church, we give the full legal form to be used. And we also remind such persons that according to the laws of this State, a bequest for a charitable purpose must have been made thirty days before the death of the testator.

"I give, devise and bequeath to the Rector, Church Wardens and Vestrymen of the Church of the Ascension, Philadelphia." . . . . . .

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KALENDAR —MAY.

1 SS. Philip and James
2 Second Sunday after Easter.
7 Friday—Fast.
9 Third Sunday after Easter.
14 Friday—Fast.
16 Fourth Sunday after Easter.
21 Friday—Fast.
23 Rogation Sunday.
24 Rogation Day.
25 Rogation Day.
26 Rogation Day.
27 Ascension Day.
28 Friday—Fast.
30 Expectation Sunday.

DEDICATION FESTIVAL.

27 Ascension Day, 7.30 A.M., Holy Communion. 10.30 A.M., Morning Prayer, Sermon and Holy Communion. 5 P.M., Evening Prayer. 8 P. M., Choral Evensong and Anniversary Sermon.
30 7.45 P. M., Annual Guild Service.
31 8 P. M., Parish Tea.

GUILD MEETINGS.

3 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.
4 and 18 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
11 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

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Secretary, Mr. Henry B. Hodge
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Mr. George W. Welsh, Jr.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

BIBLE CLASSES.—SUNDAYS, 3 P. M

For girls, Miss Grider.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

COMMUNICANTS.

All Christians should be communicants; that is, the Holy Communion is not intended only for a few specially choice and holy ones, but for all who profess and call themselves Christians. Our Blessed Lord, when He instituted it said, "Drink ye *all* of it." No one can refuse or neglect to come to the Holy Communion without disobeying Christ's command. And He commanded it because all need it. No one is good enough or strong enough to be all that he should be without aid, and the Blessed Sacrament is our greatest means of grace; the aid we need and cannot afford to be without. It is wrong, therefore, and an injury to himself for any one not to be a communicant. And all who have been confirmed may be communicants. Any one who has been confirmed may receive the Holy Communion in any Church, whenever it is celebrated, without any special permission or invitation to do so, or prior notification that he intends to do so; and no Priest can refuse to administer to any one presenting himself, unless he knows that he is living an immoral, irreligious life, and even that must be an open and notorious fact; so as to cause scandal to the community, so careful is the Church to guard the right of every one to receive what is so great a privilege and so necessary to the spiritual life. But while all who have been confirmed may receive the Holy Communion in any Church and at any time, all should be *registered* as communicants in some particular parish. A parish, as we showed in a late issue, is a district, or a number of people, under the pastoral care of a Priest, who should know who the people are who are under his care. Only so can he do his duty to them and they derive benefit from him. The parish is the communicant's home. If he is traveling about or staying in other places, he can always receive in any Church where he may go. Or, if he removes to another locality, he may be transferred to another parish, but his name should always be registered as a member of some one parish.

This would seem to be all very evident and necessary, and yet, strange to say, it is a most difficult thing for a parish Priest to keep a correct register of his communicants, at least in our large cities. People are so continually coming and going. There is so much removing from one place to another. So many remain so short a time in one place or are so uncertain about their movements that they do not think it worth while to connect themselves with any particular Church. Then, so many are careless and negligent; many move away from a parish without giving a clergyman notice or letting him know where they have gone. Many neglect coming to the Holy Communion at all. Now, manifestly, a clergyman cannot go on, year after year, considering and reporting such persons as communicants of his parish, when he does not so much as know whether they are alive, or where they may be found, or, when he does know, that they never come to the Holy Communion. And yet it is very difficult to say in each case just when they have ceased to be communicants.

Then, on the other hand, there are often persons attending a Church and making their Communions regularly who never make themselves known to the clergy, so that they are actually communicants, though not registered as such.

These evils can only be remedied by the laity being careful always to see that their names are given to the clergy of the parish where they reside, and on going away—even though it may be only for a short time– taking a letter of transfer to some other parish with them. But persons who have systematically neglected making their Communions for long periods cannot expect to be transferred and commended as communicants in good standing, for that they are not. If they want such a letter, they should first go to the Priest from whom they seek it, and by him be reconciled and restored to full Communion; only so he can conscientiously give them transfers to other parishes.

Let each Christian esteem it his greatest privilege and the prime necessity of his life to be a communicant in the Church of God, and both exercise and guard his right with zealous care.

OUR FLOATING DEBT.

We confess that we are greatly disappointed that, with all the efforts which have been made this winter to remove our floating indebtedness, we are still unable to do so. Our ladies deserve great credit for what they have done. There has been received from the collection cards and gleaners which they put out about $350, in addition to which some $240 were received from donations and pledges, and nearly $200 from entertainments. These amounts put together would have very nearly liquidated the indebtedness we had at the beginning of the financial year, if we had been able to meet the current expenses of the year, but not only did our Easter offering fall $400 short of last year, but there have been additional expenses we have had to incur this year in the way of improvements, etc. So that at the close of the year we find ourselves very much in the position in which we were a year ago. We have paid off all the indebtedness we have incurred during the year, but not any of that brought over from previous years. We suppose this has been due to the hard times. We know it has been a bad year with many of our people; money has been scarce and hard to get. We shall have to be satisfied with having paid our way as we have, with our increased expenses, and not run any further behind. We shall hope for better times in the future. Above all we long for the time when the Church shall not only be free from debt but *endowed*, so as not to suffer from these fluctuations of offerings, which must vary with the ability of the people. May God put it into the hearts of the friends of our parish to provide such an endowment.

Record for April.

Baptisms—Adults	5
Infants	2
Confirmed	27
Marriages	1
Communicants added	
New	18
Restored	1
By transfer	4
Removed	11
Dropped	2
Died	1
Communion of the sick	2
Burials	2

OFFERINGS.

For Current expenses	$300 93
Easter offering for debt	802 94
Cards and Gleaners	200 55
For Flowers	36 16
" Poor	16 95
" Diocesan Missions	4 00
" General "	50
" Foreign "	19 50
" Indian "	24 00
" Freedmen "	20 00
" Prayer Book Society	12 00
" Children's Festival	6 00
" Mortgage debt	15 00
Of the Sunday School	9 26
" " " " from Missionary mite boxes	51 23
Total	$1,519 02
Proceeds of entertainment at New Century Drawing Room	$153 00
Proceeds of entertainment of S. John's Guild	8 23 25

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—We have to acknowledge the reception since our last issue of the following gifts: A pair of brass gates for the entrance of the chancel, a white silk chasuble—embroidered, a fine linen surplice for the Rector, same for the Assistant Minister, Turkish rug for the pulpit, dozen glass tumblers for china closet, seven prayer books, a quantity of flowers for the Annunciation, Maunday Thursday and Easter; six book racks, and thirty pounds of candles for the altar. S. John's Guild was also the recipient of a very heavy silver cup, embossed and engraved, in memory of the late Spencer Ervin, Esq., presented by his widow. Mr. Ervin had taken much interest in the Guild, having several times made donations to it, and this cup will permanently connect his name with it. It is designed as a trophy; the victories won by the Guild to be engraved on it as they occur. Mrs. Ervin has also presented the Guild with a large photograph of her husband in a frame, and one of Cologne Cathedral, for the Guild room. She designs also erecting a memorial brass to him on the walls of the Church.

OUR EASTER.—We were favored with fine weather, both on Good Friday and Easter-day, and consequently had large congregations. We were particularly pleased with the attendance at the early celebrations on Easter; there being over three hundred communicants at those services, which, with some seventy-six in the middle of the day, made the largest number we have ever yet had on one occasion. Those at the early Communions were almost all our own people, very few being strangers.

The Church looked very well, the new brass gates at the entrance of the chancel being a great addition, and instead of the large pots of plants we have had formerly, the dwarf screen was decorated with a ledge of cut flowers and green leaves.

The music was particularly good; Gounod's St. Cecilia being admirably rendered. The choir deserves great credit for it, as it was really new to most of them; thirteen practicings being given to in eighteen days.

At the children's service in the afternoon, special Easter carols were sung, and the children's Lenten collections for Missions were presented. These amounted to $51.23.

VESTRY ELECTION.—At the regular election for Vestrymen, held on Easter Monday, the following gentlemen were elected to serve for three years:

Mr. Francis S. Keese,
Mr. Thomas Robb,
Mr. John D. Henderson,
Mr. George Gray Knowles, Jr.

And to fill a vacancy, caused by the resignation of Mr. Frank R. Stevenson, Mr. Robert R. Corson was elected to serve for one year.

At the subsequent meeting of the Vestry, the Rector appointed Mr. J. Edward Carpenter Rector's Warden, and Mr. Charles E. Bonnet was elected Accounting Warden, Mr. Tingley declining re-election, owing to the pressure of his business engagements. Mr. George Gray Knowles, Jr., was elected Secretary of the Vestry, and Messrs. Samuel Wetherill, J. Edward Carpenter and C. L. S. Tingley, were elected delegates to the Diocesan Convention.

MISSIONARY WORK. — During Lent the members of the Ladies' Aid, assisted by S. Mary's Guild,

made up a very nice box of clothing for the Howard Hospital, valued at $25, and a private class of girls made up one for the Sheltering Arms.

THE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL closed its sessions for the Winter with a festival on the Saturday after Easter. Nineteen first-class prizes were presented for regularity of attendance and proficiency in work, and ten second class. Every child was given a chocolate Easter egg and an Easter card, and afterwards in the school room there was ice cream and cake, and a fish pond from which each child received a gift.

ENTERTAINMENTS. — Through the kindness of Dr. T. Ridgway Barker, a play which he had written and which was performed by himself and some personal friends, was given in the New Century Drawing Room on the evening of April 28th, for the benefit of our Church Debt Fund. The house was well filled and the proceeds of the entertainment are a most welcome addition to our resources.

S. John's Guild propose repeating their athletic sports exhibition on the evening of May 10th. There will be a tug of war between members of S. John's Guild and a band from the Church of the Nativity together with other contests. We advise our members to attend. There will be a silver offering at the door for the benefit of the Guild.

S. Mary's Guild is practicing a piece to be rendered at our annual Parish Tea, May 31st.

The Men's Guild propose giving another smoker about the middle of the month.

OUR DEDICATION FESTIVAL comes very late this year, but we hope the attendance at its various services will be none the less large. There will be the usual anniversary sermon on the evening of Ascension day, May 27th; the Guild service on Sunday evening, May 30th, and the Parish Tea, on Monday, the 31st. We want to see all our parishioners at the anniversary service and at the Parish Tea.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions have been received since our last issue:

Mrs. J. M. Wirgman	Mrs. J. L. N. Smyth
Mr. David Rea	Miss Revel
Miss Ann O'Hara	Mrs. E. Wood

Laid on Thine Altar, O my Lord divine!
Accept my gift this day for Jesu's sake;
I have no jewels to adorn Thy shrine,
Nor any world-famed sacrifice to make;

But here I bring within my trembling hand,
This Will of mine, a thing that seemeth small,
And only Thou, dear Lord, canst understand,
How when I yield Thee this, I yield mine all.

Hidden therein, Thy searching Eye can see,
Struggles of passion, visions of delight;
All that I have, or am, or fain would be,
Deep love, fond hopes, and longings infinite.

It has been wet with tears, and dim with sighs;
Clinched in my grasp till beauty it has none;
Now from Thy footstool, where it vanquished lies,
One prayer ascends—O Lord! Thy will be done.

Take it, O Father, ere my courage fail,
And merge it so in Thine own Will, that e'en
If in some desperate hour, my cries prevail
And Thou give back my gift, it may have been

So changed, so purified, so fair have grown,
So one with Thee, so filled with peace divine,
I may not know or feel it as my own,
But gaining back my will, may find it Thine.

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The Ascension News.

Vol. X. PHILADELPHIA, JUNE, 1897. No. 6

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

SERVICES
DURING THE SUMMER

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.

Children's Service during June, 2.30 P.M.

Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.00 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS, 10 A. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to Mr. F. W. H. Clarke, 1330 Arch Street, or can be left with the sexton.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

KALENDAR —JUNE.

4 Friday—Fast.
6 Whitsunday.
7 Monday in Whitsun-week.
8 Tuesday " " "
9 Ember Day—Fast.
11 S. Barnabas. Ember Day—Fast.
12 Ember Day—Fast.
13 Trinity Sunday.
18 Friday—Fast.
20 First Sunday after Trinity.
24 Nativity S. John Baptist.
25 Friday—Fast.
27 Second Sunday after Trinity.
29 S. Peter.

GUILD MEETINGS.

7 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays, Recreation.

1 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. William C. Mayne.
Secretary, Mr. Henry B. Hodge
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner,
Mr. George W. Welsh, Jr.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Fayre.

BIBLE CLASS.

SUNDAYS, 3.00 P. M.

For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

A YEAR'S REVIEW.

Our Rector always preaches an anniversary sermon on the evening of Ascension Day, reading the statistics of the past year of the work of the Parish and commenting thereupon. We give our readers a short synopsis of the sermon for the benefit of those who may not have been able to be present. The number of baptisms, marriages, confirmations and burials were about the same as the previous year. Seventy-four new names have been added to the communicant list, but no less than sixty-two removed through death, changes of residence or neglect to come to Communion. The loss the year before from the same causes was sixty. So large a proportion of removals every year makes the work of the Parish very discouraging and prevents any large increase. It is due to the peculiar situation of the Church, many of its members residing in boarding houses, and, therefore, very liable to change their residence, and from the constant removals from the lower portion of the city to the North and West. It is also due to the determination of the Rector not to retain on his list the names of those who have ceased to be communicants, and whose whereabouts he cannot ascertain. We called attention in our last issue to the importance of this matter of registration of communicants, and we trust our people will always see that their names are duly registered in the Parish whose Church they attend, and that they always ask for a letter of transfer when they remove.

The losses by death during the past year have been eight, including the old caretaker of the Church, Mary J. McClure, Mrs. Laupher, Miss Julia Pleasanton and Miss Emilie G. Smith, all of whom had been useful and active workers. Miss Pleasanton remembered the Church in her will, leaving it one-half of her residuary estate. The Church has also lost during the year a friend and benefactor in the death of Mr. Spencer Ervin, who, though not actually a member of the Parish, was much interested in, and did much for S. John's Guild for Young Men. His memory is to be perpetuated in the Church by a handsome silver cup presented by his widow to the Guild, and by a brass tablet to be placed on the wall of the Church, and possibly by a still larger and more substantial memorial.

The Sunday and Industrial Schools have been maintained in about the same numbers, but with a stronger and more efficient corps of teachers than before. There has been an especially gratifying increase in both the male and female Bible Classes. The different Chapters of the Women's Guild have been actively and usefully employed, though the actual amount of collections and work done has not been as large as in some years past.

Our Parish Chapter of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew has been carried on entirely this year by the lay members, and has shown increased zeal and earnestness.

The Men's Guild also has been more active, especially in its efforts to bring together and interest the men of the Parish in its welfare and work.

In looking at the financial statistics for the year, we find that there has been a falling off in the total receipts of about $300 from the previous year. This has been owing to the hard times, and the removal from the Church of one or two persons who had been large contributors. In spite of this, however, we have met our expenses for the year, and though we have not, as we had hoped we might, paid off our floating debt, we have not added to it, as we have in previous years, and we have paid off $500 on account of the mortgage indebtedness, reducing the amount now to $21,000.

We have also to note the following improvements made to the Church: An additional clerestory window, the hood over the door with the electric light, the new permanent seats in the back of the Church and the brass gates at the entrance of the chancel. We can feel, therefore, that in spite of the difficulties against which the Church has to contend, and the financial depression of the year, that we have not only held our own, but made progress. And that we have

several special causes for thanksgiving, the greatest of which is the legacy left the Church by Miss Pleasanton. Though it may be some years yet before this is realized, it is a provision for the future and relieves our minds in regard to the debt, as it will probably more than cover it. And we can only hope and pray that others may follow her example, so that the Church building may be completed and further beautified, its Parish House extended, and above all an endowment provided, which is the only security for a free Church placed as ours is, in a district where there is not as yet much wealth.

Our review of the past year is, therefore, one which can enable us to thank God and take courage for the future. May it make all our people resolve to work harder and give more for the building up of their Parish Church.

Record for May.

Baptisms	4
Communicants added	
New	6
By transfer	1
Removed	6
Communion of the sick	1

OFFERINGS.

For Current Expenses	$383 70
" Floating Debt	16 00
" Poor	10 76
" Diocesan Missions	1 00
" General "	50
Of the Sunday School	8 08
" " Schools	4 00
" " Parish Tea	7 00
Total	$431 04
Additional Receipts from Entertainment	40 00

PARISH NOTES.

SUMMER SERVICES.—We make the usual change in the services of the Church this month. The afternoon service on Sundays is discontinued and the hour of the evening service changed to seven o'clock. The other Sunday services remain the same. The daily service and the Wednesday evening service cease, prayers being said only on Wednesdays and Fridays at 10 A. M., with celebrations on all Holy days. We hope our people who remain in town will be faithful in attendance at these services. The Rector expects to be present at one Sunday service at least, during June and September and to take all the duty during July and August when the Assistant Minister takes his holiday.

SUMMER OFFERINGS.—Persons leaving the city for the Summer are requested, as usual, to place in the plate *before* they go, if possible, their envelopes for the number of Sundays they expect to be away, that we may have the funds to meet our expenses during the Summer months. The special benevolent envelopes for this and the next quarter are for the poor and the support of the schools, which can be returned at any time.

A LOSS TO THE PARISH.—We have to lament the removal, this month, of Mrs. Augustus Jackson and family from the Parish, as they expect to live hereafter in Washington, D. C. As they have been connected with this Parish for many years, have always been most faithful and regular in their attendance, most liberal in their contributions and taken an active interest in various departments of the work of the Parish, their departure will be most deeply felt and deplored.

THE CLERGY.—Any one wanting the Clergy during the Summer can always find one at the church at any Sunday or week-day service, or during June and September the Assistant can be found at his house, 1310 Ritner St., and during July and August the Rector can be communicated with at any time by addressing him at Station "Z," Philadelphia.

S. JOHN'S GUILD SPORTS, held on the evening of May 10th, proved very successful. A large number of spectators were in attendance, and a very full programme was presented, too full, indeed, to be gone through with. Some young men from the Southern Branch of the Y. M. C. A. kindly added to the entertainment by giving some exhibitions of strength. We are glad to say our own boys won the contest in the tug-of-war with the band from the Church of the Nativity.

JUNIOR AUXILIARY MEETING.—Our Sunday School took part for the first time in the annual service of the Junior Auxiliary, held in Grace Church, on May 22d. There was a good representation of the School, and the total offerings presented amounted to $55.87, which was to be equally divided between Domestic and Foreign Missions, one-half of the former to go to the missions in Alaska. In addition to which a box of clothing for the Sheltering Arms was reported as made by a class of girls during Lent.

OUR DEDICATION FESTIVAL, although coming so late this year, was well celebrated. The music at the Festival Service was very good, though the attendance was not as large as we should have liked to have seen. At the Anniversary Service, however, we had more than usual, and the annual service of the Guilds was especially good. Two visiting Guilds were in attendance, which served to swell the procession. The Rev. Mr. Hills, of West Chester, preached a forcible sermon. The Parish Tea was more than usually successful. The attendance was very large and every one seemed to enjoy themselves. S. Mary's Guild performed a small piece called, "A Love of a Bonnet," and S. John's Guild contributed some singing. The Rector made a short address congratulating the Parish on the harmony among its members, and urging all to do everything they could to advance its interests.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL, will continue during June, the Children's Service beginning as usual at 2.30 P. M. The sessions of the School will be discontinued during July and August, recommencing with the first Sunday in September.

THE NEWS.—There will be no issue of the NEWS during July and August.

REPORT.

The following is the report of the Parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop:

Baptisms—adults, 5; infants, 18; total, 23. *Confirmed*—males, 10; females, 20; total, 30. *Communicants* added—new, 45; by transfer, 27; died, 8; removed, 54: present number, 514. *Marriages*, 9. *Burials*, 7. *Public Services*—Sunday, 289; on other days, 532; total, 821. *Celebrations of Holy Communion*—public, 183; in private, 7; total,

190. Number of Communions made, 3,055. *Sunday Schools*—Officers and teachers, 19; scholars, male, 60; female, 73. Bible classes, 2; teachers, 2; scholars, 53. *Other Parish Agencies*—Industrial School: teachers, 13; scholars, 116. Mothers' Meeting: members, 21. Men's Guild, the male Communicants; Women's Guild, the female Communicants; Young Men's Guild, S. John's: members, 30; Young Women's Guild, S. Mary's: members, 35; Chapter Brotherhood of S. Andrew's, members, 12.

Money receipts—Offerings for all Parish purposes, $6,436.68; offerings for purposes outside the parish, $341.50; donation, $100; investments, $602.12; other sources, $266.43; Sunday School, $138.38; Woman's Auxiliary, $144.50; total, $8,029.61.

Expenditures—Parochial, current expenses (including salaries of ministers, music, fuel and lighting, care of Church building and grounds and ordinary repairs of the same), $5,363.65; improvements, $242.33; payment of debt, $500; interest on indebtedness, $1,111.52; support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools, $123.63; for the poor, $191.36; miscellaneous, $426.33; total, $7,958.82.

Diocesan—Episcopal and Convention Fund, $108.82; Diocesan Missions, $89; Episcopal Hospital, $30.58; Sustentation Fund, $35.45; City Mission, $10; Deaf, $5; Italian, $5; Seamen, $5; total, $288.85.

General Missions–Foreign, $57.38; Domestic, $90.90; Indian, $40; Colored people, $22; Church building, $2; Prayer Book and Tract Societies, $23; Jews, $11.50; total, $246.78.

Total for all objects, $8,494.45.

Estimated value of missionary boxes and bundles, $210.

Financial Condition—Aggregate value of property of the parish, real and personal, $80,000; incumbrances: mortgage on the Church edifice, Parish building and ground, $21,000. Other indebtedness, $900. Endowment fund, $9,525.

RULES OF THE CHURCH, Etc.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Baptism is not to be deferred longer than the first or second Sunday next after the child's birth.

Without great cause or necessity, children should not be baptized at their homes. If the child which is baptized in a house do afterwards live, it is to be brought to the Church, that the child may be received into the Church as one of the flock of true Christian people.

For every male child there shall two Godfathers, and one Godmother; and for every female, two Godmothers and one Godfather.

When any persons of riper years are to be baptized, they are to be sufficiently instructed in the Principles of the Christian Religion, and exhorted to prepare themselves with Prayer and Fasting for the receiving of this Holy Sacrament.

OFFERTORY.

"Be merciful after thy power. If thou hast much give plenteously; if thou hast little, do thy diligence gladly to give of that little; for so gatherest thou thyself a good reward in the day of necessity.

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The Ascension News.

Vol. X. PHILADELPHIA, SEPTEMBER, 1897 No. 7

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. LOUIS A. LANPHER,
1310 Ritner St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
CHARLES E. BONNET.

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2022 St. Alban's St.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

SERVICES

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.

Children's Service, 3.30 P. M.

Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.00 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS, 10 A. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to Mr. F. W. H. Clarke, 1330 Arch Street, or can be left with the sexton.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

KALENDAR—SEPTEMBER.

3 Friday—Fast.
5 Twelfth Sunday after Trinity.
10 Friday—Fast.
12 Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity.
15 Ember Day—Fast.
17 Ember Day—Fast.
18 Ember Day—Fast.
19 Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity.
21 S. Matthew.
24 Friday—Fast.
26 Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity.
29 S. Michael and All Angels.

GUILD MEETINGS.

6 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays, Recreation.

7 and 21 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. William C. Mayne.
Secretary, Mr. Henry B. Hodge
Librarians, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Mr. George W. Welsh, Jr.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

BIBLE CLASS.

SUNDAYS, 3.00 P. M.

For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

PARTIES IN THE CHURCH.

It is in the Church very much as it is in the State, there are always parties. Since our nation was founded there have always been at least two great political parties, sometimes more. Now one of these parties is in the ascendant, now the other, electing the President and other officers of the government, and generally directing its policy.

Though both are thoroughly loyal to the nation, agreeing in believing in the great principles of republican government, they, nevertheless, differ in the modes of applying or carrying out those principles, or on certain great lines of policy. And the members of these parties, though they work against each other and vote against each other, still are very good friends and dwell together in harmony, and each submits to and upholds the government for the time being, by whichever party it is controlled.

Now, so it has been in the Church. There have always been different schools of thought in the Church, different conceptions of the Church, different theories in regard to it and its work and teachings. And persons belonging to these different schools naturally do all they can to teach and enforce their own views. And now sometimes one and sometimes another is in the ascendency, has its views generally accepted. And though there are these differences, yet all may be equally loyal to the Church, and conscientious in

trying to carry out and teach what each thinks to be the truth. And all should dwell together in love and harmony. For the differences generally are not about vital matters, that is, things which are of faith. For there are, of course, certain things about which there can be no difference. Just as a man could not be a loyal citizen of the United States unless he accepted a republican form of government. So, unless one accepts the fundamental teachings of the Christian faith, as contained, for instance, in the Creeds, he cannot call himself a Christian or belong to the Christian Church. He may be a very good man or a very learned man, but he is not a Christian.

But beyond those fundamental things, which every one must accept to be a Christian at all, there is a vast number of matters in regard to which it is perfectly legitimate to differ and hold different opinions. There are many things, for instance, connected with religion which are matters of taste; one likes a great deal of music in divine worship and an ornate service, another does not care for music and prefers a simple form of service; one puts a great stress upon Church organization and authority, another looks upon religion almost entirely as a personal affair.

Now, there are a great many questions which are speculative and mystical, and about which there have always been differences of opinion in the Church. On such points as these it is perfectly natural and lawful that there should be differences, and that the persons holding these varying views should associate themselves more or less in parties.

It is far better that they should do so than that they should separate from each other, and go out of the Church on account of them. That was what was done in this country when the doctrine of secession was taught, and it was claimed that each State, if its members did not agree with the beliefs of those in the other States, could go off and form a government by themselves. But that doctrine would have destroyed the nation. So, some Christians think that if all the members of the Church do not agree in *every particular*, they can separate from their fellows and form a new Church. And that doctrine has been just as injurious and destructive to the Church as it would have been in the State. It has given rise to all the various sects, or denominations of Christians, and has done more to weaken and retard the progress of the Church than anything else.

But all should recognize that there are certain great essential principles and truths which all Christians must accept, but that outside of those there is room for legitimate differences of opinion and preference, and that though differing in those matters all Christians should dwell together in one Communion

and fellowship, and live in peace and harmony, just as the members of the great political parties in this country differ from each other, and yet are equally loyal citizens, and are peaceable and friendly to each other.

There is no lesson so necessary to be learned as this. And this is the great difference between the Episcopal Church and other religious bodies. While it insists upon unity in essentials, it allows liberty in non-essentials. And so, though there are different parties in the Church, its members all belong to one body and dwell together in harmony. Whereas, in other denominations they hold that unless their members agree in everything, they must separate from each other and form new sects.

Christ intended His Church to be catholic, that is to embrace all creatures. But He did not mean that there must be absolute uniformity, that all must think alike in everything or have the same tastes. And no Church can be really catholic unless it recognizes and allows these principles. So we must not look upon parties in the Church as necessarily wrong, so long as their differences are kept within legitimate limits.

Record for June, July and August.

Baptisms	5
Marriages	2
Communicants added	
New	1
By transfer	3
Removed	2
Died	2

OFFERINGS.

For Current Expenses	$689 05
" Floating Debt	5 10
" Poor	8 58
" Domestic Missions	50
" Freedmen "	1 00
" the Schools	8 58
Of the Sunday School	3 04
Total	$715 85

PARISH NOTES.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.—The Children's Service and Sunday School will be resumed on the first Sunday of this month; also the Male Bible Class. We hope to see a good attendance at both.

THE SMOKER given by the Men's Guild early in June, the second occasion of the kind, was more successful than the first. Over sixty men were present. They were regaled with cigars as well as pipes, and ice cream and cake. The Rev. Mr. Thomas took the place of his brother, Mr. George C. Thomas, who had been expected to make an address. The Rev. Mr. Bunting, Assistant at the Church of the Holy Apostles, also spoke, and there was some very good singing by some members of the choir and others. We think these occasions are very useful in bringing the male members of the Parish together, and making them acquainted with each other. We hope they will be repeated.

THE MEMORIAL TABLET to the late Mr. Spencer Ervin, of which we spoke in our last issue, has been made and placed on the west wall of the Church. This consists of a brass shield, surmounted by a raised cross, on a square of black marble, with his name, date of birth and death, and a text from Holy Scripture. It is an ornament to the Church, and we would like to see such memorials multiplied. In old times, when people were buried in the Church, monuments, or at least slabs with suitable inscriptions were naturally placed over them. And though this is no longer done, still it is well to put tablets on the walls and other memorials to the dead in our Churches. They not only keep their memory more alive than a monument in a distant cemetery, which is seldom visited, but hallow the Church; they make it different from any other place, and make the worshippers think of the solemnity of death, and set before them the good examples of those who have gone before. For so new a Church building as ours, we are fortunate in possessing as many such memorials as we have, and we trust they will be multiplied in the future.

ROBBERY.—Again our Church has been the subject of a petty theft. One day last month a man came into the Church and told the caretaker that the sexton had left a bundle in the vestry, which he told him to call for, and going into the vestry wrapped up in paper a pretty Swiss clock, which the Rev. Dr. Batterson had some years ago presented to the Church, and walked off with it. The police and pawnbrokers have been notified, but so far the clock has not been recovered. We had hoped that by always having some one in the Church while it was open we had provided against the possibility of such depredations, but it is hard to foresee the devices to which bad people will resort to accomplish their purposes.

LAY READER.—The Rector was indebted to Mr. Harry J. Childs, who has lately become a member of our Parish, for assisting him as a lay reader during the absence of the Assistant Minister in July and August. He read the Lessons at the Sunday services, and took regularly one of the week-day services.

DEATH OF MRS. KEYS.—We note last month the death of the widow of the late Dr. Roger Keys, so long the faithful accounting warden of this Parish. The Rector was much distressed that owing to the failure of the prompt delivery of a telegram he was unable to officiate at the funeral.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions have been received since last issue:

Mrs. Geo. D. Parrish, Mrs. J. Jackson,
Mrs. C. E. Bonnet, Miss M. McCauley,
Thos. R. Nielson, Mrs. Andrew Miller.

Freewill Offerings in Free and Open Churches.

Most, if not all of the readers of this little paper probably thoroughly appreciate the advantages of a free and open Church. But it is necessary to say a word about the corresponding duties which these advantages entail. One hears a good deal just now about offertories falling below their usual level. No doubt this admits of a partial explanation. Times have been bad with many of us, but in spite of this, no one can go so far as to deny that there must be many who attend free Churches who hardly realize the obligations of freewill offerings in return for the privilege, and the duty that clearly rests on people who avail themselves of accommodations to make some return in their support. As a matter of principle, we all acknowledge the duty of giving; of not entering the courts of the Lord with empty hands; of making offerings of our substance, as a sign and token that we are desirous of making the still more important ob-

lation of ourselves. Every one would also admit the general principles which should govern all almsgiving that is acceptable to God. It must be free: for "freely ye have received," therefore, "freely give" (St. Matt. x. 8). It must be willing: for "if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted" (2 Cor. viii. 12). It must be unostentatious: for "let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth" (St. Matt. vi. 3). It must be systematic and regular, for so the apostle commanded his converts: "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him" (1 Cor. xvi. 2). It must be offered in hearty love and charity: for "though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and have not love, it profiteth me nothing" (1 Cor. xiii. 3).

It is clear that the regular weekly offertory supplies the very best way in which we may carry out these precepts of Christ and His apostles. There is no other method so fair, so regular, so unostentatious, so self-adjusting. And it has the special advantage of being exactly the system which the great Apostle recommended and prescribed.

Then, again, with regard to the objects of our charity. In most Churches a careful selection is, or at any rate should be made of the purposes for which our gifts are asked and gathered. Offertories in Church fall naturally into two great divisions—special appeals and ordinary Church purposes. The special appeals, for which set times and special envelopes may be provided, should cover such weighty and undoubted claims as the support of home and foreign missions; the support of Church schools and religious education in all its varied forms; the building of Churches, or the improvement of the fabrics of those already built; or the medical or other local charities of the place in which we dwell. The ordinary collections are usually mainly devoted to these three great ends: the support of the ministry, the help of the poor, and the provision of the countless requisites for dignified and well-ordered public worship. We are all well aware that in some cases endowments exist to help in keeping up these great objects. But in most other cases there is no such endowment fund. It is quite time, then, that we all recognized the plain duty of voluntary effort, and that the freewill offerings of the congregation are often the only fund on which we can rely. Whoso is wise will ponder these things, and recognize his bounden duty in this matter. —*From the Free and Open Church Advocate.*

God offers us an occasion when ever He brings us to see

"A wrong that needs resistance,
A right that needs assistance,"

He offers us an occasion whenever we may comfort the sad or cheer the lonely, or check the foolish or uphold the sinking. When desponding thoughts or faithless fears beset us He offers us an occasion to rise above them. To lie racked with pain is His occasion for patience. To draw near the entrance of the Dark Valley is His occasion for the calm assurance which says, "Though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him!" In short, the worthy life is simply that which in its degree rises to God's occasions as He offers, doing whatsoever its hand *findeth* to do—ready "to turn itself to anything."

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SERVICES

SUNDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P. M.

DAILY:
Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

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KALENDAR.—October.

1 Friday—Fast.
3 Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity.
8 Friday—Fast.
10 Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity.
15 Friday—Fast.
17 Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.
18 S. Luke, Evangelist.
22 Friday—Fast.
24 Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.
28 SS. Simon and Jude.
29 Friday—Fast.
31 Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.

GUILD MEETINGS.

4 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.

5 and 19 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

12 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Missionary Society, first Friday, 10 A.M.

Annual Meeting of Women's Guild, October 28th, 10 A. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. William C. Mayne.
Assistant Supt., Mr. George W. Welsh, Jr.
Secretary, Mr. Henry B. Hodge
Librarian, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

BIBLE CLASS

Sundays, 3.00 P. M.

For girls, Miss Grider.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

LOW CHURCH.

We spoke in our last issue of the fact of there always being parties in the Church. Let us consider now what those parties are—what are their characteristics and principles—that we may have an intelligent idea of them, and see with which we should ourselves be affiliated?

First let us consider the Low Church party? What is meant by that? As the term implies, it designates those who take a "low" view of the church, ministry, sacraments, etc. That is, its members think that religion is essentially a matter of the heart and belief, and that every thing connected with it which is external is comparatively of little importance. So they look upon all outward organizations or forms as more or less matters of indifference. They do not think it matters whether the church is Episcopal or Presbyterian or Congregational or what not. The government of the church is only a matter of expediency or choice. So, while it uses the sacraments, it looks upon them only as signs of a faith and goodness already possessed, and not as means of grace, and so does not attach any special reverence to them. So, church-going is to them valuable only as the preacher is eloquent or the soul is devout. And it is very much opposed to all forms or ritual, believing that they tend to a formal or mechanical view of religion and teach false doctrine.

This school arose in the Church soon after the Reformation. It gained its ideas from the Protestants on the Continent of Europe, where the Reformation was carried to much greater extremes than it was in England. Instead of simply reforming the abuses which had grown up in the Church in the course of centuries, it ran to the extreme of overturning the whole character which the Church had had from the beginning. It adopted new forms of government, invented a new mode of worship, set forth new doctrines and theories which had never been heard of before. Many of the clergy and laity of the English Church having been driven to the Continent during the Marian persecution were thrown in with these Protestants, and naturally imbibed their ideas. They came to think that the Reformation had not been carried far enough in England and did all they could to carry it on to these extremes. It was this party that finally led to the great rebellion in England, in which the Church of England was for a time overthrown, its bishops and clergy banished, its churches destroyed or mutilated and the use of the Prayer Book proscribed.

And though at the restoration of the monarchy the Church was again restored, still this party was very numerous and exerted great influence, affecting largely the teaching and the practice of the Church for many years. Then followed a period of deadness and decadence, during which the Broad Church or Latitudinarian party was in the ascendant. But at the close of the last century arose what was known as the evangelical revival. This came from the influence of the Methodists who arose in the Church of England. John Wesley, their founder, lived and died a priest of the Church. And though after his death some of his followers separated from the church and formed the sect of Methodist, others stayed in the Church and on until the middle of this century they formed the predominant party in the Church. This was a revival of the Low Church in its best and highest form. And we undoubtedly owe much to it in the cultivation of real vital piety and true spiritual religion after the coldness and impurity of the Georgian period.

Of late years, however, it has been declining, in fact its influence as a party has almost entirely gone, both in England and in this country, the High Church and the Broad Church being the prevailing parties now. There are, however, many Low Church men, and many Low Church ideas are held still. This is seen in the number of churches where the service is very plain, where there is seldom any service except two of a Sunday, and the Holy Communion is only occasionally celebrated, and then as a service which only a few devout ones are expected to attend.

Low Churchism if followed to its logical consequences would lead to

Quakerism, the giving up of any ministry, the disuse of all sacraments or forms. But many inconsistently do not carry it so far.

But as a school it is manifest it can never build up the Church, as it sees so little difference between one denomination and another and so little use of what the Church has to give.

We may admire its individual members for the beauty and purity of their characters and for their adherence to the great doctrines of the Gospel, but we find them generally very narrow and prejudiced, unable to see any good outside their own views and very intolerant of those who differ from them. And believing that their principles can never lead to the bringing of Christians together in one body, but rather to further separations—for it was this party that produced the Reformed Episcopal sect—we cannot regret the decline of its influence in the Church.

Record for September.

Baptism	1
Marriages	2
Burial	1

OFFERINGS.

For Current Expenses	$131 66
" the Poor	1 79
" the Schools	25
Of the Sunday School	4 47
Total	$138 17

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS.—The Rector has received a very handsome new cassock in remembrance of a deceased parishioner. Five books have been given to the Sunday School library and four collection bags for the offertory.

WINTER SERVICES.—As usual all our Winter services begin with this month. The Sunday 4 P. M. and 7.45 P. M. services, the daily 10 A. M. and 5 P. M. prayers, and the Wednesday evening service. We hope our people will try and attend the week-day services better than they have hitherto. They ought to be regarded as privileges of which one should gladly avail oneself of.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT.—We regret to say that our Sunday School Superintendent, Mr. Mayne, having removed with his family to Bristol, Pa., finds it impossible to come into town every Sunday. He will, however, retain his position, and come in as often as possible, and Mr. Welsh will take the place of Assistant Superintendent and act in his absence.

GUILD ANNIVERSARY.—The annual meeting of the Women's Guild of the Parish occurs this month on SS. Simon and Jude's Day. All the female Communicants of the Parish are considered members of this Guild, and are asked to attend this annual meeting, when the reports of the different branches for the past year are read, and work arranged for the coming season. The Rector begs all the women of the Parish to take at least so much interest in its work as to attend this meeting, which is held immediately after the 10 A. M. service.

THE POOR AND THE SCHOOLS OF THE PARISH.—The extra envelopes sent out for six months, from May to November in each year, in this parish, are for the poor, and the support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools. We trust all who have received them will be careful to make an offering for these purposes through them. And we want especialy to point out to those who do not use the envelopes for their offerings for the support of the Church, that unless they take envelopes for these and other benevolent objects from the rack near the door of the Church, or use envelopes of their own, marking on them their object, *they will not be contributing at all to these purposes.*

In all Churches which are supported by pew rents, there are always special collections for these objects, and almost every one contributes through them. But in a Church such as ours, where all the collections are for the support of the Church, unless one does as we have said above, or makes use of the alms boxes in the vestibule, he will not be giving anything to purposes which certainly have a claim on his charity. Will not our people remember this, and be careful to give, not only to the support of the Church, but to these things as well.

THE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL will reopen as usual on the first Saturday in November, and we shall be wanting some new teachers for it. The Rector would especially like to know whether there is any one in the congregation who could undertake a class in wood carving, as the teacher who has had this class for some years has removed from the Parish.

THE GLEANERS.—There are still a number of "Gleaners," of which the Rector has the list, which have not been returned. If those who have them think they can still fill them, they can keep them until they do; if not, let them return them with what they have been able to collect. And the Rector has others to give out to whoever is willing to take them. We still have that debt to work off.

S. MARY'S GUILD.—Mrs. J. C. Clark has resigned her position as Superior of S. Mary's Guild, finding that she cannot give the time to the discharge of its duties. The Rector has appointed in her place Miss Barrington, who has so long been treasurer of the Guild and to a great extent assisted the Superior, and who is therefore already familiar with it as its members are with her.

THE VESTRY CLOCK, which was stolen during the Summer, has not been recovered. Is there any one in the Congregation who would like to replace it with another?

THE NEWS.—We want to press all whose subscriptions to this paper are due to pay them promptly, that we may pay for the printing and other expenses. Put the fifty cents in an envelope with your name and address. Write on it "ASCENSION NEWS," and drop it in an alms box or hand it to the sexton.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions have been received since our last issue:

Mrs. J. Leaming	Mr. Wm. Platt Pepper
Rev. G. W. Hodge	Mrs. John Mason
Mrs. Hodge	Mrs. Hiller
Mr. Carroll Hodge	Mr. J. H. Botwright
Rev. A. Lampher	Mrs. J. H. Botwright
Miss M. L. Goodman	Mr. Theo. Ladd
Mr. H. L. Kelley	Mrs. Darlington

Donations, Mr. Wm. Platt Pepper, 50 cts.
Mrs. Darlington, 50 cts.

ECCLESIASTICAL NOMENCLATURE has floored many an ambitious reporter. The other day, a Western paper, in a small town, announced that the Rector of the Episcopal Church was about to resign from the rubric, and become an honorary chasuble.—*New York Tribune.*

The Bicycle and Sunday Observance.

Our Rector recently sent the following letter to one of our Church papers in response to a question as to what shall be done about the bicycle and Sunday observance.

To the Editor of *The Church Standard*:

As both you and your correspondent, S. D. McC., ask for suggestions as to a solution of the question of the effect of the modern bicycle upon Sunday observance, will you allow me to say that it seems to me that the only possible way of meeting it is by insisting upon the inviolable moral obligations involved in the Fourth Commandment. That Commandment is an intrinsic part of the eternal moral code which can neither be enlarged nor curtailed. Its obligations are that all men should have one day in seven; first, for rest from *work*, not from *recreation*, for that may often be the very best and most needed kind of rest required; and, second, for attention to spiritual things, the cultivation of the spiritual life. If a man neglects this observance, his physical nature will suffer, as any machine would be injured by being overworked, and his moral being will become dwarfed or atrophied. If you admit these moral obligations, but say that it is arbitrary to insist upon attention to them in this proportion of one day in seven, the answer is, no more so than the hours required for rest and labor in every twenty-four. *Some definite time* must be appointed for them, and human experience substantiates the Divine prescription of this proportion.

This being so, it is manifest that to give *all* of Sunday to rest or recreation, or, on the other hand, as the Puritans did, to religious exercises, is to prevent in each case the fulfilment of the other obligation in the commandment. What the Church has to insist on is that both shall be attended to.

Now, as regards the bicycle, it is manifest that there can be no more sin in riding on a wheel on Sunday than in walking on one's feet, and that it may be a very useful, innocent, and healthy form of recreation, hence of rest, giving needed exercise and change of scene and thought. But if one rides *all* day, not only would these ends not be conserved, but the fulfilment of the other obligation of attending to spiritual concerns would be prevented. This latter obligation can only be efficiently fulfilled by attendance on public religious worship. Hence the moral duty of such attendance, which the Church always has and always must insist on, and which to every thinking mind is just as necessary to the life and growth of the soul as taking food is to the body. But this being performed, one is free to use all the rest of the day for recreation, and he can ride all the time if he chooses to do so and finds it healthful. Surely no one can or would want to ride *all* the day. Let one ride as long as he likes, and there will still be time left for one attendance, if not two, on public worship. And that no one may say that the hours set for Church services are those he needs for riding, let the Church have services at all hours, early and late. This will add greatly to the labors of the clergy, it is true. But for many classes of people, besides bicycle riders, it is impossible to attend Church at the conventional hours to which Protestant worship has so long been limited; so that, in providing more frequent services, the clergy will be doing only what is their duty, to try and reach all.

Let "bicycle rests," too, be provided, especially in country churches, and thus riders encouraged to go to Church in their bicycle clothes. This will not only make it easier for them to go to Church, but tend to break up that prevalent Protestant idea, which has kept many a soul from Church, that no one can go there except in the very finest attire.

To teach these principles and make these provisions seems to me the very best, and only way of meeting this latest problem in Church experience.

G. Woolsey Hodge.

From the Rubrics.

Office for Private Baptism.—The Minister of every Parish shall often admonish the people that they defer not the Baptism of their children longer than the first or second Sunday next after their birth or other Holy day following between, unless upon a great and reasonable cause.

And also he shall warn them, that without like great cause and necessity, they procure not their children to be baptised at home in their houses.

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Vol. X. PHILADELPHIA, NOVEMBER, 1897. No. 9

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DAILY:
Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

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Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

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Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

KALENDAR.—November.

1 All Saints.
5 Friday—Fast.
7 Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity.
12 Friday—Fast.
14 Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity.
19 Friday—Fast.
21 Sunday next before Advent.
26 Friday—Fast.
28 First Sunday in Advent.
30 S. Andrew.

GUILD MEETINGS.

1 8 P. M., Annual Meeting of Men's Guild.
1 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.
8 and 22 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
9 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

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Mother's Meeting, Wednesdays, 8 P. M.
Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3 P. M.

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Assistant Supt., Mr. George W. Welsh, Jr.
Secretary, Mr. Henry B. Hodge
Librarian, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Fayre.

BIBLE CLASS.

Sundays, 3.00 P. M.

For girls, Miss Grider.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10 A. M.

BROAD CHURCH.

As the term imports, this designation is applied to those who are very liberal or lax, both in their views and practice. It first appeared in the Church of England after the Restoration, and continued on till the rise of the Methodists. It was a time when there was much indifference to religion and laxness of living. It was the era of the fox-hunting parson, and when almost all persons were hard drinkers and hard swearers; when the Church was looked upon chiefly as a department of the State, whose offices were sought for the living they afforded, and of which only the absolutely required duty was performed. Such men had not very deep convictions as to religious truth, were inclined to Socinianism or Deism, and so known as Latitudinarians. It was not a period of the Church's history of which anyone need be proud. It was happily superseded by Evangelicalism, but when it, in time, began to decay, the Broad Church had a new and better revival. Its modern adherents have been men of correct lives and earnest spirit, and sincere searchers after truth, and whose aim has been the high one of trying to reach and embrace all men. But they have been men of sceptical minds, who insist upon trying to understand all things and refusing to believe in what they cannot understand. They constitute the rationalistic school, which follows only scientific methods in dealing with religious truths. They have little reverence for authority or antiquity; they consider themselves better judges than they of old time; they follow the critical method in studying Scripture, and rely on modern advancement and discovery more than on anything else. They eliminate as far as possible all belief in the supernatural; explain away, or refuse to accept altogether, the miraculous in Scripture, and attribute all phenomena, both in history and present experience, to mere naturalistic principles. Of course, such a party has very little respect for the Church as being in any real sense divine. They look upon the differences between the various religious bodies simply as questions of wisdom or expediency. And, of course, they attribute to the Sacraments nothing more than the effect produced by signs and symbols. Matters of belief and matters of religious observance are thus generally of supreme indifference, the whole stress of religion they lay upon correctness of life. A moral life is to them the essence of religion, and in insisting on it, they forget the necessity of correct belief as its source and foundation, and of outward instrumentalities and aids for its development and inspiration.

Carried to its logical conclusions it would end in agnosticism and materialism. But many stop far short of that, and the name is applied to men of every degree of belief or non-belief.

Some very distinguished men have belonged to this school of late years, and they have undoubtedly done great service in bringing Christian doctrine into more or less harmony with modern thought, making it possible for many to hold on to Christianity, who otherwise would have had to have given it up. The great principles for which they stand have undoubtedly affected all—except the most narrow—schools of thought. But their absolute disregard of all authority and reliance in all things upon mere human wisdom and power makes their teaching often most dangerous. They explain away or put the most forced constructions upon even the fundamental articles of the Creed, so that if they receive them at all, it is in a most unnatural sense. This process would soon eliminate all meaning and power from the Christian faith. Many, indeed, of this school do not profess to find Christianity essentially different from any other religion. All are to them equally the result of human development. Christ, though the highest, they regard as only a man. And the Scriptures they believe to be full of all sorts of inaccuracies and inconsistencies, absurdities and errors, so that it is very hard to distinguish what is of value from what is useless.

It is all very well to be liberal, and to use as far as we can our intellectual faculties, but there is a

liberality which degenerates into licence, and man's unaided wisdom is unable to solve all the mysteries by which we are environed. And man's spirit is equally unable to walk aright without help and guidance. So humanity and experience should teach us to rely on aid outside ourselves, and we may be sure that God knowing our need of it has Himself supplied it.

But let us remember that there are Broad Churchmen and Broad Churchmen, some who are truly liberal and have really broad sympathies, but there are others whose teaching is disloyal and dangerous, the blind leading the blind.

Record for October.

Baptisms	3
Marriages	2
Communicants added—By transfer	4
Removed	3
Communion of Sick	1
Burial	1

OFFERINGS.

For Current Expenses	$475 52
" Mortgage Debt	20 00
" Floating "	6 00
" Diocesan Missions	1 00
" the Schools	2 10
" " Poor	16 14
" " Year Book	3 50
Of the Sunday School	4 80
Total	$529 06

PARISH NOTES.

Our Chairs.—Through the liberality of our Accounting Warden in supplying the varnish and the labor of our sexton in putting it on, all the chairs in the Church and Parish Building and some of our tables have been reoiled, which has greatly improved their appearance, the chairs having been in constant use for nearly twelve years without ever having had anything done to them.

Change of Days.—The Brotherhood of St. Andrew Chapter of our Parish will meet on the second and fourth Mondays of each month instead of Tuesdays as heretofore, so as not to interfere with the meetings of S. Mary's Guild, which now take place every Tuesday.

A Cooking Class has been organized of members of S. Mary's Guild, which will meet every Tuesday evening. This, we think, will prove very useful and interesting, and we trust will be largely attended. It will be taught by Mrs. Van Harlingen, one of our parishioners.

The Elocution Class will also be continued on Tuesday evenings.

S. Barnabas' Guild for nurses will meet hereafter the third Thursday of the month instead of the third Tuesday as heretofore.

These changes are to prevent so many different bodies meeting in the Parish building on the same night.

Singing Class.—Mrs. Spencer Ervin has kindly consented to teach a class in singing, composed of the members of S. John's Guild and others, on Thursday evenings this Winter.

Work Resumed.—The Industrial School, the Mothers' Meeting, the Embroidery Class and the Ladies' Aid resume their meetings with this month. Workers are needed in each of these departments.

Special Sermons.—At the request of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, the Rector proposes to deliver a course of sermons on the last Sunday evening of each month on some practical and social subjects. The subject of the sermon for the last Sunday evening of this month will be "Sunday and the Bicycle." This sermon was announced for the fourth Sunday evening of last month, but was postponed owing to inclemency of the weather, causing a very small attendance that evening.

The music at our Sunday night service we think will be much better this Winter. Our organist intends taking charge of it himself, and several soloists have promised their assistance.

Changes of Address.—The members of our congregation will be careful to let the clergy know of changes in their address. To show how necessary this is, the Rector and Assistant on making out their visiting lists for the coming Winter, noted no less than forty changes of residence, among persons attending the Church, since last Spring, to say nothing of those who have removed from the Parish, and doubtless there are others of which they have not heard.

Where Our People Live.—There are some sixty-eight families living south of Washington Avenue who attend our Church, some seventy between Washington Avenue and Pine Street, eighty-two between Pine and Market Streets, twenty-seven north of Market Street and seventeen in West Philadelphia. No wonder they are irregular in their attendance, and that we never get them all together on any one occasion, except Easter Day.

Monthly Missionary Meeting.—The women of the Parish having last Winter been constituted as a branch of the Women's Auxiliary Society to the Board of Missions, it was determined to hold a monthly meeting of the same on the first Friday of each month after morning prayer. The object of these meetings is to bring together those in the parish who are interested in Missions, to hear the reports of the several committees and to devise ways by which the work can be carried on.

We are sorry to say these meetings were very poorly attended. We suppose the reason of this is, first, because there is little real interest in missions. The interest many people have in their own Churches is largely a selfish one, it is from the good or the pleasure that they get out of them. It is not for the good they are doing to others. So, as there is absolutely nothing one can get for oneself out of missions, it is only the rare, unselfish ones that take interest in them.

But is this right? Is it consistent with our Christian profession? Do we belong to the Church simply for the good it may be to us, or are we enrolled in it also as members of Christ, aiming to carry on His work in the world as far as our influence can reach?

And there is another reason which keeps women away from these meetings, and that is because they are so terribly afraid of being asked for money. But one ought to consider it a favor to be told of ways in which one could profitably give one's money. It is not easy to know how to lay it out to the best advantage, and one ought to be glad to get all the information one can about the calls which are most deserving. And if one has not money to give there ought to be no shame in confessing it. It is neither a sin nor a disgrace. Frankly say so, and that is an end of it. No one will press you to give when you do not have anything to give. But if you came to these meetings and heard the appeals that are made,

and the need of help that there is, perhaps you would become interested, and you would find that you could give more than you thought you could, or that in some way you could aid the great cause.

It would make a great difference in the work done by this Parish, if we could get even a goodly number of its women together at these monthly meetings. Let the women come and attend them, and we are sure they will become interested, and that they will find that they can do more than they thought they could.

THE BENEVOLENT ENVELOPE for this quarter is for Domestic Missions. It will be sent out with the Sunday envelopes to those who take them, and all others will find them in the rack near the Church door. This is the only way in which offerings are made in this Parish for Missions, except the collections made by the ladies.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WOMAN'S GUILD.—Twenty of the some three hundred female Communicants of the Parish attended the annual meeting on SS. Simon and Jude's Day. It is simply impossible for any large benevolent and missionary work to be done by our Parish while there is so much apathy on the part of our members. And we think the few who do work and give, accomplish a great deal considering their numbers, as the forthcoming Year Book will show. After the reading of the reports and a statement of the needs of the work, several new appointments were made. Miss S. E. Gilpin takes the place of Mrs. Augustus Jackson on the Indian Committee. Miss Vogdes that of Mrs. Walter Cox on the Foreign. Miss Jordan will assist in the Mothers' Meeting, and Mrs. Van Harlingen will teach a class for S. Mary's Guild.

SUBSCRIPTIONS for the NEWS received during October.

Mrs. S. B. Allen — Mrs. Carman
Miss M. M. Menah — Mr. J. H. Mason
Miss Eliza Kerr — Mr. L. E. Barrey
Mr. Thos. Neilson

Donation, Mrs. Thos. Neilson, 50 cts.

Woman's Auxiliary Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania Branch of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions will be held in Holy Trinity Church, Nineteenth and Walnut streets, on Thursday, November 18th. Holy Communion at 10.30 o'clock. Addresses will be made by Bishop Abiel Leonard, on Domestic Missions; by Archdeacon Page, of Osaka, Japan, on Foreign Missions; by Rev. Sherman Coolidge, on Missions among the Indians, and by Rev. W. V. Tunnell, on Missions among the Freedmen.

A SALE

The ladies of St. Stephen's Church will hold their Annual Sale for the benefit of gentlewomen of limited means, at the Parish House, 10th street above Chestnut, on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, November 11th, 12th and 13th, from 10 A. M. to 5 P. M.

The articles on sale will be, as heretofore, the handiwork of gentlewomen of restricted means, and will include fancy articles, needlework, preserves, jellies, etc. Any ladies who desire to do so can send articles to be disposed of. All expense is borne by the Committee, so that the full amount received is realized by the depositors.

The ladies in charge beg the hearty co-operation of the charitable in the carrying on of this good work.

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KALENDAR —DECEMBER.

3	Friday—Fast.
5	Second Sunday in Advent.
10	Friday—Fast.
12	Third Sunday in Advent.
15	Ember Day.
17	" "
18	" "
19	Fourth Sunday in Advent.
21	S. Thomas.
24	Friday—Fast.
25	Christmas Day.
26	S. Stephen, Martyr.
27	S. John, Evangelist.
28	Holy Innocents.
31	Friday—Fast.

GUILD MEETINGS.

6 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.

13 and 27 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

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For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

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Saturdays, 10 A. M.

HIGH CHURCH.

This term is applied to those who have a high appreciation of the Church, its ministry, sacraments and ordinances. They believe our blessed Lord came not only to preach a doctrine, but to establish an institution, which should be His body and representative, and carry on His work on earth. They think that it is necessary not only to believe, but to be baptized, become members of that Church, and seek through it the assistance men need to enable them to do God's will and carry out His designs.

So, they look upon the Church as a Divine organization, not a mere human device, and that it is of great importance to preserve its unity and purity; that it is not a matter of little importance to which Church one belongs, but that great care should be taken to belong to and preserve the identical body Christ Himself formed. And they think that everything about that Church is of importance; that Christ could not have enjoined anything unless it was necessary, and so, that the sacraments and other things which Christ ordained should be celebrated and received with the greatest care and regularity. They look upon them not as mere signs and symbols of a grace already possessed, but, as the Catechism teaches, means whereby grace is received.

And so they think that every thing connected with the celebration of the sacraments or worship of the Church should be conducted with the greatest care and solemnity. They like more or less ritual, believing it of value to preserve the right estimation and reverence for the rites of the Church, as well as appropriate and elevating.

This is the party in the Church which is most in accord with and loyal to the teachings of the Prayer Book and the principles of the Reformation, as it was conducted in England, in opposition to the more radical movement in other places, which led to the actual overthrow of the ancient Church and all things connected with it.

Its principles are most fully set forth in the first English Prayer Book of Edward VI. And though in subsequent revisions Protestant influences more or less affected it, still its great principles are unaltered and are in accord with the teachings of this school in regard to the character of the ministry, and the importance and solemnity of the sacraments and ordinances of the Church.

This school was in the ascendant at the beginning of the Reformation, and was favored by Elizabeth, James I, and Charles I, but was depressed by the great Rebellion, and by the foreign and latitudinarian influences which came in with the Restoration, and the Presbyterian William, and the Dutch Georges. And, with the short exception of the reign of Queen Anne, it was not until nearly the middle of this century that it revived through what was known as the Oxford or Tractarian movement. Since then its progress and influence in the Church has been most wonderful. In the last fifty years it has simply transformed the Church of England, and is to-day the dominant power in it. Cathedrals and churches which had been neglected and allowed to fall into ruins, have been beautifully restored at an enormous cost. New bishopries have been founded at home and abroad. The worship of the Church from being carelessly and slovenly performed, has been brought up to the standard of the Prayer Book, the Holy Eucharist restored to its rightful position as the central and most important act of worship, surpliced choirs introduced into parish churches, and the ancient vestments, lights and other accessories of Catholic worship introduced. And with all this has come increased earnestness and devotion and activity in church work, such as has not been since the Reformation.

In this country the first Bishops were Low or Broad Church, but, with the consecration of Bishop Hobart, of New York, the High Church movement began and has been increasing ever since. Although bitterly opposed and reviled by those who could not distinguish it from Roman Catholicism, it has steadily grown in power and influence until it is now the predominating party

in the Church. It has affected the teaching and practice even of the other schools and of numbers of other denominations. Things, like the sign of the cross, the use of vestments, the singing of the service, which a few years ago would not have been tolerated for a moment, are now universally accepted and thought nothing of, while the multiplication of services and of all sorts of Church instrumentalities has accomplished enormous results in extending the Church and making its influence felt.

There is still, however, a great deal yet to be done in removing prejudice and misapprehensions, in enforcing Church teaching and bringing all of our parishes up to the standard the Prayer Book sets before them.

To be a Churchman should be synonymous with being a High Churchman, and every one who has had the privilege of being born in the Church or taught what it is, should appreciate and love it, and be earnest in trying to derive from it all the blessings it can give, and in trying to carry those blessings to all for whom they were intended.

Record for November.

Baptisms	3
Marriages	2
Communicants added—New	1
By transfer	10
Removed	6
Dropped	3

OFFERINGS.

For Current Expenses	$359 28
" Floating Debt	6 00
" General Missions	40
" Diocesan "	2 02
" the Schools	1 11
" " Poor	8 26
" " Year Book	25
" Men's Guild	15 35
" Episcopal Hospital	24 42
Of the Sunday School	5 52
Total	$422 61

PARISH NOTES.

SMOKER—In spite of a very bad night over sixty men were present at the smoker, given on the evening of All Saints' Day, by the Men's Guild. The Rector read the annual report of the Guild, showing what the men of the parish have done during the past year. Mr. Tingley made an address, and the rest of the evening was taken up with conversation, music and recitations by some of those present.

PARISH VISITING—The Brotherhood of S. Andrew, of our parish, have undertaken to make a religious census of the neighborhood of the Church, that is, find out what sort of people live in the different houses, whether they are Jews, Roman Catholics or what not. And when they find there are persons who belong to the Episcopal Church, or do not go to any Church, an effort will be made to bring them to our Church. One or two ladies have volunteered to go and see any such families as may be reported.

We want to increase the missionary work of the Church. The congregation is growing, but it is more among the well-to-do classes than among the poor. It ought to grow in both classes.

WINTER WORK is now pretty well under weigh, the societies and classes are all started, but we need more workers in nearly every department. Who will volunteer?

STRANGERS—We notice a great many new faces in the congregation. We hope all such will give their names to the Rector. It is very bad for people to attend a Church regularly and not feel they belong to it, and it is very unsatisfactory for the clergy not to know their own people. A great deal more Church life will be developed, and the people themselves will derive a great deal more good from the Church they attend if they make it their permanent home and feel that they belong to it.

CHURCH SUPPORT—The Vestry are very anxious that all who attend the Church should use the envelopes as the method for its support. This seems to be the wisest and best means of supporting a free Church. It proportions what one gives to his means, not to the seat he can secure in the Church. It secures regularity and system, and enables the Vestry to know on what income they can depend. It does not bind one for any length of time, as the amount subscribed can be altered or stopped altogether at any time; and it insures secrecy. But it must be loyally carried out. It should be a point of honor with every one attending the Church to take a pledge and fill it out for a sum conscientiously proportioned to his income. If every one coming regularly to the Church will do this, its support will be assured. The blanks for pledges are always found in the rack near the door of the Church. Take one, fill it up and put it in an envelope directed to the Accounting Warden of the Church, and send it to the Church by mail or put it in the alms box in the vestibule. When the Warden receives it he will send you the proper number of envelopes for each Sunday in every quarter. These you fill with the amount promised and put them in the offertory plate. If you are away one or more Sundays, be sure and return the envelopes for the Sundays you are away the first time you go.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING—As usual the Church asks for a large special offering on Christmas Day. We need this not only to pay the interest on the mortgage on our property, which falls due this month, but also to pay part, at least, of the amount we were obliged to borrow to meet our expenses during the Summer months, when so many of our people were away. We need, at least, $1,000 for these purposes. Will not our people see that we get it? There is nothing so disagreeable as as to be always asking for money. But the Church cannot be carried on without it, and if the Church is to be free it must depend on voluntary offerings. Let each do his full share and all that is needed can be raised.

Put your special Christmas offering in the envelope so marked, to keep it distinct from your regular contribution.

CALENDAR — So many persons seem to find it impossible to remember our hours of service, meetings of our societies, etc., that we are having printed an Ascension Calendar for 1898, which will contain all this information together with the Festivals, Fasts, etc. It will be printed on heavy paper and can be hung up where it can be easily seen. They will be sold for the benefit of the Church by the Sexton, at ten cents each.

THANKSGIVING.—Through the kindness of the young ladies of Miss Anable's school and some of our own members, all the women attending the Mothers' Meeting were supplied with a bountiful dinner for themselves and families on Thanksgiving day. Through the generosity of one of our members, we will also be able to present each with an order for half a ton of coal.

CHRISTMAS SERVICE.—As usual we shall have extra celebrations of the Holy Communion on Christmas Day at 6.30 and 8.30 A. M., as well as at 7.30 and 11.30 A. M. We hope to see all our people at one of the Celebrations. The choir will sing Gounod's S. Cecilia Mass at the 11.30 service.

THE CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL.—The Christmas treat for the children of the parish will be given on the evening of Holy Innocents' day, Tuesday the 28th. Contributions towards it may be handed to any of the teachers of the Sunday School or placed in the alms chest in the vestibule, which is marked for the Christmas decorations and festival.

THE YEAR BOOK containing the report of all the Church work for 1896-7, was distributed to the members of the congregation on Advent Sunday. Copies can be had from the rack near the door.

FOUND.—A pair of eye glasses were left in the Church. The owner can get them from the Sexton.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions have been received since our last issue:

Mr. Henry C. Kerr Mrs. Alexander
Miss Schell

Donation from Miss Schell, 50 cents.

PUBLIC WORSHIP.

Worship is a duty all men owe to God. Church-going is not a matter of inclination or caprice, but an imperative duty, the neglect of which brings its penalty in loss of spiritual power. Worship is required by the first and second commandments as the basis of right living. Indolence, indifference, amusements, business, should not interfere with this paramount obligation. With many, public worship has become a lost art. The large majority of our people never enter church doors, and many go merely to hear the preacher, forgetting that worship is not preaching, but something higher. We go to church not to get, but to give; not to be entertained nor pleased, but to do our duty to God and to offer ourselves and all we have to Him as a sacrifice. Never was there greater need of insisting on worship as a supreme and sacred obligation.

Worship is, moreover, a spontaneous expression of love. If we love God we cannot keep from worshipping Him. Our souls will have an uncontrolable desire and longing for Him. We shall ask no higher joy than to fall at His feet in loving self-surrender. A Christian worships as naturally as a bird sings. He will say: "I was glad when they said unto me, 'we will go into the House of the Lord.'" It is a heart that is cold or dead that will not worship.

REV. WILLIAM S. SAYRES.

R. S. GROVES
MANUFACTURER OF
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...Apothecary...
N. E. Cor. 9th and Vine
N. E. Cor. 6th and Vine
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COAL
Dry HICKORY
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WOOD
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FLORISTS... 1725 Chestnut Street

The Ascension News.

VOL. XI. PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY, 1898. No. 1

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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ASSISTANT:
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Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address

KALENDAR—JANUARY.

1 Circumcision.
2 Second Sunday after Christmas.
6 Epiphany.
7 Friday—Fast
9 First Sunday after Epiphany.
14 Friday—Fast.
16 Second Sunday after Epiphany.
21 Friday—Fast.
23 Third Sunday after Epiphany.
25 Conversion of S. Paul.
28 Friday—Fast.
30 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany.

GUILD MEETINGS.

3 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.
10 and 24 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
11 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

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Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3 P. M.

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Assistant Supt., Mr. George W. Welsh, Jr.
Librarian, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

BIBLE CLASS.

SUNDAYS, 3.00 P. M.

For girls, Miss Grider.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10 A. M.

CATHOLIC.

This term is applied to those who believe that Catholicity, that is universality, is the test of the truth of doctrine or practice in the Church. Our blessed Lord promised that He would be with His Church to the end of the world. It is not possible, therefore, that the whole Church should err, or that promise would fail. Individuals may err, or portions of the Church may err, but not the whole Church. Whatever, then, has been believed or practiced by the whole Church must be true, and part of the deposit of the faith. This principle is laid down in what is known as the Vincentian rule that that is true which has been believed or followed "always, everywhere and by all" in the Christian Church.

This rule is of immense importance and practical value. It gives an authority which ought to settle all the disputes by which Christians are divided, and affords a test by which every Christian can determine what he ought to believe and follow. Instead of being left to his own individual judgment in the interpretation of Scripture, or determining what is true, or relying upon the authority of one theologian or another, he has here an authority on which he can absolutely rely. What authority could be greater than that of the whole Church? Not only does it come to us with the force of our Lord's promise to be with His Church, which must mean to guide and bless it, but the force of the consent of the great mass of Christians on certain points must be greater than the authority of any individual or even a considerable number of Christians. If all Christians have agreed that certain things are part of the Christian system, surely there can be no doubt about them, even though a few think otherwise. So, in all those questions which are raised about the belief or practice of the Church, instead of every one attempting to investigate and decide for himself, we have simply to ask what has been the belief or practice of the Universal Church, and that should be sufficient for us; that is what we should hold and follow.

This principle follows from the High Church teaching to reverence the Church. And yet there have been, and are, High Churchmen who do not grasp it. They reverence only that particular branch of the Church to which they belong. But the promise of infallibility is not to any one branch of the Church, but to the whole Church. And as all High Churchmen are not necessarily Catholics, so all who call themselves Catholics are not truly such. For there are some who take that for truth which has been taught or practiced by a very large part of the Church. Some seem to think that if anything has had Western use, or has even Roman authority, that is sufficient, though the whole Eastern Church has never taught or followed it.

We must always distinguish Roman Catholicity from real Catholicity. The one is that only of a branch of the Church; the other is of the whole Church. Because anything is taught or practiced in the Roman Catholic Church is no proof of its truth, but if it is held everywhere by the Roman, the Greek and the English Churches we may be sure it is true. It is the failure to realize this distinction which has led some persons to leave the English Church and enter the Roman, and there are some among us who try to force things upon us simply because they have Roman or Western authority.

The principle of real Catholicity is what we should hold to and follow. Everything in doctrine, discipline or worship that can show that authority we should claim as part of our heritage. And it is of great importance that all should understand and try to follow this rule, instead of trying to teach or hold doctrines simply because they commend themselves to us individually. And no branch of the Church should demand of its members belief in anything that cannot show this authority. It is that which separates the different branches of the Church and keeps them out of communion with each other. And it is of great importance that each branch of the Church should conform to this rule in all particulars, instead of keeping up forms or rules or discipline which belong only to

themselves. Surely it is better that the Holy Church throughout all the world should be the same, at least in all its great principles and characteristics, so that one might feel at home in it wherever he may find it. So it is important that its great principles of discipline and worship should be the same.

It is this belief which has led to what is known as the Catholic revival among us of late years; that is, the restoration of those things in worship and discipline, which have been generally accepted throughout the whole Church, though for a time disused in England through Puritan influences. So the use of music, vestments, lights, the sign of the cross and other things in the Church is not because they are Roman Catholic or because they who use them would have our Church turn Roman Catholic, but because they have been the universal use of the Church in all its branches and through all its history. They must be, therefore, the wisest and best things to be used. And it were a blessed thing if all the differences and distinctions among Christians could be abolished and all united in one faith and practice. It is only by grasping this principle of Catholicity that that can be done. We should never give up the name of Catholic to any one branch of the Church. It is a misnomer when so used. Catholic means universal, and only what is so held and followed can be true and right, and so we should hold and follow only what is truly Catholic.

Record for December.

Baptisms	3
Communicants added—New	3
By transfer	2
Removed	4
Communion of the Sick	1
Burial	1

OFFERINGS.

For Current Expenses	$873 36
" Floating Debt	14 50
" Diocesan Missions	4 25
" the Schools	50
" " Poor	19 13
" " Christmas Festival	16 75
" Fund for Disabled Clergymen	5 00
Of the Sunday School	5 92
Total	$939 41

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Thirty-four bound volumes for the Parish Library and a large number of illustrated papers and magazines, a number of cakes, toys and other things for the children's Christmas festival, and supper for the Mothers' Meeting.

CHRISTMAS. — We were favored with fine weather and a beautiful service on Christmas Day. The choir sang that most beautiful of all the great services, Gounod's S. Cecilia, very well. The Rector was assisted in the earlier services by the Archdeacon of the Diocese and the Rev. Mr. Meigs. We regret to notice, however, that the attendance at the different services was somewhat less than last year, and we find this has been the experience in several other Parishes. We can only account for it from the fact of Christmas coming on Saturday. Many persons may have said to themselves that they would perform the religious duties of the day on Sunday. And, then, Sunday proved to be a stormy day, and they did not perform them at all, which shows the danger of putting things off. We should always perform our religious duties when the Church calls upon us to do so, and not put them off to attend to other things.

THE CHRISTMAS OFFERING was also smaller than last year, being something under $500, when last year it was nearly $600. We regret this very much, as there are obligations the Church ought to meet at once, and if they are not met it only rolls up a greater accumulation of debt. We fear there are persons in the congregation who made no special Christmas offering at all, and yet we doubt if there are any who let Christmas go by without making gifts to their relations and friends. Surely, we should not at such a time forget the Church and its needs, which taught us to keep Christmas and gives us the greatest and most important gifts man can ever receive.

We want our people, also, to remember that last year we were making special exertions to reduce our debt, and it was only by doing so that we were able to meet the expenses for the year. So, unless something of the same kind is done this year, we shall not only not pay off any of our floating debt, but not meet our expenses, and so add to that debt. We hope everyone in the congregation will at least give as much this year as he or she did last year.

THE CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL took place on the evening of Holy Innocents' Day. The members of the Sunday School and Bible Classes assembled in the Parish building and entered the Church with the choir in procession, where they sang their carols and listened to an address by the Rector. They afterwards had a magic lantern exhibition in the school room, followed by a distribution of candy, cake and oranges, with toys and dolls for the smaller children, and for those who had been most regular in their attendance since the Sunday School began in the Autumn.

GIFTS TO POOR CHILDREN.—Through the generosity of a lady not connected with our Parish a large number of toys were given away on Christmas eve in our Parish building to children who would otherwise have had no Christmas gifts. Their names were obtained chiefly through the ward office.

BACK ENVELOPES.—We are sorry to learn from the Accounting Warden that there is over $370 due to the Church on account of envelopes which have not been returned. Surely, these should be regarded as a sacred debt. Those who make pledges through the envelope system are at perfect liberty to alter or withdraw them at any time. But if they allow them to run on they certainly should be paid. There is no mode of Church support which is so elastic as the envelope system, for, unlike a pew rent, which is for a definite time, it can be stopped or the amount changed at any moment. But if that is not done the amount pledged should be paid in full. There are those, however, who, not only do not do this, but who even, have been known to leave the Parish because they have allowed their offerings to get behindhand and they are either unwilling or not able to make it up and are ashamed to say so.

It would quite make up for the deficiency in the Christmas offering if what is owing to the Church would be paid.

NEW ENVELOPES.—We are glad to notice that a good number of new envelopes have been taken of late. Every one attending the Church regularly should use them. They are as much the system adopted in this Parish for the support of the Church as pew rents are in another, and so should be used just as universally. It would relieve the Rector of constant financial worry and the need of repeated appeals for money, if our people would all take and conscientiously use the envelopes in contributing to the support of the Church.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE NEWS.—Our business manager informs us that there is due to the NEWS this month from subscriptions and advertisements no less than $71. Now, if this was paid in, it would go a great way in settling our indebtedness to the printer. Will not all owing subscriptions pay them promptly? They can be handed to the sexton or placed in a marked envelope in the plate or in the alms box in the vestibule of the Church.

The following have been received since our last issue:

Mrs. A. Van Harlingen	Miss H. Dickerson
Miss M. Wurtz	Miss M. S. Hamilton
Miss Sarah Vogdes	Mrs. W. S. Jensen
Miss Rebecca Bryson	Miss Sarah Wilson
Miss M. H. White	Mrs. Margaretta Allen
Mr. W. M. Newnam	

SPONSORS.

BY REV. M. M. MOORE.

The Church requires, when they can be had, three sponsors for every child to be baptised. In this she is true to the loving example of God, Who appoints guardian angels to keep watch and ward over His little ones. It is significant that the "perfect number" seven indicates the spiritual care which each soul should receive when it comes into life. There are two parents, three sponsors, the Church, through her pastors, and the guardian angel. The soul of no child ought to suffer, nor will it if its guardians all do their duty.

The duty of sponsors is sharply defined. While it is to be supposed that those who gave the child existence will, by the natural ties and duties of parentage, care for the child's soul as well as its body, yet the Church specially charges the sponsors with this duty. No matter what parents may or may not do, sponsors are in duty bound to look after the child's soul, and to know that it is learning those things which the Church charged them to see that the child should be taught.

The choice of sponsors, of course, ordinarily rests upon the parents. And that choice should be carefully and thoughtfully made. It should be the parents' object to choose such persons for this sacred office and duty who will conscientiously attempt to perform it. And, too, the choice should be made and the duty accepted *consistently*. This point is sometimes overlooked, and sponsors are chosen from considerations of friendship, position, policy, or mere fancy or convenience. There are some things which disqualify persons from accepting this duty. Conscientious parents should not ask, and certainly no conscientious minister should accept persons who are thus disqualified. There may be no explicit requirements mentioned in the rubrics, but the laws of common sense and consistency clearly enough indicate what a sponsor should be.

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KALENDAR —FEBRUARY.

2 Purification, B. V. M.
4 Friday—Fast.
6 Septuagesima.
11 Friday—Fast.
13 Sexagesima.
18 Friday—Fast.
20 Quinquagesima.
23 Ash Wednesday.
24 S. Matthias.
25 Friday—Fast.
27 First Sunday in Lent.

All days in Lent are fast days.

GUILD MEETINGS.

7 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.
7 and 21 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
8 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

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SUNDAYS, 3.00 P. M.

For girls, Miss Grider.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10 A. M.

THE PARISH CHURCH.

Is there any spot on earth around which such tender associations are entwined as a Parish Church? It is the spiritual home of all the neighborhood. It is intended for all of God's children living in a certain district, whether they be rich or poor, old or young. It should be worthy of its purpose. As it is God's house it should be larger, finer and more beautiful than any other house. It should be built in such a way that no one would mistake it for any other house. It should be arranged solely to carry out its sacred purposes. Its every part should teach some religious truth. It should solemnize every one who enters it. It should not be built like a theatre, as a place primarily to see or be seen in, but a place for worship. Its long-drawn aisle, its aspiring arches, its lofty roof, its symbolism, its air of solemnity and mystery, should compel the soul to worship. Not the organ or the pulpit should be the most prominent object, but the altar, with its ornaments of cross and candles, telling of the blessed sacrifice of the Saviour for the sins of all mankind, and of how He in His divine and human natures is the only true light of the world.

How does every part of such a building teach! The space before the altar for the white-robed ministrants of divine worship; the organ to inspire the strains of heavenly music, with its tender pathetic notes or glorious trumpet peals, touching every sensibility of human hearts; the Lectern on one side, holding aloft the inspired volume of God's word; the pulpit on the other for its exposition and for exhortation and teaching; the font near the door, telling of the need of cleansing and new birth in order to enter God's kingdom; and without in the lofty spire the bells joyously proclaiming throughout the neighborhood the privilege of worship in God's house, compelling the most thoughtless and indifferent to hear the call, or singing in tones loud enough to be heard within the houses, the Church's sweet hymns and carols.

How vivid are the impressions produced and lessons learned from such a building. If we have especially gone to one church through all our life, how dear does it become to us! The font where we were baptized as babes; the altar rail where we knelt to receive confirmation and our first communion and have made many communions since, some in times of joy and some in sorrow, or in great perplexity or trial; that sacred spot just before the altar where we stood when we plighted our troth to that dear one with whom our subsequent life was to be bound up, and where, perhaps, the sacred form of sainted parent or precious child rested for the last time on its earthly pilgrimage, to receive the final blessing of its Mother Church. There, too, is the seat where we were brought as children and our minds first began to drink in a sense of the reality of eternal things; and the pictures in the windows, the memorials on the walls, the carvings of capitals and corbels, the very lines of the architecture, how our eye has drunk them all in, how familiar have they all become to us, and how dear and sacred.

Is there any other spot on earth with which such memories and such associations could be connected, which could be so hallowed? And it is not the luxury of the rich man. It should be the home of all God's children. The Church performs her offices for all alike. She baptizes, confirms, communicates, marries and buries all with the same words and in the same way. So, the Church should be dear to all alike. And if this is so, what interest should each one take in his Church. How careful to claim and exercise his privileges in it! He who does not care for the Church is like one who does not care for his home. And should not one do for it just what one would do for one's home? Make it just as beautiful as we can, add every adornment we can afford, see that it stands in no danger from debt, provide for its permanence, that it may not be injured or destroyed by shifting of the population or changes of time, but go on witnessing for God, and blessing generations to come as it has those in the past.

We know of no building which can be of more use to a community,

bring more blessings and joy into individual lives and is more worthy of the love and labors and benefactions of those who attend it, than is a Parish Church.

Record for ~~December.~~ January

Baptisms	2
Communicants added	
By transfer	4
Removed	3
Died	1
Burial	1

OFFERINGS.

For Current Expenses	$624 71
" Mortgage Debt	10 00
" Floating Debt	5 00
" Diocesan Missions	4 05
" " Christmas Festival	13 82
" the Schools	25
" " Poor	8 34
Of the Sunday School	7 45
Total	$673 62

PARISH NOTES.

CONFIRMATION.—The Bishop of the Diocese has appointed the evening of Wednesday, March 30th, to administer confirmation in this Parish. We mention it now, that all adults in the Parish who have not yet been confirmed may look forward to receiving it at that time. There will be, as usual, two classes of preparation, one will meet on Tuesday afternoons at 4 o'clock, beginning with Shrove Tuesday, and the other on Friday evenings at 8 o'clock, beginning with February 25th. All desiring to be confirmed are expected to attend one of these classes. Give your names at once to the Clergy.

PARISH BOUNDARIES.—At the last meeting of the Southwest Convocation, the following boundaries were assigned to the Church of the Ascension for its missionary work: From Lombard street to Washington avenue, and from Broad street to Sixteenth street. The Rector hopes to have every house in this district visited, so as to ascertain where the people go to Church, and if they go nowhere, to try and bring them to the Ascension. The idea of having these definite districts is that the whole city may be thus thoroughly canvassed, and every family brought under Church influences.

MISSIONARY OFFERINGS.—The special envelope sent out last quarter was for Diocesan Missions. Our Parish is expected to give $90 for the Convocation Fund, and $10 for the Sustentation Fund, making $130 in all Not a tenth of this has yet been received. Will not each member of the Parish see that his envelope for these purposes is returned, and make his offering large enough to secure this sum, else it must come out of our general funds and increase our debt?

The special envelope this quarter is for General Missions, and goes through the Board of Missions, to carry on the work of the Church in the foreign and domestic fields. Every one ought to contribute to this, as well as the work in our own diocese.

MISSIONARY BOX.—The following acknowledgment has been received. Our ladies will be interested in hearing how their efforts have been appreciated.

DEAR MRS. GILPIN:—The box arrived on New Year's day. It was opened, and I can assure you met the admiring appreciation of four girls, who could not decide which was prettiest, which was nicest. Olivia, the youngest, has the dolly and dishes; Maria, the little set of furniture, and they and their dollies lost no time going to housekeeping. I think you may congratulate yourselves on having been most successful in your missionary effort. The two older girls were sorely in need of dresses, and we took the two green plaids, ripped, brushed, damped and pressed them, and now the girls say "We have just what we wanted," and they are very much elated with the kid gloves.

Dear Mrs. Gilpin, please convey to the ladies of your congregation our sincere and loving appreciation of their bountiful and loving gifts, and we pray the new year may bring you all prosperity and happiness. Thanking you for your kindly interest and for all the trouble you have evidently taken in the collection and packing of the box, and wishing you the comforts and happiness you have been the means of bringing to us, for Christ's sake. Sincerely and truly

Colusa, Cal., Jan. 6, 1898.

MISSIONARY MEETING.—In spite of all the Rector's appeals, he has not succeeded in getting more than a handful of ladies to attend the missionary meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary, on the first Friday of each month, after morning prayers.

The ladies have talked over among themselves the reason why others do not attend, and they can only conclude that it is from the fear of being asked to give money. To obviate this, it was resolved at the last meeting that each one attending should be expected to give ten cents a month only. This will pay all the incidental expenses of the Auxiliary, and perhaps afford a fund to to answer some of the appeals that come. Surely, every one can give this much without feeling it, and if no more is asked, no one should stay away from fear of having appeals made that she feels she cannot respond to. Do not let us close our eyes and hearts to all knowledge of the wants of our fellow creatures because we cannot do all that we would like for them. It will do us good to know about them, even if we cannot always relieve them. We still hope to see our ladies come in good numbers to these meetings.

ENTERTAINMENTS.—S. John's Guild will have an exhibition of their sports on February 7th, and S. John's and S. Mary's Guild will have a joint sociable on February 21st. The members of S. Mary's Guild are preparing a play for the occasion, and the singing society will provide some music.

LENTEN WORK.—During Lent the members of the Ladies Aid, which meets on Thursday afternoons at 3 o'clock, expect, as usual, to sew for some charitable object, and invites any of the ladies in the congregation, who are disposed to do so, to join with them. The members of S. Mary's Guild expect also to assist.

OLD CLOTHES.—Will not the members of the congregation who have any old clothes to dispose of send them to the Church? We can use clothes of any description, even cast off shoes.

We particularly need boys' clothing. There are several boys in the parish who cannot attend Sunday School because they have not the clothes, and we want to fit them up.

MEMORIALS.—We are sorry not to have had any additions made to the Church this Winter in the way of adornment. Is there no one in

the congregation who would like to put up some memorial to a lost loved one? We have still three windows in the chancel to be filled with handsome glass, and there are a great many yet in the clerestory. The latter are comparatively inexpensive. But above all, we need a handsome altar. The one we have is utterly unworthy of the Church. We have long hoped to see it superseded by one of stone, with sculptured reredos.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following have been received since last issue:

Miss M. W. Harper	Miss M. G. Harper
Mr. Lescure	Miss Macartney
Mr. Geo. W. Welsh	Miss A. Chamberlaine
Mrs. W. F. Eckret	Miss M. McIlhenny
Miss Parmelee	Miss Lavinia Smith
Mrs. Geo. W. Biddle	Mrs. M. C. Roberts
Mr. J. H. Goodrich	Mr. J. D. Henderson
Mrs. J. W. Roper	Mrs. H. C. Pollock
Mrs. Milliken	Mrs. Grosholz
Mrs. Anable	Mr. C. J. Yost
Miss Bloomer	Mr. W. H. Cope
Mrs. C. Bachman	Mrs. W. H. Cope
Mr. Thos. L. Wilson	Mrs. J. H. Butler
Mrs. Knowles	Mrs. C. Loughlin
Mrs. Connelly	Miss Casey
Miss McKnight	Miss Kater
Mr. F. Leaming Smith	Mrs. Hulings
Miss Holbrook	Mr. Geo. Wharton
Miss R. McIlhenny	Mrs. J. H. Botwright
Mr. F. S. Keese	Mrs. Keese.

Mrs. William Waterall

Quiet Day and Conference.

A Quiet Day for Churchwomen, to be conducted by the Rev. Richard H. Nelson, Rector of S. Peter's Church, will be held in the Memorial Church of the Advocate, Diamond and Eighteenth streets, on Thursday, March 3, 1898. The Walnut Street cars marked North Nineteenth Street, pass within a block of the Church. Services, beginning with the Holy Communion, at 10.30 A.M. and at 3 P.M. The offerings of the day will be devoted to the united offering of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions.

The Conference of Churchwomen will be held in Holy Trinity Parish House, Twentieth Street below Walnut, on Friday, March 4th, at 10.30 A. M. and at 3 P.M. Papers will be read, and discussion invited on the topics, "The Right Use of Money." "What is a Churchwoman's Duty to Her Country?" "How May We Amuse Ourselves?" "What Can Busy Women do for Missions?" Mrs. Twing will give an account of the London Churchwomen's Conference last Summer.

Lent.

The season of Lent is a time when sinners are called to repentance, backsliders urged to faithful endeavour, and the children of God are refreshed by the outpouring of spiritual grace. We deny the desires of the flesh that the spirit may all the more be satisfied with food from on high. We still the noises of the world that the voice of God may be heard all the more clearly. We tread the "Courts of the Lord" where alone can be found "the peace of God that passeth all understanding."

—Montreal *Advent Messenger.*

Some Suggestions for Lent.

1. Let your observance of Lent be sincere and real

2. Arrange to go to the daily services as often as possible.

3. Add to your usual prayers and Bible reading some book of spiritual instruction.

4. Come oftener to the Holy Communion and be more careful in your preparation.

5. Overcome one bad habit and acquire one more virtue this Lent.

6. Some reasonable act of self-denial may help you much.

—Montreal *Advent Messenger.*

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The Ascension News.

Vol. XI. PHILADELPHIA, MARCH, 1898. No. 3

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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ASSISTANT:
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CHARLES E. BONNET.

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
FREDERICK B. NEILSON.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2022 St. Alban's St.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

SERVICES

SUNDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P. M.

DAILY:
Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to Mr. F. W. H. Clarke, 112 N. 12th Street, or can be left with the sexton.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

KALENDAR.—March.

2 Ember Day.
4 "
5 "
6 Second Sunday in Lent.
13 Third Sunday in Lent.
20 Mid-Lent Sunday.
25 Annunciation, B. V. M.
27 Passion Sunday.

All days in Lent are fast days.

GUILD MEETINGS.

7 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.

7 and 21 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

8 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Missionary Society, first Friday, 10 A.M.
Mothers' Meeting, Wednesdays, 8 P. M.
Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. William C. Mayne.
Assistant Supt., Mr. George W. Welsh, Jr.
Librarian, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

BIBLE CLASS.

Sundays, 3.00 P. M.

For girls, Miss Grider.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10 A. M.

LENT.

The season of Lent is again upon us. How are we going to keep it? The purpose of Lent is for the quickening and developing of our spiritual life. We all need it. We are all apt to fall behind, to become careless and forgetful, even if we do not fall into grievous sin. Lent comes to awaken us, to remind us more forcibly than the ordinary routine of our services can of the duties and obligations of our Christian calling. It helps us to begin anew, make a fresh and more earnest start.

This is the purpose of all our Lenten discipline. Fasting, prayer and church going are not meritorious in themselves apart from the object for which they are intended. But they are most useful as aids to the cultivation of the spiritual life.

Thus it is wise to fast, to abstain in the first place from amusements and pleasures, which at other times may be perfectly innocent, in order that we may for a time be undistracted in our attention to our religious duties.

Secondly, as a self-discipline, to abstain from certain things to eat, or that we especially like, in order to gain the control of all our own tastes and appetites, so as to be in the habit of holding all our fleshly impulses in check, that we may be the masters of our bodies, not they of us.

So, with prayer and church attendance. These are things we should perform at all seasons, but special prayer and more frequent church going for a time will increase our love, and the habit of doing them at all times, and be a replenishing and strengthening of our spiritual life. And if we make this season a time for special intercessions for others, whom we know need our prayers, who can tell what blessings we may not be able to draw down upon them?

Then, again, Lent is a time for the special performance of good works, for special alms giving. If we are abstaining from amusements and personal indulgences, let us take what we save in that way and give it to some religious or benevolent object. We know how much need there is. The Church cannot begin to get the means it requires to carry on its work, either at home or abroad, and all our benevolent societies and institutions are crying out for funds to sustain or enlarge their work. There is no end to the calls of the regularly established and recognized agencies of religion and charity, which we know are doing a necessary and good work, for help.

And then there are a great many personal calls and opportunities which we all have for doing good. How are we responding to them? Are we spending all we have on ourselves or are we doing the better, nobler work, and that which will make us more truly happy, of ministering to and relieving the wants of the needy, both physically and spiritually? Let us see that we make some sacrifices to do so, at least in Lent.

Or, if we have no money to give, or in addition to what we can give, is there no personal service, no good work in the Church or in the world we can render to our fellow men? Our home circles, our neighborhood, our societies, our churches afford ample spheres for such actions. Let each lay out for himself some good work to do during Lent.

The Church does not lay down a hard and fast rule for every one to observe during Lent. She simply "requires such abstinence as is more especially suited to extraordinary acts and exercises of devotion." What would be suitable for one might not be suitable for another. Let each lay down a rule for himself, and adhere to it strictly throughout Lent, always having the great spiritual purpose in view of developing and strengthening, our spiritual characters, becoming the better, nobler men and women. So shall we keep a good Lent to our soul's health.

The Easter Offering.

We speak now of our Easter offering, because we want our people to keep it in view and realize the necessity of making it a large one.

We want those who are new to the Parish to understand that we always rely on our Easter offering to make up for the small offerings during the Summer months and on

rainy days and other occasions, when we may happen to have small congregations and our offerings are correspondingly small. And we want all our people to know that there is special reason why the Easter offering this year should be a large one. *We are over $500 worse off this year than we were at the same time last year.* This is because last year we made special efforts to get rid of our floating debt. Many of our people took the little collection albums called "Gleaners." These alone brought in over $500. We have been doing nothing of the kind this year, though the Rector still has these albums, which he will gladly give to any who will apply for them. A few are still out which have not been returned. Let these be filled up and others taken, and let all resolve to make a large, handsome offering at Easter. We ought to have at least $1,500 to meet our expenses and pay off some of the notes the Church has been obliged to give for money it had to borrow. Can we not do it? If *every one* in the congregation, and all who attend our Church from time to time and enjoy its services, will give liberally, it certainly can be done.

Record for February.

Baptisms	4
Communicants added	
By transfer	3
Removed	4
Died	1
Communion of the sick	1
Burial	1

OFFERINGS.

For the Church	$376 27
" Convention Fund	1 00
" Sustentation "	1 00
" Diocesan Missions	19 10
" General "	9 21
" Indian "	11 00
" Freedmen "	1 00
" Missionary Box	58 25
" Mothers' Meeting	48 30
" the Poor	5 55
" Church Debt	5 00
Of the Sunday School	5 77
Total	$541 45

PARISH NOTES.

CONFIRMATION. — The annual Confirmation in the Parish will take place on the evening of March 30th. Preparatory instructions are given every Tuesday at 4 P.M., and Friday at 8 P.M., and all looking forward to confirmation are expected to attend one of these classes, and to give their names at once to the clergy. The step is too important to leave preparation for it to the last moment.

HOLY WEEK.—As the next issue of this paper will not come out before Good Friday, we mention now that our Holy Week services will be as in other years. Holy Communion daily at 7.30 and 10 A.M., except Good Friday, when there will be Morning Prayer and Litany at 11 A.M., followed by the preaching of the Cross from 12 to 3 P.M. There will also be a special service for the children of the parish at 9 A.M. Evening Prayer daily at 5 P.M., and Sermon on the Passion daily at 8 P.M.

On Easter day there will be the usual Celebrations at 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 A.M., in addition to that at mid-day.

SPECIAL SERMONS.—**The Rector has been asked to preach this Lent at S. Elizabeth's and S. Paul's Churches, in this city, and at West Chester, Bala, Lansdowne and Ridley Park. He will ask the Rectors of** some of these churches to lecture for him in return at the 5 P.M. service on Fridays. The Rector of S. Peter's Church, the Rev. Richard H. Nelson, will also preach for us on the morning of March 20th. The sermon in the course on social subjects on the last Sunday evening of the month will be delivered on March 27th, on "Inequalities."

THE MOTHERS' MEETING.—The ladies in charge of the Mothers' Meeting desire to acknowledge the receipt from Strawbridge & Clothier of a piece of unbleached canton flannel for their work; also 2 doz. flannel underwear, 1 doz. black stockings, 6 pairs woolen gloves, 1 pair blankets, 3 suits for boys, 2 jerseys and several bundles of clothes from members of the congregation. They also want to thank those who have contributed to the fund for paying for the work done by the members of the meeting. It is a great assistance to them.

THE PLEASANTON LEGACY.—By the death of Mrs. Augustus Pleasanton, which took place last month, the Church will shortly come into a portion of the legacy left to it by Miss Julia Pleasanton, who died in December, 1896. As a part of the property is in real estate, which will have to be sold, it is impossible as yet to know exactly what it will amount to, but we are informed by one of the executors that he believes it will be in the neighborhood of $15,000, which will be a very nice offset against the $21,000 indebtedness still remaining on our property, the payment of the interest on which has been such a drain upon us.

MISSIONARY MEETING.—A general missionary meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions, will be held in our Church on Thursday, March 24th, at 3 P.M. Addresses will be delivered by a number of distinguished clergymen. We hope the ladies of our congregation will manifest their interest by a good attendance.

As the Annual Conference of Churchwomen of the Diocese takes place in the Parish Building of the Church of the Holy Trinity on the first Friday of this month, our usual parochial missionary meeting will be postponed to the second Friday after the 10 A.M. prayers.

THE LADIES' AID SOCIETY have decided to work this Lent for the Home for Incurables, and will be glad to have any of the ladies of the congregation join them. They meet every Thursday in the Parish building at 3 P.M.

THE MID-WINTER SPORTS held by S. John's Guild, Monday evening, February 7th, eclipsed all previous endeavors in that line. The events were run off in a quick, concise manner.

The tug of war contest, S. Peter's *vs.* S. John's Guilds, proved a very exciting contest, S. John's winning both heats. The defeated contestants took it good naturedly and did not behave in the boisterous, manner so common to the visiting teams of former sports.

Mr. Harvey Hindermyer, having secured the most points out of the various events, will have his name engraved on the Spencer Ervin Memorial Cup.

We heartily thank the Committee for their earnest efforts also Mr. Conger and all others giving exhibitions.

THE MINSTREL ENTERTAINMENT given by the Dramatic Club, Friday evening, February 18th, owing to the short space of time allowed for preparation, was not quite up to the standard of which the Club is capable.

On the whole, however, it was very creditable considering the various difficulties the boys were laboring under.

Financially it was a complete success, and as that was the chief consideration, we should all feel satisfied.

THE SOCIAL GATHERING of S. Mary and S. John's Guilds on the evening of the 21st, afforded a most delightful evening to all present.

A farce presented by the young ladies of S. Mary's Guild, entitled "Womans' Rights," was very amusing, and showed in a surprising manner the histrionic ability of the participants. The young men have had this field almost entirely, and we are glad to see the young ladies asserting their "Womans' Rights" in this respect. Messrs. Hindermyer, Dunn, Shelton, Marshall and M. Carrick contributed some very amusing selections, after which refreshments were served and some dancing indulged in.

THE SOUTH WEST CONVOCATION has elected our Rector as Presiding Officer to succeed Bishop McVickar. This will entail some additional work upon him, but he hopes to be able to do something to extend the missionary work of the Convocation.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions have been received since our last issue:

Mr. C. L. S. Tingley, Miss Rousseau,
Mrs. Chas. L. Leiper, Miss Barrington,
Mrs. Chas. J. String, Miss Zantzinger,
Mrs. J. M. Wirgman, Mrs. Larzelere,
Mr. John H. Mason.

Kindly Words.

"He is kind to the unthankful, and to the evil." S. Luke vi. 35.

Do you know there is some one waiting
For that kindly word of yours;
A heart that is sore with its aching
Sad burden of sorrow's hours?

Do you know a voice that is crying
For love, both tender and true;
Of Faith, in a heart that is dying
For a word of love from you?

Speak! One word to the heart now breaking,
That Brother of yours and mine;
Oh, trust me—fresh hope will be waking,
New light in those eyes will shine.

Wait not for the morrow that's coming
To-morrow will never be;
To-day is the time for our doing,
The time for you and for me.

Speak now, for the day is fast waning
And darkness will come apace;
If a soul you would now be gaining,
Speak the love that's in your face.

Help, help for a life that is broken,
A word that is clear and true;
The "kindly word" just now, if spoken,
A blessing will bring to you.

'Twill banish despair and its blindness,
From a faint and weary one;
One word that is full of God's kindness,
And a life work you have done.

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The Ascension News.

VOL. XI. PHILADELPHIA, APRIL, 1898. No. 4

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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ASSISTANT:
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Children's Service, 2.30 P. M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

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Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P. M.

DAILY:
Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

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Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

KALENDAR —April.

3 Palm Sunday.
4 Monday before Easter.
5 Tuesday before Easter.
6 Wednesday before Easter.
7 Maunday Thursday.
8 Good Friday.
9 Easter Even.
10 Easter Day.
11 Easter Monday.
12 Easter Tuesday.
15 Friday—Fast.
17 Low Sunday.
22 Friday—Fast.
24 Second Sunday after Easter.
29 Friday—Fast.

All days in Lent are fast days.

GUILD MEETINGS.

11 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.
11 and 25 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
12 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Missionary Society, first Friday, 10 A.M.
Mothers' Meeting, Wednesdays, 8 P. M.
Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A. M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. William C. Mayne.
Assistant Supt., Mr. George W. Welsh, Jr.
Librarian, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

BIBLE CLASS.

Sundays, 3.00 P. M.
For girls, Miss Grider.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10 A. M.

THE SIGN OF THE CROSS.

Every army has its banner, every country its flag. The standard of the Christian Church is the Sign of the Cross.

In the days before Christ the cross was the sign of the greatest opprobrium. It was what the gallows is to us, that on which the lowest and most depraved criminal was executed. But the fact that the all holy and spotless Lamb of God suffered death upon it—a voluntary death, by which great act of self-sacrifice He would take away the sins of the world—has changed all human thought and feeling about the Cross. The Jew still speaks of Christ in contempt, as "He who was crucified;" but all the rest of the civilized world honors and adores Him who so humbled and devoted Himself to death for love of man. And that which was the instrument of His death has become the very sign and synonym of love and sacrifice and power.

From the very earliest times, Christians looked upon it so. They marked it on their altars and their tombs and used it on their persons. It was the sign and password of their faith; that by which they recognized one another, and in time, by which they came to be known by their enemies. It was the sign which appeared to Constantine in his vision, and gave him the clue by which he learned how to conquer the world. And from his time on, it was set up over and in every

Church in Christendom; marked on every one admitted to the Church in Baptism or receiving any sacrament; it was set up along the roadsides, placed over every grave, or where prayer was to be said or any holy office performed; it was carved or painted on every vessel or utensil or piece of furniture used for sacred purposes; embroidered on all vestments and linen for the Church's service; it was carried in processions, emblazoned on banners, hung round the necks of prelates, sewed on the habits of monks and nuns or crusaders or of any one engaged in the service of Christ. Christians used it as a sign on the person in saying their prayers or at any solemn part of the Church services; in getting up, in going to bed, before their meals or in any moment of danger or temptation. The bishops and the clergy used it as means by which, as they rode or walked along, they might scatter benedictions over those whom they met or who saluted them by the way. It was the one universal sign and symbol of the Christian faith, and the application of that faith to all acts and incidents of life.

And there was nothing necessarily superstitious in all this. The Christian Church, like every other association of men, required its outward insignia to teach its truths and witness to its principles. Doubtless, ignorant and bad men may have come to use the Sign of the Cross superstitiously, to think that it alone would bless or protect them without any corresponding acts or intentions in their hearts or lives. Hypocrites may have tried to shield themselves and dissemble by its use. But what good or needed thing is there which has not or cannot be abused or misused? Because this sign has been so abused, is that any reason why its use should be altogther given up, and the Church left without any sign or standard to teach and symbolize its faith? And if it is to have any, what better, more effective sign could possibly be chosen? It is the very epitome of the Christian religion, expresses its most fundamental principles, sets forth its greatest power. What should the Christian Church so hold up before the world as that which the Scriptures tell us should be the burden of all Christian teaching—Christ crucified? What should be so ever kept before the eyes of all Christians as that of which our Lord said: "If any man will come after Me, let him take up his Cross daily and follow Me."

And yet, at the Reformation, because some had used it foolishly, this, with so much else which belonged to the historic Church, was swept away and entirely given up by all Protestants, except some Lutherans. And from that day to this it has been a point of conscience with them not to use it in any way. They seem to regard it with actual horror and detestation.

But the position of the Church of England in regard to it was very different. Her Reformation sought to retain all that was good and useful in the old Church. Her prayer book directed that "all the ornaments of the Church and of the ministers thereof should be retained and be in use." It ordered that every one baptized should be marked with the Sign of the Cross, though our prayer book wisely does not force its use on any objecting to it, though it says it "knoweth no worthy cause of scruple concerning the same." And if it can be used then it can be used at other times. It is the natural standard of the Church, that which teaches most forcibly the essentials of the faith, by which she marks and seals all that belongs to her, and by which Christians may well remind themselves of the solemn teachings and obligations of their religion.

The true position which Christians ought to assume in regard to this and similar things, and the way in which they should treat those who use or do not use them, is that laid down in a note attached to the first English prayer book, which says: "As touching kneeling, crossing, holding up of hands, knocking upon the breast and other gestures they may be used or left, as every man's devotion serveth, without blame." Let no one find fault with those who use them or those who do not. Let each do what he finds most edifying for himself.

Record for March.

Baptisms (Adults)	2
Confirmed	20
Communicants added	
By transfer	1
Burial	1

OFFERINGS.

For the Church	$349 78
" the Debt	500 00
" Diocesan Missions	28 55
" General "	1 50
" Indian "	10 00
" the Poor	8 38
" Flowers	16 26
Of the Sunday School	5 36
Total	$919 83

PARISH NOTES.

Resignation of Choir Master. Mr. Frederick B. Neilson, who has been our organist and choir master since May, 1891, has resigned, his resignation to take effect the end of this month. Mr. Neilson finds that his business makes it impossible for him any longer to give the choir the attention it requires. Our thanks are due to him for the labor and interest he has bestowed upon the choir and for the very good music he has given us.

His place has been supplied by the appointment of Mr. Howard R. O'Daniel, who was formerly our sub-organist, and who has for the last five years been organist, and for the last three years organist and choir master of S. Andrew's Church, West Philadelphia. He will enter on his duties May 1st.

Easter Music.—The choir will sing again at Easter the S. Cecilia Mass. It is the most beautiful service we have, and Mr. Neilson is anxious to have it on the last occasion of his acting as choir master. The Halleluia chorus will be sung at the 4 P. M. service. The same music will, of course, be repeated on Low Sunday.

Altar Fund.—This fund provides all the flowers, candles and other decorations of the altar, and pays for the washing of the linen of the altar, clergy and choir. It is made up by a number of the ladies of the congregation contributing each a small weekly sum. More contributions, however, are needed, as the fund is not sufficiently large. The treasurer, Miss Parmelee, would be very glad to receive additional subscriptions. Those who do not care to contribute to it regularly can put their offerings in the alms-box in the vestibule of the Church, marked for "Flowers" during Holy or Easter week.

Easter Offering.—Again we remind the congregation of the necessity of a large Easter offering. We need at least $1,500 to meet our expenses for the year. This can only be obtained by every member of the congregation and every one attending the Church making a large and generous gift. A free Church cannot be successfully carried on unless every attendant gives regularly and conscientiously according to his means. We must meet our regular expenses and have no more deficits. Put your offering in the envelope, marked "Easter Offering."

Gift.—A member of our congregation who intended to leave the Church $500 in her will, recently made it a present of that amount on conditions that the Church would pay her $25 a year so long as she lives. This secures this amount to the Church, and enables it to make that payment on the debt, and at the same time secures the donor a sure investment of her money and at a larger interest than she might otherwise have been able to obtain. Perhaps there are others who would do the same thing. We noticed recently that a gentleman in New York made a very large gift to Columbia University on similar conditions.

Confirmation.—On the evening of March 30th the Bishop administered Confirmation in our Parish to a class of twenty, ten males and ten females. With one exception, they were all just at the age when Confirmation should be received, that is, in early youth, when one begins to act for and govern oneself. If all were confirmed then, we would not see that common sight of grown men and women unconfirmed and living in neglect of the sacraments of the Church.

Easter Day.—Celebrations at 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 and 11.30 A. M. Let every one make his Communion at one of the earlier services. Make your special Easter offering then, and put what you give every Sunday in the plate at the mid-day or afternoon or evening services.

Missionary Meeting.—We had quite a nice missionary meeting in the Church on the afternoon of March 24th, in spite of its being a very rainy day. Addresses were delivered by the Bishop of Spokane, Archdeacons Page, of Japan, and Russell, of Virginia, and by Mr. Herbert Welsh.

Special Sermons.—The Rev. Mr. McGarvey, Rector of S. Elizabeth's Church, will preach for us on the morning of the second Sunday after Easter, and in the evening the Rector will preach in the course on "Social Subjects," the topic being "Amusements."

THE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FESTIVAL will take place as usual on the Saturday after Easter. Will not the members of the congregation who have not yet returned the envelopes marked for "The Schools," which were sent to them last May, do so at once, as the Rector depends on the amount so received to provide this festival? Very little came in this year for the purpose. Look over your envelopes, and you will find the right one, or you can get one in the rack for envelopes in the Church. See that those poor children have their festival.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH. — 12 gymnasium suits and 12 pairs of shoes for members of S. John's Guild, 3 brushes and 2 combs for the choir room, 14 oak frames for Stations of the Cross, material for cassock for server.

SUBSCRIPTIONS. — The following subscriptions have been received since our last issue:

Mr. F. R. Stevenson — Mr. W. C. Lloyd
Misses Eppreeht — Dr. Neilson
Mr. Samuel Milliken — Mr. John H. Mason
Miss Mary Sinnickson

English Denominations.

Of the 110,600,000 English-speaking people in the world, Mr. Waller said, there are only about 20,000,000 without any avowed religious belief.

The remaining millions, he said, are divided among the adherents of the various religious beliefs, as follows: Episcopalians, 29,000,000; Methodists, 18,000,000; Roman Catholics, 16,000,000; Presbyterians, 12,000,000; Baptists, 10,000,000; Congregationalists, 5,000,000; Lutherans, 2,000,000, and Unitarians and Universalists, nearly 2,000,000. — *Times*, Washington, D. C., January 17th.

The Three Hours' Service on Good Friday.

The service from noon until 3 o'clock on Good Friday is a most touching tribute from redeemed man to the Suffering Saviour. As we walk with Him step by step during the last week, so we assemble during the hours of His Agony on the Cross and "watch with Him," while He bears our iniquities. The order of exercises is of the very simplest, consisting of hymns and addresses, with spaces for silent prayer and meditation.

Do not fail to come, you for whom Christ died!

Easter Communion.

"If faithful men can be rallied to any one service in the year more than to another, it is to the Holy Communion on Easter. The heart that does not thus respond to Good Friday is not likely to respond to anything that the Church on earth knows anything about."

"Divine and human love combine at Easter to draw men to the feast. What memories of our dear Lord come to us in that glorious hour? How dear our beloved ones, once close by our side in the flesh, now with the saints that rest and wait."

Easter Offerings.

In many Parishes hundreds and even thousands of dollars are laid on God's altar on Easter day. This custom of special Easter offerings is a recognized feature of our Church life wherever Easter is duly observed. It shows our appreciation of Easter joys and privileges, since what a man value that he is willing to pay for. It shows also that Lent has taught us to love God, and to deny self for His sake.

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KALENDAR —MAY.

1 SS. Philip and James.
6 Friday—Fast.
8 Fourth Sunday after Easter.
13 Friday—Fast.
15 Rogation Sunday.
16 Rogation Day—Fast.
17 " "
18 " "
19 Ascension Day.
20 Friday— Fast.
22 Expectation Sunday.
27 Friday—Fast.
29 Whitsunday.
30 Monday in Whitsun Week.
31 Tuesday in Whitsun Week.

GUILD MEETINGS.

2 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.

9 and 20 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

10 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

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SUNDAYS, 3.00 P. M.

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THE EPIPHANY AND S. LUKE'S.

Most of our readers, we suppose, have heard that the Church of the Epiphany is to unite with S. Luke's Church, forming one corporation, and using, for the present at least, the existing Church on Thirteenth Street below Spruce. This may prove a great detriment to the Church of the Ascension. For, while it is true that there is already a Church in that location, still, S. Luke's Church as it is, and S. Luke's Church plus the Epiphany, with an enlarged congregation and $600,000 in cash, which will provide a new and attractive Church and a large staff of clergy, with the best preaching talent and the finest music and a well appointed parish house and everything else to make a Church powerful and attractive, will be a very different thing. And undoubtedly, people living in this part of the city will be attracted there rather than to a smaller and less well-appointed Church at Broad and South Streets.

Though our Rector and Vestry are thoroughly aware of this, they have not availed themselves of the right given them by the canons of the Church, and of which they were duly notified, to appear before the Bishop and Standing Committee, his council of advice, and protest against this combination. They did not do so, first, because they felt sure it would be of no use, that the ecclesiastical authorities had already committed themselves to the plan, and that consent to it would be given in any event, and, secondly, because it was argued with a good deal of force that S. Luke's being already an established parish, we could no more object to its becoming rich in this way than we could if an individual gave or left it money.

Then, again, it was felt that though this combination will be a disadvantage to our Church, still, nevertheless, it has certain advantages which S. Luke's and the Epiphany will not possess:

First, it is a free church, and S. Luke's, in spite of its great endowment, will continue to rent its pews, and so, like all pewed Churches, it will not be a church for the people, but only for a select number of persons who are able and willing to pay large pew rents. And so we shall still have the advantage of offering open doors and a free entrance to all. And it will certainly be a good demonstration of the superiority of the system, if the unendowed free Church can support itself and be better attended than the heavily endowed pew Church in the same neighborhood.

Secondly, our services will be more attractive than those of S. Luke's. Doubtless, some improvements may be made in the services there, but they will hardly come up to our standard, so that persons who would come to the Ascension would not be satisfied to go there. Those, for instance, who believe that the Holy Communion is the great, distinctive and most precious rite of Christian worship, with which every Sunday and Holy Day should be hallowed, will not be content to go to a Church where it is celebrated only once or twice a month.

Thirdly, the Ascension offers to those who want definite Church teaching, thorough belief in the Catholic faith as it has always been held, "a certain faith" by which one can live and guide his life, and give him hope in his death, rather than the uncertain, indefinite vagaries of modern speculation.

Fourthly, we have an advantage in being on such a prominent thoroughfare as Broad Street, rather than on so quiet and obscure a street as Thirteenth Street. And if we could only get the funds to complete our church building so as to add to its prominence, it might be made much more attractive than it is.

Fifthly, we have the possibility of Broad Street improving between South Street and Washington Avenue, which is our natural parish, an improvement which we feel must come in time, and when it does come, it may bring as many people and as much wealth to our church as to any in the city.

These considerations make us hope that we shall be able to hold our own in spite of the big combination which is being formed so close beside us. But in addition, we think all the energies of our people should be bent towards the accumulation of an endowment fund

for our parish, which is the only way to make a Church, especially one that is free, safe from the vicissitudes that may come to it. When the Pleasanton legacy is paid, which we hope will be before long, our Church will be practically free from debt. That is, the amount of indebtedness remaining against it will be covered by the amount of the Johnson fund, the principal of which has to be kept intact. And in addition, we shall have another $10,000 coming to us from the Pleasanton bequest at the expiration of a life interest, which can serve as the basis of an endowment. But we should have at least from $50,000 to $100,000 as an endowment, and we hope our people will see that that is provided, by remembering the Church in their wills, if in no other way.

We think we have done pretty well in having had some $35,000 bequeathed to us during the last five years, and we hope we may do better still in the future.

Let all our people be interested in and do all they can for their Church, and there will be room enough, both for S. Luke's and the Epiphany and ourselves in this neighborhood.

Record for April.

Baptisms	4
Marriage	1
Communicants added	
New	20
Removed	15
Suspended	2
Burial	1

OFFERINGS.

For Current Expenses (including Easter Offerings)	$1,286 05
" the Poor	8 95
" " Schools	7 70
" " Debt (Gleaners)	8 40
" Diocesan Missions	2 75
" General "	4 75
" Domestic "	25
" Freedmen "	13 00
" Foreign "	15 25
" Ladies' Aid	9 54
" Prayer Book Society	10 00
" Tract Society	9 00
" Mother's Meeting	22 00
" Flowers	19 46
Of the Sunday School	3 96
" " " for Missions	41 70
	$1,462 76
Proceeds of Sale for Diocesan Missions	83 75
Proceeds of Entertainments by S. John's Guild:	
For Building Fund	20 00
For Church Debt	23 73
Total	$1,590 24

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—One oak pew for side aisle, large arm chair, fine alb with lace edged sleeves for Rector, eucharistic white silk stole, embroidered, for Assistant Minister, quantity of cake for Industrial School Festival.

EASTER.—We had a bright Easter and crowded Church. The number of Communicants was nearly 400, the largest number we have ever had on one occasion, and a very good proportion of the 500 we have on our list. The offerings amounted to a little over $900, which though not all we needed, was some $200 more than last year. The children's offering in the afternoon for Missions was $41.70.

PRESENTATION.—After the afternoon service on Low Sunday, the retiring choir master and organist, Mr. F. B. Neilson, was presented by the members of his choir with a massive, three handled silver loving cup, as a testimonial of their affection for him. A presentation speech was made by Mr. Clayton on behalf of the choir, and Mr. Neilson replied, returning his thanks and expressing his regret at parting from the choir, especially from the boys, to whom he is devotedly attached.

SPRING SPORTS.—The members of S. John's Guild will have their Spring Athletic Exhibition in the Parish Building, on the evening of May the 12th. Admission, silver offering at the door.

LENTEN WORK.—The Ladies' Aid made up a very nice box for the Home for Incurables during Lent. It contained 18 sheets, 40 pillow slips, 12 dresses, 12 night dresses, 9 aprons, 3 flannel skirts, 1 chintz skirt, 1 sacque, 1 cape, 7 towels, 5 wash cloths, package of old linen and some reading matter, valued at $43.50. Also 7 infant wrappers and some partly-worn underclothing was sent to the Sheltering Arms, valued at $2. 105 yards of material was contributed by members of the congregation, and $2.50 by S. Mary's Guild, the members of which also made a good number of the garments. A very warm letter of thanks for the box has been received, saying that everything in it beautifully answered the needs of the Home, and that it was seldom that such a contribution was received containing nothing but useful and valuable articles.

THE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FESTIVAL took place on the Saturday after Easter. One hundred and twenty-five children were provided for, and seemed much pleased with their ice cream and cake, the fish pond, and the special prizes given to those who had been most regular in their attendance and proficient in their work during the Winter.

THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION will be observed as usual as our Parish Festival. There will be Celebrations of the Holy Communion at 7.30 and after Morning Prayer at 10.30 A. M.; Evening Prayer at 5 P. M. and Special Evening Service, with Anniversary Sermon by the Rector, at 8 P. M. On the following Sunday evening there will be the usual Guild Service, including the Procession of the Guilds, with a special sermon addressed to them. On Monday evening, May 23d, our annual Parish Tea will take place in the Parish building. We hope to see *all* our people present, it gives an opportunity for them to come to know each other socially. S. Mary's Guild are preparing a short play for the occasion.

SUMMER ENVELOPES.—At the beginning of this month the Accounting Warden sends out envelopes for the succeeding six months, in order to cover the time so many of our people are out of town. It is hoped that as many as can possibly do so, will fill up and return all the envelopes dated for the weeks they expect to be away, before they go, that the Church may have the means to meet its expenses for the Summer. Two benevolent envelopes are sent out for the two quarters of the year, one for the Poor of the Parish, the other for the Schools. And our people will remember that as we have no special offerings for these purposes, we depend upon what is received through these envelopes

for the amounts necessary to carry on the benevolent and educational work of the parish.

FAIR FOR MISSIONS.—Miss Emily Pepper and Miss Alice Smith, two of the young ladies of our congregation, held a fair on April 27th, in the house of the former, in order to make up the $130 which this parish was expected to give for Diocesan Missions this year, a part only of the sum having been contributed through the envelopes. The young ladies interested their friends, and worked hard themselves, each of them made some fifty different articles to sell. The affair proved a great success, realizing $83.75. This was not only enough to make up the $130, but left over $6.10. to be used for the same purpose at the discretion of the Archdeacon.

These young ladies deserve great credit for enabling the congregation to do what ought to have been done through the regular offerings, and they have our hearty thanks.

VESTRY ELECTION.—At the annual election for Vestrymen, held on Easter Monday, the following gentlemen were elected to serve for three years: Samuel Wetherill, J Edward Carpenter, Stevenson H. Walsh, Robert R. Corson, being those whose terms were expiring. The rest of the Vestry remains the same, as do the Wardens and other officers, only some of the committees of the Vestry being rearranged.

WHITSUNDAY, being a day for general Communion, there will be an additional Celebration, as on Easter, at 6.30 A.M.

The United Offering.

It seems incredible that the long three years, between the General Conventions of 1895 and 1898 will soon have passed away. Those of us who left Minneapolis filled with joy and pride, at the mighty sum of over $58,000, the United Offering of the Woman's Auxiliary of the years from 1892 to 1895, felt a pity that any woman should be deprived of the joy, of being a contributor. We now find ourselves asking of each parish, has every one of its women a mite chest to hold her gifts, and to remind her to make them; or if any will not have one, do they remember to send their gifts marked "for the United Offering." Do I hear any one ask, "What is it?" It is the offering made at the Triennial Meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary, and it is called "United," because it is designed that every woman in the Church should unite in it. At Minneapolis, there was no Diocese or Missionary District that did not take part in it. Our Sisters in China and Japan, in far away Alaska, and from Maine to California and Oregon to Florida, were all there with us by their gifts. They were for "the Endowment of a Missionary Jurisdiction." The United Offering to be made in October is for "the training and support of women workers in the mission fields." There are good women ready to go, there is a loud call for them at home and beyond the seas. Shall we not all gladly help in so good a cause?

Ask your Rector for a mite box, or apply to the janitor at the Church House, Twelfth and Walnut streets, for one. And when it is filled, return its contents to the Treasurer of the Woman's Auxiliary of your Parish, or if there is none, to the Diocesan Treasurer, Mrs. George C. Thomas, Southeast corner Twenty-first and Spruce streets.

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The Ascension News.

VOL. XI. PHILADELPHIA, JUNE, 1898 No. 6

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH ALL SEATS FREE

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. LOUIS A. LANPHER.
1310 Ritner St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
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CHARLES E. BONNET.

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
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SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2022 St. Alban's St.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

SERVICES
DURING THE SUMMER

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.

Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

Children's Service during June, 2.30 P.M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS, 10 A. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at 50 cents, to be paid in advance, to Mr. F. W. H. Clarke, 1420 Chestnut Street, or it can be left with the sexton.

Advertising rates, 50 cents per inch for each insertion. Special rates to yearly advertisers.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

KALENDAR.—JUNE.

1 Ember Day—Fast.
3 " "
4 " "
5 Trinity Sunday.
10 Friday—Fast.
11 S. Barnabas.
12 First Sunday after Trinity.
17 Friday—Fast.
19 Second Sunday after Trinity.
24 Nativity S. John Baptist—Fast.
26 Third Sunday after Trinity.
29 S. Peter.

GUILD MEETINGS.

6 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.

13 and 27 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. William C. Mayne.
Assistant Supt., Mr. George W. Welsh, Jr.
Librarian, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

BIBLE CLASS.

SUNDAYS, 3.00 P. M.

For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

OUR PARISH YEAR.

The Feast of the Ascension, our Dedication Festival, being the name-day of our Church, occurs very conveniently, generally a little after the first of May, which is the end of our diocesan year. That is the date to which all our parochial and financial statistics are made up. So it is very easy for us to review at this time the working of the parish for the past year, and note what progress we have made. This our Rector always does at the special anniversary service on the evening of Ascension Day. We regret that, doubtless, owing to the bad weather, the congregation at that service was not very large. So there is more reason than usual for our giving the chief points of that review here, that all our people may be made familiar with them.

We print in this number the the regular parochial report for the year as made to the Bishop, so we only point out some things connected with it. The number of baptisms for the year has been larger than in the previous year, and the number confirmed less. This was due to the failure of many adults in the parish, who have not yet been confirmed, to present themselves; the class, with one exception, being composed of very young persons. The number of marriages was just the same and of burials somewhat more. The increase of the communicant list of the parish was fifty-nine, a very good number, but the number of names removed, from death, transfer to other parishes, suspension, or neglect, or having been lost sight of, was fifty-two, making the real increase for the year only seven. This shows how fluctuating our parish is, which is owing largely to its situation in a portion of the city from which removals are constantly being made to the newer parts of the city, and from the number of persons attending the Church who live in boarding houses, and are constantly changing their residences.

The number of deaths among our communicants during the year has been unusually small, only four. One was Mrs. Voigt, long a member of All Saints Church, but recently transferred to our parish. She was much attached to it, and attended its services very regularly as long as her health lasted. The second, Miss Fanny Cox, was one of the few whose names were on the register when the present Rector took charge. She had long been an invalid, and her death had several times been expected. She, though living lately at a great distance, attended the Church as often as her strength permitted. The third, Mrs. Augustus Pleasanton, had also been an invalid for some years and had previously, for a year or two, been absent from the city. But before that, she had been much interested in the Church and taken an active part in its work, especially in the Mothers' Meeting, in which she took an active part. Through her death, the Church comes into a part of the legacy left to it by her daughter, Miss Julia A. Pleasanton, who died a little over a year ago. The fourth, Mrs. Elliott, had been connected with the Church for some years and attended it when her health permitted. She had a long and trying illness, lasting nearly a year, during which the clergy constantly visited her and administered to her the Sacrament. May these each rest in peace and may light perpetual shine upon them.

Our Sunday School has not been as large this year as it was formerly. This has been largely due to changes in the neighborhood, so many foreigners and colored people taking possession of the houses in the vicinity of the Church, driving the white people away. We fear this condition of things is going to increase in the future. Still, if we have plenty of faithful and regular teachers, we are sure a good school can be maintained. Are there not those in the parish who will consecrate themselves to this most benevolent work in the coming year?

Our Industrial School has been well maintained during the past year. It is drawn more from the children in the neighborhood, many of them belonging to other denominations.

The Mothers' Meeting has done a very good work in helping those in the parish who find it difficult to get along, and it deserves the sup-

port of the congregation. We hope to see its numbers much increased.

The Parish Guilds have held their own and done useful work. The reports of their operations will be published in detail in the year book. We only wish that there were more in the parish who would take part in them. Why should all the work be thrown on a willing few? We note especially the interest manifested in the Young People's Guilds, and the way in which they are feeders to the Bible Classes. The Parish Chapter of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew has been especially useful this year in taking a religious census of the neighborhood.

To turn to the financial statistics for the year, we note that the total receipts have been about $500 less than those of last year. This was due in part to the fact that a portion of our endowment fund lay for the greater part of the year uninvested, making a difference of some $200 in our receipts from it, and also to the fact of $150 being received from an entertainment the previous year, and also to the special efforts then made to pay off our floating debt, which were not continued this year. We received, however, a special donation of $500, which enabled us to meet that much of our debt; and the general offerings from Sunday to Sunday for the support of the Church have been larger, which is a most hopeful feature.

There has been a slight falling off in the benevolent offerings of the Church. Our people must remember that in every Church they are expected to give to these purposes in addition to what they give for the support of the Church. They are works which every Church must carry on, and we trust our people will see that the means for them are furnished.

On the whole, we feel that in spite of certain discouragements we have to contend with in this neighborhood, we have not only held our own but made progress, which makes us hopeful for the future, and we believe that with an improved neighborhood and better times, and a faithful and devoted congregation we can make still greater progress in the time to come. May God put it into the hearts of all our people to be so devoted and earnest and self-sacrificing on behalf of their parish Church, that it may be strengthened and increased, and do greater and better work still in the future than it has in the past.

Record for May.

Baptisms	3
Communicants Removed	2
Burial	1

OFFERINGS.

For Current Expenses	$431 20
" the Poor	9 02
" " Schools	15 80
" General Missions	30
" Parish Tea	9 00
" Building Fund, Gymnasium	100 00
Of the Sunday School	5 27
Total	$570 59

PARISH NOTES.

Gifts to the Church. — A walnut extension table, sideboard and bookcase for the Guild room, sixty pounds of small candles for the altar, material for two cassocks and three cottas, twelve dozen palm leaf fans, about fifty pounds of cake and other donations for the Parish Tea, quantity of Church papers.

Our Dedication Festival.—Ascension Day this year proved a very stormy day, which materially affected the attendance at our special services. The Church was very prettily decorated with flowers, and our choir master furnished us with a special choir, numbering over fifty voices. He had also printed a very neat programme of the musical selections, which was distributed in the seats, both on Ascension Day and the Sunday following. The Guild service was well attended by our own parochial Guilds, the sermon being preached by the Rev. Mr. Schulte of S. Peter's Church. The attendance at the Parish Tea was a good deal interfered with, too, by the bad weather and by a great parade which took place on Broad Street that night. Still, some two hundred persons were present who seemed to enjoy the occasion very much. There was abundance of provisions, and the company were entertained first by a play very well rendered by the members of S. Mary's Guild, and afterwards with singing by a male quartette from the choir of S. Andrew's Church, West Philadelphia, Mrs. Spencer Ervin, Mr. Hindermeyer and others.

The Annual Spring Games of S. John's Guild were held on Thursday evening, May 12th, and proved a great success.

The following events were all well contested:

Running Broad Jump—Won by J. Brown.

Sack Race—Won by H. Hindermeyer.

Running High Jump—Won by W. Perry.

Messrs. J. Brown and W. Wilson of S. John's Guild, defeated a relay team representing S. Stephen's Guild.

Mr. Walter Conger gave an interesting bag punching exhibition, followed by mat work and tumbling by Messrs. Shelton, McCracken, Perry and Hindermeyer.

Prizes were awarded the winner of each event by Miss M. Gilpin.

Summer Services.—The usual change in our services takes place with the beginning of this month. The Sunday services remain the same, except that instead of the 4 and 7.45 P.M. services, we will have only one evening service, with the full choir, at 7 P.M. The daily and Wednesday night services stop, prayers being said on Wednesdays and Fridays and Holy days only, at 10 A.M., with Communion on the latter days at 7.30 and 10.30 A.M. One of the clergy can be found at the Church at any of the above services, or during June and September, Mr. Lanpher can be seen at his house, 1310 Ritner Street, and during July and August the Rector can be reached by being addressed Station Z, Philadelphia.

Sunday School Picnic.—It is proposed to have a picnic for the Sunday School some time this month, of which due notice will be given. The Superintendent will be glad to receive donations towards providing this treat for the children. It may be the only outing some of them may have during the Summer. The sessions of the school will be discontinued during July and August.

TABLETS FOR THE OUTSIDE OF THE CHURCH.—A lady of the congregation who has been struck with the shabby appearance of the wooden notice boards on the exterior of the Church, has offered to replace them with brass ones, which will be a great improvement. They will be put up some time during the Summer. The Vestry have also directed the main door of the Church and the brick work around it to be repainted. There are other improvements we should like to see made, if there are any who would be willing to undertake them.

THE NEWS.—There will be no issue of this paper during July and August. A goodly number of subscriptions are now due. Please pay up, that our printer may be paid. Subscriptions may be left with the Sexton. The following have been received since our last acknowledgment:

Mrs. Griffith,	Mrs. J. Powell,
Mrs. L. Volmer,	Miss E. C. Hare,
Mrs. M. H. Barrett,	Miss C. W. Hare,

Donations—Mrs. Powell, 50 cents; Mr. J. E. Carpenter, $5.00.

REPORT.

The following is the report of the Parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop:

Baptisms—adults, 2; infants, 29; total, 31. *Confirmed*—males, 10; females, 10; total, 20. *Communicants added*—new, 31; by transfer, 28; died, 4; removed, 48; present number, 521. *Marriages*, 9. *Burials*, 9. *Public Services*—Sunday, 289; on other days, 532; total, 821. *Celebrations of Holy Communion*—public, 180; in private, 8; total, 188. Number of Communions made, 2,907. *Sunday Schools*—Officers and teachers, 13; scholars, male, 71; female, 61. Bible classes, 2; teachers, 2; scholars, 35. *Other Parish Agencies*—Industrial School: teachers, 12; scholars, 115. Mothers' Meeting: members, 18. Men's Guild, the male Communicants; Women's Guild, the female Communicants; Young Men's Guild, S. Johns: members, 40; Young Women's Guild, S. Mary's: members, 30; Chapter Brotherhood of S. Andrew, members, 12.

Money Receipts—Offerings for all Parish purposes, $6,045.68; offerings for purposes outside the Parish, $196.48; donation, $500; investments, $405.31; other sources, $113.10; Sunday School, $102.62; Woman's Auxiliary, $160.84; total, $7,526.03.

Expenditures—Parochial, current expenses (including salaries of ministers, music, fuel and lighting, care of Church building and grounds and ordinary repairs of the same), $5,355.07; interest on indebtedness, $1,261.08; support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools, $118.71; for the poor, $160.38; miscellaneous, $387.83; total, $7,283.07.

Diocesan—Episcopal and Convention Fund, $107.26; Diocesan Missions, $105.10; Episcopal Hospital, $24.42; Sustentation Fund, $40.40; Infirm Clergy Fund, $5; total, $282.18.

General Missions–Foreign, $49.88; Domestic, $131.22; Indian, $22; Colored people, $17; Church Building, $1; Prayer Book and Tract Societies, $19; total, $240.10.

Total for all objects, $7,805.35.

Estimated value of missionary boxes and bundles, $165.50.

Financial Condition—Aggregate value of property of the Parish, real and personal, $80,000; incumbrances: mortgage on the Church edifice, Parish building and ground, $21,000. Other indebtedness, $1,000. Endowment Fund, $9,525.

The Ascension News.

Vol. XI. PHILADELPHIA, SEPTEMBER, 1898. No. 7

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.

Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

Children's Service, 2.30 P.M.

HOLY DAYS:

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WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS, 10 A. M.

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KALENDAR —September.

2 Friday—Fast.
4 Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity.
9 Friday—Fast.
11 Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity.
16 Friday—Fast.
18 Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity.
21 S. Matthew—Ember Day—Fast.
23 Ember Day—Fast.
24 Ember Day—Fast.
25 Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity.
29 S. Michael and All Angels.
30 Friday—Fast.

GUILD MEETINGS.

5 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.

12 and 26 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. William C. Mayne.
Assistant Supt., Mr. George W. Welsh, Jr.
Librarian, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

BIBLE CLASS.

Sundays, 3.00 P. M.

For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

THE REGISTRATION OF COMMUNICANTS.

The last annual Convention of our diocese passed a new canon in regard to the registration of communicants, which it is very important all our lay people should be acquainted with. We therefore print it in full, together with the explanation of it, given by the committee which drafted it.

"Sec. II. And the minister of each parish shall keep a list of the communicants within his cure. He shall enter on the list the names of all persons confirmed in his parish who have received the Holy Communion, or who have been received by letters of transfer from other parishes, or who, being regular communicants in his parish, he finds after diligent inquiry, are not registered anywhere else. And he shall from time to time, and at least annually before the meeting of the Diocesan Convention, remove from such list the names of all persons who have died, or received Holy Orders, or taken letters of transfer to other parishes, or been excommunicated or suspended, or who have formally renounced the communion of the Church, or who in the judgment of the minister have permanently ceased to be communicants of the same; or who, having removed from his parish without notice, after reasonable time and due effort, cannot be traced.

Sec. III. These entries shall, by the minister, or if so ordered by the vestry, by the clerk or registrar of the church, under the direction of the minister, be recorded in a suitable book to be provided by the vestry, which shall be the church register, and shall belong to and remain with the vestry, as a part of the church records.

Sec. IV. No one shall be registered as a communicant in more than one parish at a time. And any one connected with or attending, two or more churches, shall elect the one in which he wishes to be registered and shall so notify the minister thereof.

And whenever in accordance with Title II., Canon XII., Section I, of the Digest of Canons, a communicant of the Church in good and regular standing in any parish removing to another, shall ask of the rector of any parish in this diocese from which said communicant removes, or, in the absence of such rector, of one of the wardens, a certificate of transfer, it shall be the duty of such rector or warden within one month of date of request to furnish such certificate, or assign the reasons for refusal, which shall be subject to the approval of the bishop.

The principles embodied in the canon are that the names entered on a communicant list should be only of those who have become actually communicants, not of all who have been confirmed, as it is a list of those who are communicants, not of those who are entitled to be, that is wanted. And although reception by letters of transfer from other parishes should be the ordinary way, yet it were unwise to prohibit any other names being entered, because in some cases it is simply impossible to obtain such letters, owing to the fact, perhaps, of persons having made many removals without taking letters of transfer, and their being lost sight of in the churches in which they were registered, or having ceased for many years communicating at all, and so having their names removed from all lists. And yet, at the same time, the clergy should be required to make diligent inquiry before entering the names of such persons, lest their names should be retained somewhere else.

As to removing names, it is manifest, of course, that those of all who have died or taken letters of transfer should be removed. As to those who have received Holy Orders, they have ceased to be parishioners of any particular church. It is a list of lay communicants that is wanted. The number of clerical communicants can easily be computed as a separate figure. So as to those who have been excommunicated, or suspended or renounced the communion of the Church, either formally or by joining other religious bodies, it is evident that such persons are no longer to be considered as communicants of this Church.

As to the remaining classes, those who have practically ceased to be communicants or who have been lost sight of by the clergy, the committee think that the names of such should not be retained as communicants when, perhaps, they have lost all religious faith or are living irreligious lives, or at least neglecting all religious duties, or are, perhaps, not even alive. And yet it does not seem wise to lay down any hard and fast requirement as to the time when their names should be removed. Each case must be judged on its own merits, and it must be left to the discretion of the clergy knowing them to decide when it is no longer right to consider the lapsed as communicants, or when all hope of tracing those lost sight of must be abandoned."

We trust our people will remember that this is the *law* of the

Church, and be careful to comply with it. The greatest confusion results from communicants moving about from church to church without maintaining a definite parochial connection. It is impossible for the clergy under such circumstances to know who are members of their parishes, to whom they should try to act as pastors, and it is a great loss to the laity, for they cannot feel the same interest in, or derive the same benefit from a church they only casually attend, as they would if they felt they regularly belonged to one particular church, which they looked upon as their parish home.

Record for June, July and August.

Baptisms	3
Marriages	1
Communicants Removed	3
Suspended	1
Burials	2

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$567 74
" the floating debt	6 75
" the Poor	15 15
" General Missions	1 20
" the Schools	2 85
Of the Sunday School	3 28
Total	$596 97

On account of Pleasanton legacy, $2,155.

PARISH NOTES

THE ARMY.—Our parish has furnished its quota of young men for the army in the late war. The eldest sons of our Rector, our senior Warden, and of Mr. Thomas Robb, one of our Vestrymen, and Mr. F. B. Neilson, our late choirmaster, were each in the First City Troop, until Mr. Edward Carpenter received a commission as Second Lieutenant in the Regular Army and was assigned to duty in the Engineer Corps. The others are now with the Troop in Porto Rico. One of the members of St. John's Guild enlisted in the Navy, and has been serving in the Marine Corps. Another of our young members is in the Third Regiment, in Florida, the regiment of which Mr. William G. Price, the husband of one of our communicants, is Lieut.-Colonel.

THE PLEASANTON LEGACY.—About the middle of last month the Accounting Warden received $2,155 on account of the Pleasanton legacy. This enabled him to pay two notes of the Church, being part of our floating debt, one for $800 and one for $300. The remaining $1,000, by direction of the Vestry, he set aside to be kept as a reserved fund, from which to borrow for the payment of our current expenses when necessary, the same to be returned as soon as may be. For years we have had to borrow each Summer, when our receipts run down, about that amount, in order to carry us through, and it has always been a disagreeable and sometimes a difficult thing to find some one willing to lend that amount simply on the note of the Church. This will obviate that necessity and make it easy to meet our expenses all the year, provided the Vestry is careful to see each year that the amount borrowed from this fund is duly put back when the funds come in.

The remainder of the Pleasanton legacy will be used, when paid, first to extinguish the rest of the floating debt, some $250, and then towards the payment of the mortgage on the property, as far as it will go.

THE CHOIR.—Our new organist is making progress in the organization of his choir. Owing to the fact that all the principal boys of the old choir "struck", soon after Mr. O'Daniel took charge, he has had practically to train an entirely new choir. This is, of course, a long process and it will be some time before fully satisfactory results can be obtained. But we have no doubt but that they will be accomplished. The chief men's voices of the old choir, Mr. Paul and Mr. Clayton, have retired, and Mr. Thorn and Mr. Van Leer have taken their places.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL AND YOUNG MEN'S BIBLE CLASS recommence with this month, as well as the children's service at 2.30 P.M. We trust all the teachers in or near the city will be on hand to take up their classes. The Sunday School cannot be reorganized until the teachers return.

The Sunday School picnic in June to the National Park was enjoyed by the children and their friends who got off, though its arrangements were a good deal interfered with by the absence of the Superintendent, whose mother died just the day before.

SUMMER OUTING.—A lady attending our Church engaged two rooms at Atlantic City for the three months this Summer, and has been sending there for two weeks at a time different members of our Mothers' Meeting with some of their children. The privilege has been highly enjoyed and of great benefit. The general health of the congregation has been very good this Summer, in spite of the unusual heat.

THE NEWS.—The following subscriptions have been received since our last acknowledgment:

Mrs. J. Jackson Miss Annie O'Harra

Donation—M. L. W., $1.00.

Rules for Services.

1. Always be in Church when the services begin. Be there, indeed, some few minutes before the choir and clergy enter. How can any one plunge into the midst of a service—every part of which has its own place and meaning—without prayer and preparation? Do we not need to "confess our sins unto Almighty God," and to hear "the words and sentence of absolution?" It can only be under the stress of very peculiar circumstances that persons must be occasionally late for a service in the Church. If, however, lateness once in a while is necessary, remember, on arriving at Church, never to walk up the aisles during prayer. Nothing is more disturbing than to have people come to a pew, and try to obtain a seat whilst others are kneeling down. Yet this thing is often done. On entering the Church, therefore, if the people are kneeling down, one should go into the first pew near the door that is not full and kneel until the prayers are ended, and then go forward to one's accustomed seat. It is all wrong to come up the aisle when the confession or absolution is being said.

2. If any one comes to a pew, let those who are there move in to the end of the seat, leaving plenty of room at the door. To "use hospitality, not grudgingly or of necessity," is a good rule here. It is very noticeable that people move up in the pew an inch or two at a time to make room for others, when there is plenty of room beyond them in the seat. It is like saying: "We do not want you to sit with us, but if we must have you, you shall have as little room and be as uncomfortable as possible." This is no kind of a Christian greeting for one worshipper to extend to another.

3. Speak to those who seem to you to be strangers. The complaint is often made that the Church is cold in its manners. It is, and we may as well admit it. A few cordial words of greeting from an old to a new member of a congregation does go very far towards warming one's heart on coming to a Church for the first time. It is so easy, after service, to turn to a person who has never been seen in Church before, and simply ask the question: "Have you been here before, and are you living in this place?" Then might easily follow an exchange of names, and the opportunity to call. At any rate, there should be some kind of a welcome extended to those who have just come into the parish.

4. The responses in the service. These should be made much more heartily than they are now. Nothing is more inspiring than loud, earnest responses in the Psalter, or an amen that has some strength and force of numbers in it. The amen at the end of each prayer is said by the people, to signify their "yea, verily," of assent to every word of the collect or prayer that has been said. It should not, therefore, be muttered or mumbled under the breath, but spoken clearly and distinctly.

The singing. The same thing applies here. Our singing is not nearly hearty enough. It is asked that the congregation will sing—especially the hymns—as they should. The choir in any Church should be the leading, and not the performing element. No one ought to go to Church to hear a sacred concert. As we join in common prayer, so we ought to join in common praise. This is very important, and ought to be recognized as important. The hymns are simple enough for any one to know who has heard them once or twice, and there should be no difficulty about singing them. If every one sang no one would criticise. It is the passive listener who never enjoys a service, not the active worshipper.

5. In the office of the Holy Communion, when one comes up into the chancel to receive, let it be remembered that the gloves should be removed. In receiving the consecrated bread, hold both hands out, the right hand resting on the palm of the left, and so extended that the bread can securely remain on the palm of the right hand. If, as is so often the case, the hands are held in a slanting position, the bread may easily fall to the ground. One would suppose that this fact would be at once realized, but it is not, and, therefore, demands mention.

Every one should take hold of the foot of the chalice, thus guiding it to the lips. Otherwise, it is impossible for the Priest to know when a person has really received the wine. Veils should be lifted before receiving the chalice; if this is not attended to there is always danger of the veil dropping or dipping into the chalice.

6. Can it not be universally noted and remembered that there are three bodily positions to be taken during our Church service? This is a very simple rule: Kneel to pray! Stand to praise! Sit to listen to the reading of the Holy Scriptures! The very few exceptions to this rule, such as that we stand to listen to the reading of the Gospel in the Communion office, as an act of special reverence to the Gospel, prove the rule to be as given above.

—*All Saints Chronicle.*

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1725 Chestnut Street

The Ascension News.

Vol. XI. PHILADELPHIA, OCTOBER, 1898. No. 8

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ASSISTANT:
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Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

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HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

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KALENDAR —October.

2 Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity.
7 Friday—Fast.
9 Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.
14 Friday—Fast.
16 Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.
18 S. Luke, Evangelist.
21 Friday—Fast.
23 Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.
28 SS. Simon and Jude—Fast.
30 Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity.

GUILD MEETINGS.

3 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.

10 and 24 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

18 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. William C. Mayne.
Assistant Supt., Mr. George W. Welsh, Jr.
Librarian, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

BIBLE CLASSES.

Sundays, 3.00 P. M.

For girls, Mrs. Hodge.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

THE SACRAMENTS.

There is nothing connected with the Christian system of more importance and benefit than the Sacraments. All Christians, therefore, ought to be fully instructed in regard to them.

What is a Sacrament? A very full definition of it is given in the Catechism. It is "an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace given unto us; ordained by Christ himself, as a means whereby we receive the same, and a pledge to assure us thereof." That is, it is a material thing to which, by God's appointment, a spiritual blessing is attached. It is something God uses as a means or channel to convey His grace and help to man, just as a man uses his material body to do what his spirit wants to do. The process is equally mysterious in each case. We do not know how the spirit is connected with or acts upon the body; we see and feel that it does. So, we do not know how God acts through the Sacraments, but we believe He does, because Christ ordained and directed their use, and we perceive that He does, we are conscious of grace and help coming to us through their proper use. They were ordained to correspond to, and act upon, man's dual physical and spiritual nature. As man is composed of body and soul, so the Sacraments, consisting of an outward physical part and an inward spiritual part, are capable of acting upon and

blessing man as no mere spiritual or material thing alone could. They are not simply signs, something that affects us as a picture or symbol would, but are "means of grace," something like food or medicine, which ministers to us sustenance or health.

This is what gives them their great importance. Many uninstructed people look upon them simply as signs, expressions of one's faith or goodness. Christ would never have ordained them for that purpose. They are something vastly more, the instruments He uses to unite us to Himself and convey grace and healing from His very person to us. So it is as wrong and foolish for one not to receive them as it would be for one to go without food or medicine if he were hungry or sick. And yet, at the same time, we must remember that the Sacraments are not magical rites which will bless and benefit us by the mere reception of them irrespective of our own disposition. All food does not nourish, all medicines do not cure. The body must be in a proper state to receive food or medicine to be benefited thereby. So, the soul must be in a right state to benefit by the reception of the Sacraments. They are like seed. A seed has that wonderful principle of life within it which will bring forth fruit after its kind if it fall into the right soil and has proper conditions of heat and moisture. So the Sacraments have grace in them, but in order to produce good results in those who receive them they must be received with faith, penitence and sincerity. If these be wanting, they will be of no benefit, but, on the contrary, increase the condemnation of those who presume to receive them unworthily, that is, hypocritically, insincerely, or carelessly.

But to those who come to them with honest and true hearts they will be "most divine and comfortable." No true Christian will despise or neglect them.

THE NUMBER OF THE SACRAMENTS.

The Roman and Greek Churches each reckon the number of the Sacraments as seven. Our own Church teaches in the Catechism that there are "two only, as generally necessary to salvation, that is to say, Baptism and the Supper of the Lord." But in the Articles it speaks of five others "commonly called Sacraments," and in the Homilies, which are authoritative discourses appointed to be read in our Churches, she does not hesitate to speak, for instance, of "the Sacrament of Marriage." While, therefore, she does not deny a Sacramental character to Confirmation, Marriage, etc., she does not put them on the same level as the two which are generally—that is, universally—necessary to salvation. Every one must receive those two, but the others need not be received by all, as Holy Orders or Marriage, or are not of the same importance,

as Penance or Confirmation. But they may have the same Sacramental character. In them, an outward and visible sign may be the means of spiritual grace to those who receive them aright. So there need be no real difference between the Latin, Greek and English Churches on this subject, as was conceded by representatives of the English Church at a conference held at Bonn, under the celebrated Dr. Dollenger, in the interests of unity. We can maintain the pre-eminence of the two great Sacraments and yet gladly recognize the Sacramental character in the other rites, and use them accordingly.

We hope from month to month to speak of each of these Sacraments in turn, and explain in full the character and use of each.

Record for October.

Communicants Removed	1
Burials	1

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$295 45
" the Poor	8 50
" Building Fund	30 00
Of the Sunday School	3 60
Total	$337 55

PARISH NOTES.

WINTER SERVICES.—We begin with this month, as usual, our full Winter services. The 4 P.M. choral service on Sunday, and the 7.45 P.M. service and sermon, instead of the twilight service at 7 P.M. we have been having during the Summer. The daily prayers at 10 A.M. and 5 P.M. also recommence, and the Wednesday service at 8 P.M.

In accordance with the arrangement with our new choirmaster, the regular choir will be present at the night service as well as in the afternoon. We shall be glad still to have the assistance of the ladies who sang in the night choir, though they cannot occupy the choir stalls, and the choirmaster will be glad to have more volunteer singers. The ladies will sing as heretofore on Wednesday evenings.

THE ARMY.—In mentioning last month the names of those in our parish who served in the late war, we omitted that of Mr. Thomas Thompson, formerly one of our Sunday School teachers. He was in the Third Regiment and came home ill with typhoid fever, being taken to St. Agnes' Hospital. We are happy to say now that he has been discharged, recovered. It is a great source of thankfulness that all the members of our parish who were in the volunteer army have returned home safely.

SPECIAL SERMONS.—The Rector proposes to preach a course of sermons on one Sunday evening of each month during the coming Winter on the Sacraments, thinking that this is a subject on which people need instruction very much. We shall publish, beginning with this number, a short epitome of the sermon to be preached each month, in order that it may reach a greater number of persons than may be able to hear it.

BRASS TABLETS.—The two brass notice tablets, to take the place of the wooden ones, which were promised last Spring, have been completed and put in place. They are a great adornment to the exterior of the Church. The outside doors of the Church and the brick work around the main door have been repainted. A short piece of iron fencing has also been placed between the main fence and the end of the Church to prevent the strip of ground along the side of the Church being made a thoroughfare by the children. This has preserved the grass and added much to the appearance of the Church. We wish the same could be done with the piece of ground at the Southern end of the Church, but that would deprive our young people of the only playground they have. We wish some rich person would purchase some ground which might be had back of the Church and convert it to that purpose.

THE BIBLE CLASSES recommence their sessions the first Sunday of this month. That for girls will be taught this Winter by Mrs. Hodge, in place of Miss Grider, who has removed to Boston.

WOMEN'S GUILD.—We trust the ladies of the congregation will not forget the annual meeting of the Women's Guild, which takes place on SS. Simon and Jude's day. This is a general organization, supposed to include all the female communicants, and other workers in the parish. And the object of the annual meeting is to hear reports of the various departments of work for the past year read, and to arrange the plans for the coming season. The Rector asks all the women of the parish to attend it.

THE SPECIAL ENVELOPES for the present and previous quarters of our Church year were for the poor and the support of our Sunday and Industrial schools. Let our people remember that this is the only way that offerings are collected for these purposes. Our schools could be made much more attractive to our children if more was done for them, and nothing can be done without money. And the only alms for the poor which the Rector has at his disposal are what is received through these envelopes or put into the alms box in the vestibule of the Church.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Two cottas for the choir and material for a cassock.

BOOKS FOR THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LIBRARY.—If any members of the congregation have children's books, histories, travels or other good reading matter which they can spare we shall be glad to have them for our Sunday School Library.

THE GENERAL CONVENTION.—This is the great representative legislative body of our Church. It is composed of all the Bishops and elected delegates, clerical and lay, from each diocese. It is meeting this month in Washington, D. C. Our people ought to remember it in their prayers, that its deliberations may result in advancing the best interests of the Church and its progress among men. It has some very important questions before it, especially in connection with the extension of the Church in our new possessions of Hawaii, Porto Rico, etc. At its close we shall give our people a short review of what it accomplishes.

THE NEWS.—The following subscriptions have been received since our last acknowledgment:

Mrs. John Minshall	Mr. John Barton
Miss Trucks	Mrs. Gilpin
Mr. R. Gilpin	Dr. Thos. R. Neilson
Miss L. Smith	Mrs. Thomas Parvin
Mr. R. Stevenson	Mr. Fredk. Kingle
Dr. Jos. W. Crowley	Miss Boyd
Mrs. Christian	Mrs. R. Mason
Mrs. Clark	Mrs. Stuart Tait
Mrs. C. H. Darlington	Mrs. Richard Biddle

Donations—Mrs. C. H. Darlington, 50 cts.

The Giving of Money to God.

"To those who accept Christ's religion these few things ought to be perfectly plain and clear: 1. We should give "not grudgingly, or of necessity," but freely, out of rejoicing hearts, redeemed by the power of our Saviour's love. 2. We should give as God has prospered us. He that hath much should give plenteously; he that hath little should gladly give of that little. 3. We should give not impulsively alone, but conscientiously, after prayerful thought, and upon some wise and well-considered plan. 4. We should give, remembering that "he that soweth little shall reap little, and he that soweth plenteously shall reap plenteously. 5. The language of our hearts should be, in making our offerings "unto the King Eternal, immortal, invisible," "All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own do we give Thee."

HOW SHALL WE GIVE?

This has been settled for us, and wisely settled by our mother, the Church. So far as is possible, we should give through the offertory as an act of worship and of praise to Almighty God. As the sweet singer of Israel has taught us, we should give unto the Lord the glory due unto His name; we should bring an offering and so come unto His courts. No worship on the Lord's Day can be really complete unless, as a part thereof, "the deacons, church-wardens, or other fit persons appointed for that purpose, shall receive the alms for the poor and other devotions of the people," to be humbly presented and placed upon the Holy Table. And provision should be made whereby these offerings shall not be confined to the "current expenses" of the parish, but shall be received for any and all other objects of charity designated by the donor, whereby God is honored or man ennobled. *How much should we give?* This question cannot be answered by the statement of a definite rule. The Jew gave at least one-tenth of his income; frequently much more. Zaccheus gave one-half. The early Christians at times gave all, trusting for the morrow's bread to their Father's care. Circumstances vary. The right proportion for one fails when applied to another. Each individual person must answer for himself, or for herself, the question, How much shall I give? St. Paul's instructions to the Church at Corinth, "Upon the *first day of the week*, let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him," is in all essential particulars the very counterpart of our "weekly offertory;" universal, voluntary, proportionate, systematic, associated with sacred days and duties. If envelopes are used, they must be regarded as merely *the scaffolding*. Once let a man become imbued with the feeling that he must give according to his means, without regard to the gifts of others, and the use of this or that method becomes indifferent. *To what should we give?* To all worthy Christian objects, so far as we are able; to objects at home, and objects abroad; to objects within our own parish, and to outside objects also. The field is the world. The Church's commission is "to every creature." Let us, indeed, use discrimination. Let us give to those things which God has brought to our very doors. But let our hearts expand so that we may pray and toil and give for the extension of His kingdom everywhere over the earth."—(*Condensed from Parish Paper of the Church of the Saviour.*)

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KALENDAR —NOVEMBER.

1 All Saints.
4 Friday—Fast.
6 Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity.
11 Friday—Fast.
13 Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity.
18 Friday—Fast.
20 Sunday next before Advent.
25 Friday—Fast.
27 First Sunday in Advent.
30 S. Andrew.

GUILD MEETINGS.

7 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.
14 and 28 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
8 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Missionary Society, first Friday, 10 A.M.
Mothers' Meeting, Wednesdays, 8 P.M.
Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A.M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3 P.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. William C. Mayne.
Assistant Supt., Mr. George W. Welsh, Jr.
Librarian, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS, 3.00 P. M.

For girls, Mrs. Hodge.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10 A.M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

This is the initial Sacrament, that which admits us into the Church. No one is a Christian until he is baptized, just as no foreigner can be a citizen of the United States until he is naturalized. It is the rite which our Blessed Lord Himself ordained as the means of admission into His Church. It was one in common use among the Jews and thoroughly understood among them as the method by which proselytes were made members of the Jewish community. So Christ adopted it for the similar purpose of initiation into the new body He was founding, though, of course, giving it far greater significance and efficacy. It consists in the washing with water, either by immersion or pouring, in the name of the Blessed Trinity. While the ordained clergy are the persons who should ordinarily administer it, in case of necessity any one, lay man or woman, may do so. So Baptism, properly administered, no matter by whom, is valid and should never be repeated.

Its purpose is, first, to make us "the children of God." While God is our Creator, we are not naturally His children, for a child has the same nature and characteristics as its parents. But God is holy and we are sinful; our nature is depraved. But in Baptism God overlooks this and takes us for His own children by adoption, as by a formal act any man can adopt a child not naturally his own, and he thereby becomes a member of his family. So all who are baptized are members of God's family.

Secondly, we are made "members of Christ;" that is, we are brought by it into so intimate a relation to Christ that He henceforth regards us as one would regard a member of his body. The company of Christians is spoken of in Scripture as "the body of Christ." United to Him as the members of one body are united together, they derived grace and strength from Him, and He uses them for the performance of His purposes, as one would use the members of his body to do what he wished. So we should look upon Baptism as a great privilege, because it brings us into such relationship to Christ and assures us of His help. And it is of great responsibility, as it entails upon us the duty of acting as the members of Christ should, and doing His works on earth.

Thirdly, as it makes us children of God and members of Christ, we become thereby "heirs of the kingdom of Heaven." A child is the natural heir of its parents, so, as children of God, we are heirs of His kingdom; that is, when we become fitted for it, we shall share the exaltation and blessedness belonging to God.

These are the benefits of Baptism, which impose corresponding obligations upon us, for it is a covenant in which God agrees to give us certain things, provided we do certain things. The promises that we make are, first, that we repent of our sins, that is, turn away from, forsake all that is evil; secondly, that we put our faith and trust in God and seek His help; thirdly, that we keep His Holy Commandments. If we fail to do these things we forfeit the privileges of Baptism, as a citizen would forfeit his claim to citizenship who rebelled against his country, or a child might be disowned who disobeyed and set at defiance his parents. So while Baptism is a great blessing, if received aright, it will not be of benefit to us against our will, if we do not wish to be, or try to be, God's good children.

If Baptism is a covenant and requires the fulfilment of these obligations, it may be asked how it can be administered to infants who are too young to understand or undertake to discharge its requirements? The answer is that just as children can inherit property which requires care, or enjoy the benefits of being the members of a family, so baptized children can profit by membership in God's family and relationship to Christ, though they are not old enough to appreciate it or themselves discharge the duties of that relationship. And just as in the State, guardians are appointed for children to look after them and take care of their property, so in the Church, sponsors or sureties are appointed for every child who is

baptized, to look after it and see that it is properly brought up, taught what its Christian duties are and trained to perform them. And there is no reason why these sponsors should not answer for the child and promise in its name that it will fulfil the obligations of its Baptism, because those obligations are all right and proper and which the child ought to perform, just as a guardian would promise on behalf of a child possessed of property, that it would pay its taxes and fulfil the other requirements of the State. There can be no question but that Baptism is a blessing and that it is wise and right for a child to lead a Christian life. We have no hesitation in teaching a child all kinds of secular learning, we do not wait to see whether he will care to learn himself, so we need not hesitate to teach him to consider himself bound to live a godly and Christian life, for we know that his happiness and well-being is more dependent upon that than upon anything else that he can learn.

Thus, Baptism is a means of grace to all who receive it, young or old. It gives forgiveness of original and actual sins, it brings us into a new relation to God and assures us of His favor, assistance and benediction. So great is the change of state or condition wrought by it that it is called in Scripture and in the Prayer Book a regeneration, a new birth, the entrance on a new life. And these blessings are assured to all who receive it, except those who deliberately and wilfully cast them away, refuse to live in accordance with the new and blessed state into which, by God's mercy, they have been brought.

THE GENERAL CONVENTION

The great tri-ennial Council of the Church, which was in session the greater part of last month, adjourned on October 25th. It accomplished more work than it often has in other sessions. Its chief business was the revision of the Constitution and Canons of the Church. The former was completed, but little progress was made in the latter.

Two important features were introduced into the Constitution. One was the making provision for the division of the Church into Provinces. Heretofore, there has been no sub-division of the National Church except into Dioceses. The whole Church has formed but one Province. But it has now become too large. The meeting of the General Convention is very expensive, owing to the great distances the delegates have to come. When new Bishops are elected it is impossible for the Bishops and Standing Committee on the Pacific coast to be acquainted with some one elected in an Eastern Diocese and *vice versa*, and yet the consent of all is required for the consecration of a new Bishop. Then, too, there are many local interests and educational or benevolent institutions which might be looked after by a number of neighboring dioceses, which the whole Church cannot attend to. For these and other reasons it is now proposed to put in the Constitution the provision that neighboring dioceses may be associated into provinces and certain of the rights and powers of the General Convention given to them. This is the Catholic rule. Neither a Diocese nor a National Church in the unit of the Church, but the Province. It is complete in itself.

Another important provision was put in the Constitution, which is to allow the Bishops to take under their spiritual oversight congregations not in full communion of the Church, but whose ministers are willing to receive Episcopal ordination and conform to the essential requirements of the Church in regard to faith and worship, though not disposed to use the whole of our Prayer Book. This is to carry out the proposal of the Church to unite with Christians of other denominations on the four great principles, known as the Quadrilateral. We trust it may have that effect.

Another important action taken by the Convention was to redistrict the missionary jurisdiction in the West, not according to the lines of the States, but according to natural geographical requirements. Four new Missionary Bishops were elected, also another for Japan and one for Brazil. Provision was also made for extending our missionary operations in Porto Rico, Cuba, etc. The important question of further legislation in regard to Marriage and Divorce was postponed to the next Convention.

Record for October.

Baptisms	3
Communicants added—	
By transfer	4
Removed	1
Burials	2

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$338 41
" the Church debt	1 10
" the Poor	5 20
" the Schools	2 00
" General Missions	10
Of the Schools	3 75
Total	$350 56

Proceeds from reviewing stand over expenses, $620.

PARISH NOTES.

THE PEACE JUBILEE was kept in our parish by a special service of thanksgiving and an appropriate sermon by the Rector, on the evening of October 23d. Our vestry also determined to avail itself of the opportunity of erecting a stand along the Broad street front of our property, and renting seats on it for the two days which the processions passed it. This proved a great success. It was managed entirely by the church authorities, our sexton acting as ticket agent, and seven of the members of St. John's Guild as ushers. A most substantial stand was erected covering the whole of the Broad street pavement and running back at the south end the depth of the organ chamber. It was handsomely decorated with bunting, and the privilege of providing a restaurant in the yard was sold. The total receipts after paying all the expenses

amounted to $620.00. This is a very nice sum for the Church to come by unexpectedly. Just what will be done with it will be determined by the vestry at the regular meeting this month. There are many ways in which it can be used.

THE CHOIR continues to improve and we shall look for great things from it in time. The Choir Master has began the issue of a monthly paper giving the full program of the music for each service for the succeeding month. This will prove very interesting and enable the congregation to know exactly what is being sung.

More boys are wanted for the choir, and male volunteers especially for the Sunday evening service.

ST. JOHN'S GUILD—We regret to say that Mrs. Spencer Ervin, who has taken so much interest in St. John's Guild, is going to pass the Winter abroad. Before leaving she gave a farewell entertainment. Some thirty members of the Guild were present; a very pleasant evening was passed, taken up with music, speeches and refreshments.

ST. MARY'S GUILD—Miss Barington who was treasurer of the Guild for a number of years and Superior for the year past has resigned, and been succeeded by Mrs. Van Harlington. It is proposed to introduce a number of new features into the Guild this Winter, among which will be a monthly social meeting, to which the young men will be invited, thus giving our young people an opportunity to become acquainted with each other.

WOMAN'S GUILD—The anniversary, which was postponed to All Saints' Day, on account of the jubilee, was quite well attended, though there are many other women in the parish who ought to have been there. The reports of the work for the last year, which will be printed in the Year Book, were read, and arrangements made for the coming winter. Most of the old officers hold over. Mrs. String will assist in the Mothers' Meeting, and Mrs. W. F. Smith represent the parish on the new board of the Woman's Auxiliary for Diocesan Missions. An effort will be made to get off a missionary box for the West before the cold weather sets in. Subscriptions for it can be sent to Miss Mary Chamberlaine, 1313 Pine Street, or donations of material or clothing to the Church.

WINTER'S WORK—The Mothers' Meeting, the Industrial School, the Ladies' Aid and the Embroidery Class begin with this month. Teachers are needed in the Industrial and in the Sunday School, as well as workers in the other departments.

VISITING CLERGY—We had the pleasure of having the Bishop of Milwaukee, formerly Rector of St. Mark's Church in this city, preach for us on Sunday, October 23d, when we were also favored with the presence of the Rev. Harry Carson, one of our old boys, who is now Chaplain of a Louisiana regiment and was on his way to Cuba.

SUBSCRIPTIONS—Will not everyone in the congregation subscribe to the NEWS, and those who have done so pay their subscriptions promptly when due. The following subscriptions have been received since our last issue:

Mr. C. B. Hall, Mr. H. L. Kelly,
Miss E. Kerr.

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The Ascension News.

Vol. XI. PHILADELPHIA, DECEMBER, 1898. No. 10

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

SERVICES

SUNDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P.M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4 P.M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P.M.

DAILY:
Morning Prayer, 10 A.M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P.M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at fifty cents, to be paid in advance, to **GEORGE V. BAIRD, Manager, 147 N. Twelfth Street,** or it can be left with the sexton.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

KALENDAR.—DECEMBER.

2 Friday—Fast.
4 Second Sunday in Advent.
9 Friday—Fast.
11 Third Sunday in Advent.
14 Ember day—Fast.
16 Ember day—Fast.
17 Ember day—Fast.
18 Fourth Sunday in Advent.
21 S. Thomas, Apostle.
23 Friday—Fast.
25 Christmas day.
26 S. Stephen, Martyr.
27 S. John, Evangelist.
28 Holy Innocents.
30 Friday—Fast.

GUILD MEETINGS.

5 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.

12 and 26 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

13 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Missionary Society, first Friday, 10 A.M.
Mothers' Meeting, Wednesdays, 8 P.M.
Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A.M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3 P.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. William C. Mayne.
Assistant Supt., Mr. George W. Welsh, Jr.
Librarian, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS, 3.00 P. M.

For girls, Mrs. Hodge.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10 A.M.

CONFIRMATION.

Like Baptism or the Holy Communion, Confirmation has an outward and visible part, the laying on of hands, and an inward and spiritual grace, the defending and strengthening influences of God's Holy Spirit, as is shown by the words used by the Bishop: "Defend, O Lord, this Thy child with Thy heavenly grace; that he may continue Thine forever, and daily increase in the Holy Spirit more and more until he comes unto Thy everlasting kingdom." It is the solemn invocation by the Church of the Spirit of God upon the heads of those who have been baptised that they may have grace and strength to keep their baptismal vows. So it is the complement of Baptism. In the Greek Church, it is administered in connection with Baptism, but in the Western Church it has been thought best to defer it until that period when he who has been made a Christian in Baptism, which should be when he is a child, begins for himself the active discharge of the duties of the Christian life. When a child is baptised, his sponsors answer for him that he shall live as a Christian should, because he is not old enough to understand what are the obligations of the Christian. But when he becomes old enough to act for himself, to know the difference between right and wrong, then he should take the vows of the Christian life upon himself. And he needs at that time special assistance to enable him to keep them. So Confirmation was ordained for this purpose. As in the other Sacraments, there is grace in it, an inward and spiritual part which is bestowed upon those who receive it aright, and affords them the help they need.

It is not, as so many look upon it, simply a profession of faith. Much less is it, as some think it is, a profession that one is righteous, a setting up of himself as better than others. It is a means by which a real spiritual gift is given to those who are sincerely and earnestly determined to live a Christian life.

Before it is given, the Bishop asks each candidate whether he renews the solemn promise and vow which he made, or was made in his name, when he was baptised, in order to test his sincerity and learn whether he is determined as far as he can to live a Christian life. And on his answering that he does, he then lays his hands upon him to bless him and call down upon him the assistance of God's spirit in order to enable him to do what he cannot do in his own strength. And, as we are told in the Scriptures that the Holy Ghost was given by the laying on of the hands of the Apostles, so we believe it is still bestowed through the hands of their successors.

To confirm means to make strong. So Confirmation in the Church is to make men strong as Christians. That is the grace that is given in it. Of course, as in all Sacraments, that grace is not irresistable; it does not certainly make one a good and strong Christian whether one wants to be or not. We can erect in our hearts a bar to it. We can receive it hypocritically or carelessly, and then it will do us no good, but only increase our condemnation. But if we are honest and sincere in our intention and desire to do what is right, then it will be a real and blessed help to us, a means of grace.

Confirmation, then, does not consist in our taking upon ourselves our baptismal vows—confirming them. That is the necessary prelude to it. We come to Confirmation "to be confirmed by the Bishop," that is, the Bishop, as a successor to the Apostles, who, according to the Scriptures seem to be the only persons who administered it, lays his hands upon those who are old enough to understand what the duties of a Christian are and who has expressed his determination to perform them, in order to bestow upon them the spiritual help they need to do so. And we believe that that grace is given, if the heart is open and ready to receive it, if the seed thus sown falls into good ground.

So all who have been baptised should be confirmed. And the qualifications which are needed to receive it aright are, sufficient age and sufficient knowledge, and the intention to do what is required of

Christians. That is what the Prayer Book says. Children are to be confirmed when they "come to years of discretion and having learned what their Godfathers and Godmothers promised for them in Baptism," that "they may themselves with their own mouth and consent, openly before the Church, ratify and confirm the same; and also promise that by the grace of God they will evermore endeavor themselves faithfully to observe such things as they by their own confession have assented unto." They are not to wait until they have gone through some religious experience, or think that they are good enough. As soon as they are old enough to know what is right and good they should undertake to do it, and seek by being confirmed the grace and help they need.

So Confirmation is often called the ordination of the laity. It consecrates and sets them apart as the servants of God. It admits them to the fullest privileges of the Christian religion and teaches those confirmed to look upon themselves henceforth as the special servants and agents of God to set forth His glory and do His work on earth.

Record for November.

Baptisms	2
Churching	1
Marriage	1
Communicants—	
Removed	1
Died	2
Communion of the sick	1
Burials	1

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$368 85
" the Mortgage debt	25 00
" Floating debt	5 00
" the Poor	12 57
" the Year Book	2 75
" General Missions	1 52
" the Schools	1 50
" the Episcopal Hospital	19 03
Of the Sunday School	25 00
At the discretion of the Rector	4 58
Total	$465 80

PARISH NOTES.

GIFT TO THE CHURCH.—A lady of the congregation has presented us with a very good Singer sewing machine. This will be of great help, especially to the Ladies' Aid in their work. Some nine or ten years ago S. Mary's Guild purchased a second-hand sewing machine which has long since been worn out and unfit for use, and we have been obliged from time to time to borrow one. But now once more we have a serviceable one of our own.

THANKSGIVING—The young ladies of Miss. Anable's school provided six very bountiful Thanksgiving dinners for members of our Mothers' Meeting, and a few members of the congregation provided for six other families. Those who are enjoying special grounds for thankfulness themselves ought to do something to make others thankful, too, at this season.

CHRISTMAS.—We shall have as usual two additional celebrations of the Holy Communion on Christmas Day, one at 6.30 A.M., and one at 8.30 A.M., in order to give all an opportunity to Communicate on that Festival. And as it occurs this year on Sunday, we suppose we shall have more than usual.

The offerings, as heretofore, will be devoted to paying the semi-annual interest on our mortgage and other arrears which have accumulated during the Summer. As we have received from the Pleasanton legacy so far not quite enough to pay off all our floating indebtedness, there has been no reduction as yet of our mortgage debt, so that the full six months interest has to be paid this month. Can we not make the Christmas offering one thousand dollars? Let those, especially, who attend our Church and *do not use the envelopes* remember how many Sundays in the past they were absent from Church, and give an offering on that day which will make up for all that time. This offering should be put in the envelope marked Christmas Offering, which was sent out with this quarter's envelopes, or which can be had from the rack in the Church, and should be *in addition to the regular Sunday offering*. If you attend two services on Christmas Day, put your regular offering in the plate at one service and your Christmas offering at the other.

We hope our people will also remember to give something to provide a Christmas entertainment for the Sunday School. This can be put in the Alms box in the vestibule of the Church, which will be marked for that purpose.

TILING THE AISLES.—The Vestry have determined to use the money obtained by the stand erected in front of the Church during the Jubilee, in tiling the aisles of the Church. This will be a great improvement. The carpet now on the aisles has been down ever since the Church was built. It has been patched and patched until it can be patched no more, and, as it was out of date, it cannot be matched. So that if we had a carpet at all, we would have to get an entirely new one. But it will be far better to to put down tiles; which will be not only much handsomer, but much more durable and cleaner. And it is a very good purpose to which to put the money which came so unexpectedly by the Jubilee. It does not seem that we ought to depend upon such an occasion to meet our current expenses. Our debt will be pretty well provided for by the Pleasanton legacy, and other things we need about the Church may come in time as memorials. But as no one would tile the aisles as a memorial, it seems just the thing to do with this sum the Church chanced to make.

The work will be begun December 5th and is promised to be completed by the following Sunday. The daily prayers during that week will have to be said in the Guild room, in the Parish Building.

TABLET TO MISS PLEASANTON.—The Vestry have also decided to erect on the West wall of the Church a marble and brass tablet as a memorial to Miss Julia Pleasanton, who remembered the Church so handsomely in her will. It will be similar to the one to the memory of Mr. Johnson, but the same shape as that of Mr. Ervin. It is to be in place before Christmas.

DEATH OF MRS. ANN MITCHELL.—The widow of our former Sexton, Mrs. Ann Mitchell, died rather suddenly on All Saints' Day. She had been in the Church only a few Sundays previously, stopping afterward to speak to the Rector, giving him the change of her address. The next thing he heard of her was that she was dead. He

buried her in her own lot in Mt. Moriah Cemetary, in the same grave as her husband, on November 4th. She was in her 71st year. Mrs. Mitchell's name stood at the head of the present Communicant list of the Parish, and she was probably the one longest connected with it. She was devoted to the Church, always attending its services when her health permitted her to do so. She had been very industrious and hardworking in her day, and had accumulated a little money. Out of this she put in some years ago one of the handsomest windows in the Chancel as a memorial to her husband. And last Spring she made a donation of $500 to the Church in lieu of a legacy she intended to make it. In addition this, her will, after giving legacies to a number of her relatives, leaves her residuary estate, which will probably amount to several hundred dollars, to the Rector to be given by him to the Bishop for Diocesan Missions. She also directed her executors to give a small remembrance both to Rector and to the Assistant Minister of the Parish. We wish every one would be as careful of their money and as particular in providing for its distribution by will as she was, and remember the Church in some way in doing so. May she rest in peace, and may God remember her for the good that she hath done.

S. John and S. Mary's Guild.—The new classes in S. Mary's Guild seem a great success, and we look for a large accession of members to the Guild. The Social Reunion of the two Guilds on evening of the fourth Tuesday in the month was particularly enjoyable.

S. John's Guild has purchased a shuffle board, which will be a great addition to their means of enjoyment.

Change in the Management of the News.—We regret very much the failure in sending out the last issue of the News. It was due to the neglect of the manager, and in consequence, we have made a change in the management. The paper will hereafter be sent out directly from the publishers, and all payments of subscriptions should be made either directly there, 147 N. 12th street, to Mr. G. V. Baird, who will have charge of it, or they may be made as heretofore, by being put in an envelope with name and address and dropped in the Alms box in the vestibule of the Church, or handed to the Sexton. Mr. Clarke will have nothing further to do with the paper.

Mr. Baird has already secured us a number of additional advertisers and we trust our readers will patronize them. As we are very much in arrears to the printer, we hope all our subscribers will pay up promptly to the new management.

Subscriptions.—Received since the last issue:

Mrs. Anable	Rev. G. W. Hodge
Miss Macauley	Mrs. G. W. Hodge
Miss Elizabeth Gilpin	Mr. Carroll Hodge
Mrs. Chas. L. Lieper	

Donations—Miss Macauley, 50 cents; Miss Gilpin, 50 cents.

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Mention ASCENSION NEWS

The Ascension News.

Vol. XII. PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY, 1899. No. 1

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH ALL SEATS FREE

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334 So. 13th St.

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CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
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SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2022 St. Alban's St.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

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Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P.M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4 P.M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P.M.

DAILY:
Morning Prayer, 10 A.M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P.M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

The Ascension News,

A monthly record of the work in the Parish, is published under the direction of the Rector.

As it is desired this paper should be self-supporting, the annual subscription is placed at fifty cents, to be paid in advance, to **GEORGE V. BAIRD, Manager, 147 N. Twelfth Street,** or it can be left with the sexton.

Subscribers will please keep the business manager informed of any change of address.

KALENDAR —JANUARY.

1 Circumcision.
6 Epiphany—Fast.
8 First Sunday After Epiphany.
13 Friday—Fast.
15 Second Sunday After Epiphany.
20 Friday—Fast.
22 Third Sunday After Epiphany.
25 Conversion of S. Paul.
27 Friday—Fast.
29 Septuagesima.

GUILD MEETINGS.

2 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Saturdays, Recreation.

9 and 23 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

10 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Missionary Society, first Friday, 10 A.M.
Mothers' Meeting, Wednesdays, 8 P.M.
Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A.M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3 P.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. William C. Mayne.
Assistant Supt., Mr. George W. Welsh, Jr.
Librarian, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS, 3.00 P. M.

For girls, Mrs. Hodge.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10 A.M.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST.

This is the greatest Sacrament, because it not only conveys grace, but in it our blessed Lord becomes mysteriously present to His people. On the night in which He was betrayed He took bread and wine and blessed them, and said, "This is My body," "this is My blood," and commanded his disciples to "do" the same as His memorial. If the bread and wine so blessed are His body and blood, and He is ever-living, His soul must be joined to that body, and where His soul is, there is the person of God the Son. So that that rite which He instituted as the distinctive rite of His religion was intended to be the means by which His promise to be with His disciples to the end of the world should be fulfilled, that where two or three of His disciples are gathered together in His name, there is He in the midst of them.

Of course, we cannot understand how the elements become the body and blood of Christ, or how He while in heaven, can yet be upon earth, but neither can we understand any of the operations of Spirit, nor do we really know what matter is, or how Spirit acts upon it. Men have tried to explain these things, and have invented various theories, such as those of Transubstantiation or Consubstantiation, or have denied that there was any truth or reality in our Lord's words, explained them away as a metaphor, said that the bread and wine simply represent—are figures of—Christ's body and blood. But the true way is simply to receive Christ's words literally, as the vast mass of Christians have always understood them, without demanding to understand how they can be true, just as we receive many mysteries of revelation, and of life, which we cannot understand.

So receiving it, we find that there are these two great purposes in the Sacrament: first, it is the great act of Christian worship, second, it is a great and constant means of grace. It is the great act of worship because Christ ordained it as such. Among the Jews and nations of antiquity generally, the ordinary act of worship was the offering of animal sacrifices as an atonement for sin and an oblation to God. Now, Christ came to offer Himself, His own body on the altar of the Cross, as a perfect satisfaction for human sin, thus doing away with the need of all bloody sacrifices. And in their place He instituted the Eucharist as the perpetual memorial of that one sacrifice and the means by which it could be continually pleaded before God. So when we celebrate it we are offering to God the memorial of Christ's sacrifice for us, recalling it, as it were, to His mind and beseeching Him on its account to have mercy upon us, to forgive us all our sins, to grant our requests and bestow upon us "all other benefits" of Christ's passion. None but a Christian can take part in this rite, and there is no other service which is so complete and perfect, as embodying every element of worship, and by which one can so enter into the very presence of Christ. No service of mere praise or prayer or instruction can take its place. By the common consent of all Christians from the very earliest times, every Sunday and Holy Day should be hallowed by its celebration.

Secondly, it is a means of grace. Christ commanded that the consecrated elements should be received. He is the source of all spiritual life; our souls can only live and grow as they receive strength from him. So He ordained this Sacrament as the means by which we might "feed" on Him, be spiritually strengthened and refreshed. In order that we may do so we must come with preparation, with honest hearts, sincerely seeking to be blessed, not carelessly, presumptuously or hypocritically. No Sacrament will bless us against our wills, but it is of priceless help to those who seek for grace. So all Christians should receive it, constantly, at stated times and with due preparation.

These two uses of the Sacrament may be combined in one celebration, and they must be by the priest at least to make it perfect. One may attend it sometimes as an act of worship, sometimes for Communion. The latter is best made at early services, when one can come fasting, paying it the honor of making it the first

food one takes in the day, and when the service is plain and the hour quiet. Musical celebrations later in the day can be used for worship, but it should always be regarded as the highest, most central, most important act of Christian worship, that which no Christian can neglect. The greatest penalty the Church can inflict upon any of her members is to excommunicate them, forbid them to receive or to attend that holy service.

The things necessary for it are bread, either leavened or unleavened, preferably the latter, because Christ Himself used it, and real wine, not any other liquid, or even the unfermented juice of grape, but wine, with which should be mingled a little water, because, again, that was what Christ used, and these elements should be consecrated by the recitation of the words of institution and the invocation of the Holy Ghost by a duly ordained priest or bishop.

And for the receiver of the Sacrament there is needed repentance of past sin, steadfast faith and trust in God, with firm determination of keeping His Commandments, and a heart like His, full of love and charity to all men. Those who come to it so will find it the best means of approach to God, and the "most divine and comfortable" of spiritual gifts.

How can any one who calls himself a Christian refuse or neglect so great a privilege, such a fount of grace to the soul?

Record for December.

Baptisms	4
Marriages	2
Communicants added—	
New	1
By transfer	5
Removed	4
Died	1
Communions of the sick	2
Burials	3

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses (including Christmas offerings)	$850 20
" the Floating Debt	50
" the Poor	24 00
" Christmas festival and decorations	18 62
" General Missions	12 50
" Diocesan "	25
" the Schools	75
Of the Sunday School	9 96
Total	$916 78

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Two Welsbach burners for the Guild room, 18 books for Sunday School library, 12 loaves of bread for the poor, a fine linen alb for the Rector, a white silk stole embroidered in silver for the Assistant Minister, box of candles for the Altar, cake for the Christmas Festival.

CHRISTMAS.—We had a fine day for Christmas, but the attendance at the services and the number of communicants was considerably affected by the great number of persons sick with the grip, which has been so general. The choir sang well and gave us a service, portions of which were very beautiful. A medal promised to the best behaved boy in the choir was awarded to Enoch Pearson, and worn by him for the first time on Christmas day. The offerings amounted to $560. This was considerably less than the amount asked for, and we hope that all who were prevented from being at the Church on Christmas day will still make their special Christmas offering, as we do not want any more running behind hand.

The Sunday School children had their usual entertainment on Holy Innocents' Day, which this year consisted of an exhibition by a professor of sleight-of-hand tricks, in addition to a Christmas tree, with candy and cake and oranges.

THE TILING OF THE AISLES of the Church has been completed, after keeping the Church in an upset condition for over two weeks, and is a great improvement. It will be some weeks, however, before the full effect will be seen, as after tiles are newly laid there is for some time a white deposit on them, until the cement in which they are laid becomes perfectly dry.

THE PLEASANTON TABLET was not put in as promised, but we shall look for it before long. A very handsome design for it has been adopted, consisting of a floriated cross and an ornamental border, with an inscription, giving Miss Pleasanton's full name, with date of birth and death, and statement that she was a parishioner and liberal benefactress of the Church, with the text, "Thine alms are had in remembrance in the sight of God."

MISSIONARY OFFERINGS.—The Parish Branch of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions have determined to adopt a different way for making collections for missionary purposes during the coming year. Heretofore it was left to each of the delegates to collect for the boards to which they belonged as they saw best. Some made personal visits to the different members of the congregation, some sent postal cards or letters asking for contributions. Now it has been determined to ask the Rector to send a circular letter to each female attendant of the Church at the beginning of the year, explaining the purpose and working of the auxiliary and enclosing a postal card directed to the Parish treasurer, to be filled up, stating what amount each one is willing to give during the year. This will save a great deal of labor to the collectors, and we hope will secure a more general and systematic response. The letter also calls attention to the taking of mite boxes for the United Offering. We publish the letter here in full, as it may thus reach the eyes of some to whom it may not be sent. We hope all the cards will be filled up and returned promptly.

To the Women of the Church of the Ascension, Philadelphia.

MY DEAR FRIENDS: You are aware that the women of the Church generally have associated themselves in what is known as the Woman's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions, to aid in the missionary work of the Church, by collections of their own in addition to the ordinary offerings or envelopes used for that purpose in the collections in Church. We have a Branch of this Society in our Parish, which meets on the first Friday of each month, from November to May, inclusive, after Morning Prayer, to which meetings you are all cordially invited. I write also to ask if you will not kindly fill up and post the accompanying card, stating what amount you will contribute during the year 1899 to the different departments of missionary work.

There is also what is known as "The United Offering," a collection made by the women of the Church during the three years intervening between the sessions of the General Convention, which is devoted to some great advancement of missionary work. In this it is earnestly desired that every woman shall unite. For this purpose a mite box will be given you, which you

should try to fill and return to our Parish Treasurer, in May and November of each year. Please state on the card that you will take such box.

Your offering can be enclosed with the card, or paid at any time during the year to the treasurer, or it can be left at the Church with the Sexton.

Hoping that you will realize the duty and privilege of thus contributing to the advancement of our Blessed Lord's kingdom upon earth, I am,

Faithfully yours,
G. Woolsey Hodge.

Form of postal card enclosed:

I will give through the Woman's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions during the year of 1899

For Domestic Missions,		$ . . .
" Foreign	"	$ . . .
" Indian	"	$ . . .
" Freedmen	"	$ . . .
" Diocesan	"	$ . . .

Please also send me a box for the United Offering. Signed, ...
Address, ...

Missionary Box.—Our ladies got off early last month a very substantial missionary box for a clergyman's family in North Dakota, which reached its destination before Christmas. A very nice letter of acknowledgment was received, which we will publish in our next issue. The committee also sent a large package of clothing to a student in the Western Theological Seminary, Chicago.

S. John's Guild.—One of the recreation meetings of S. John's Guild has been changed from Thursday to Saturday evenings. This, it is thought, will be more convenient for all.

Subscriptions.—The following were received last month:

Miss. M. H. White	Mrs. R. Gilfillan
Mr. Ladd	Mrs. Van Harlingen
Mrs. Hiller	Mrs. John Mason
Mrs. H. Hulings	Mrs. Alexander
Miss Goodman	Miss Rebecca Bryson
Miss Martha M. Martin	Miss Grider

MISSIONARY LOAN EXHIBITION.

A Missionary Loan Exhibition will be held in the Church House, Twelfth and Walnut Streets, on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, January 23d, 24th and 25th, 1899. The exhibition will be open each day from 3 to 10 P.M. The arrangements will include

1st. Courts representing Africa, Brazil, China, Mexico, Japan, Alaska, Cuba, Porto Rico, Hawaii and the Philippine Islands, together with work among negroes and Indians. The courts will contain specimens of costumes, ornaments, household utensils, idols, arms and other objects of interest, illustrating the daily life, the industries and the arts, as well as the worship of the people represented.

2d. Short lectures on various aspects of the work illustrated either by lantern views or people in native costume.

3d. A literature stall for the sale of missionary books and publications.

4th. A collection of the translations of the Bible, Prayer Books, etc., into the native languages of these lands where our Church has Missions. Also a collection of the missionary periodicals of the Anglican communion.

5th. The alms bags in which the Woman's Auxiliary United Offerings have been presented.

6th. An exhibition of lace making by Indian women as taught by Miss Sybil Carter.

7th. A monster missionary box to receive contributions.

GEORGE F. JONES
Funeral Director
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Mention Ascension News

The Ascension News

Vol. XII. PHILADELPHIA, FEBRUARY, 1899. No. 2

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH ALL SEATS FREE

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. LOUIS A. LANPHER,
1231 Wolf St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
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Telephone 1-23-56 147 N. 12th Street
(Ware Bros.-Forkler Printing Co.)

Please notify Manager of any change of address
Subscriptions can be left at the Church if desired

KALENDAR —FEBRUARY.

2 Purification B. V. M.
3 Friday—Fast.
5 Sexagesima.
10 Friday—Fast.
12 Quinquagesima.
15 Ash Wednesday.
19 First Sunday in Lent.
22 Ember Day.
24 S. Matthias, Ember Day.
25 Ember Day.
26 Second Sunday in Lent.
All Days in Lent are Fast.

GUILD MEETINGS.

6 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Saturdays, Recreation.
13 and 27 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
14 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

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BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS, 3.00 P. M.

For girls, Mrs. Hodge.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10 A.M.

PENANCE OR PENITENCE

The Sacrament of Baptism is the great method ordained for the remission of sins. By it one is so cleansed from all past sins that he stands in the sight of God perfectly clean and holy. But men fall into sin after Baptism, and for such falls God has graciously provided the means of escape and pardon by penitence or repentance; and where there is true repentance He has authorized His ministers to pronounce the absolution of sins. Our Lord did this when He said to His disciples "whosoever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them."

No visible sign or ceremony was ordained in connection with this, though at times the laying on of the Priest's hand has been used, but the whole action of the confession of sins and the receiving absolution constitutes the outward part. And it is certainly a means of grace; it secures the forgiveness of sins and the restoration to God's favor, so it has a sacramental character. In order to be perfect there must be in it these three parts, contrition, confession and satisfaction. By contrition is meant true sorrow and regret at having sinned, and a firm determination not to do so again. Its essence is change of determination. Repentance is the translation of a Greek word meaning change of mind. It may influence the feelings more or less, but the necessary thing is the change of heart or mind—the resolve to forsake what is wrong and do what is right.

Confession is the acknowledgment of sin and wrongdoing. This must always be made to God, and in many cases, especially when the sin has been of such a nature as to offend or injure others or cause scandal to the Church, it must be made openly to the world; and in other cases, as a matter of discipline or as a satisfaction or an assistance in dealing with sin, it can be made to a Priest. In the early Church all sins were confessed openly before the whole congregation. But as it was soon found that this was not edifying nor advisable, private confession to a Priest was instituted as a preferable discipline.

Satisfaction is the making restitution of anything wrongfully taken or the undoing as far as possible injuries done to others or the doing of something to show the sincerity of our repentance or to punish ourselves for our sins. In certain sins there can be no true repentance without this, and in all cases something of the kind is advisable, that our confession of sin may be not a mere utterance of our lips, but attested by an action which costs us something.

Sin so repented of is sure to receive God's pardon, and the Priest as His commissioned ambassador is authorized to pronounce its absolution.

This may be done either in the public services of the Church or in private. In every important public service there is a general confession of sins provided, to be said by the whole congregation, followed by a declaration of absolution to be said by the Priest, and where in members of the congregation there is true repentance that absolution is effective in removing sin and reconciling the sinners with God and the Church. Where the words of confession are said without any intention in them, there no absolution is conveyed by the declaration, just as there would not be in a private confession and absolution under the same circumstances.

In cases where one is not satisfied with this general confession and feels the necessity of the discipline of the confession of specific sins or feels the burden and grief of sin too great to be borne alone or is in doubt and difficulty and cannot quiet his own conscience, then one may go to a Priest, and as the Prayer Book calls it, "open his grief," giving the details and circumstances of the sins committed, and the Priest, as skilled in dealing with moral and spiritual questions, can give his judgment thereupon and grant absolution or not according to the disposition of the penitent.

In the Roman Catholic Church this discipline of private confession to a Priest is required of all. No one can receive the Holy Communion without previously making such a confession. But in the English

Church it is wisely made a voluntary matter. Such as feel the need of it may use it, and in certain cases, as in the exhortation prior to the celebration of the Holy Communion and in the visitation of those who are sick or who are prisoners, it is urged, but in no case is it made obligatory.

Some clergymen attach to it more importance than others. Some think that it is a useful discipline for all and urge it upon their parishioners, using all their moral influence to bring them to it. But by the law of the Church it cannot be made a requisite either for admission to or the reception of the Holy Communion.

It was one of the reforms made at the time of the Reformation that compulsory Confession was abolished. But that should not be pushed to such an extreme as to forbid all private confession, for in many cases it is very useful and advisable. There is no difference in principle between public and private confession and absolution. If the Priest can pronounce absolution in public, he can in private. It should be left to each one to use whichever he finds best suited for himself. The essential thing, whether it be in public or in private, is that all the parts of penitence should be performed, that there should be sincere sorrow for and determination to forsake sin, for without this, whether in public or private, no absolution will avail.

RECORD FOR JANUARY

Communicants added—	
By transfer	5
Removed	2
Died	2
Burials	4

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$466 24
" the Poor	8 18
" General Missions	2 46
Of the Sunday School	5 35
Total	$482 17

PARISH NOTES

The Clergy of the Parish have both been unfortunate during the past month in being laid up with bad colds. The Assistant caught one early in the month, which affected his vocal chords, and he was forbidden by his physician to use his voice at all. He has not been able to officiate for over three weeks, and is only slowly regaining his voice. In the midst of this the Rector took cold and so lost his voice that on Sunday, January 22d, he was unable to do more than give out the notices. He was so fortunate as to secure the assistance of the Rev. Dr. Lewis and the Rev. Arthur Hess, who preached for him that day and the latter took the other services, and also took Mr. Laupher's place on three other Sundays.

Deaths.—The Parish lost during last month two of its oldest and most devoted parishioners—Miss Zantzinger and Mrs. Hull. Both became connected with it at the beginning of the present Rectorship, and were warmly attached to it. Miss Zantzinger acted for many years as its representative on the Indian Committee of the Woman's Auxiliary, and was active in securing contributions to its building fund. Mrs. Hull was most liberal in her benefactions to the Parish, and did a great deal of most beautiful work in embroidering vestments for the altar and clergy, supplying much of the material. Her work and her interest in the Parish will be sadly missed. Both these ladies were buried from the Church which they so deeply loved, one on January 17th, the other on January 18th. May they rest in peace, and may light perpetual shine upon them.

Lent begins with the middle of this month, and we call upon our people to try to keep it so that it shall be what the Church intends it to be, a means of real spiritual good. The boys of the choir will be present as usual at the daily afternoon service at five o'clock, and there will be a short lecture after prayers on Friday afternoons, with a special collection of Lenten offerings.

Confirmation.—The Bishop of the Diocese will visit the Church to administer Confirmation on the evening of Wednesday, March 22d. We hope that *every* adult attending the Church who has not yet been confirmed will prepare for its reception at that time. Instructions for it will be given by the Rector every Monday afternoon at four o'clock in the Guild room of the Parish building, beginning with Monday, February 13th, and by the Assistant Minister on Thursday evenings at eight o'clock, beginning February 16th.

Diocesan Missions.—The special envelope for a benevolent purpose which is sent out with the ordinary envelopes for this quarter is for Diocesan Missions. The amount which this Parish is expected to contribute for this purpose is $65.00, together with $34.98 for what is known as the Sustentation Fund. By these two funds the work of the Church is sustained and extended in the poorer and weaker parts of the Diocese. We trust all our people will give as they should for this purpose, and that our Parish may do its share of the work.

Smoker.—The Men's Guild of the Parish gave a smoker on the evening of January 30th to all the men attending the Church. About forty were present and passed an enjoyable evening. Addresses were made by Mr. Messiter, of England, and Mr. Ewing L. Miller, Assistant Superintendant of the Sunday School of the Holy Apostles Parish. We trust it will result in attaching the men more to the Church and stirring them up to work on its behalf.

The Ladies' Aid will sew as usual during Lent for a charity, and will be glad to have any ladies of the Church join them. They meet on Thursdays at 3 P. M.

Acknowledgment of Our Missionary Box.—The following extracts from a letter of the wife of the missionary will surely serve, not only to arouse our sympathy, but incite us to new efforts to relieve the necessities and lighten the burdens of those who are leading in our stead, such lives of limitless self-sacrifice.

She writes, though crippled by a neglected sprain of her knee, her hands so distorted by rheumatism that she can scarcely hold a pen, her eyes almost blinded by the dust and severity of the climate.

"It is 6 A.M. and I have been up an hour getting my fires started and trying to limber out enough to get the daily wheels started also

before the family come around. * * * I received notice that the box was at the station. It got here about night, and it would have done your kind heart good, I am sure, to have seen L—— opening it. The children were perfectly delighted with everything, and voted that you knew how to get up a Christmas Box." After dwelling gratefully upon the contents of the box sent from our Parish and containing very many useful and pretty articles to make glad the hearts of children at the Xmas season, she adds: "I can make very nice gowns of the other dresses for next year. I have to do my sewing in Summer when I am not so stiff and do not have so much hard work to do, tending fires." (This lady was once a college professor at a salary of $1,800 per annum.) "My stoves are poor ones; fuel is high here, you know, compared with the East, and so far the weather has been unusually cold for Nebraska, so that they require careful management. It is lack of heat and overwork simply which have caused my rheumatism; so, of course, there is no hope of one getting better as you kindly hope I may.

"If the children are to have an education I *must* work myself to death. * * * I trust that I have been useful, and that is the main thing." Referring once more to the boxes, she says, "L—— was charmed with her pretty white things. As for the generous boxes of candy, as each appeared there were new shouts of delight, for the youngsters seldom see candy. They were quickly hidden away to appear with the pretty handkerchiefs and the two books in their Xmas stockings. * * * Saturday's mail brought a lovely flannel waist from Philadelphia for L——. It is just what she needed, and if you know the donor will you be so good as to thank her for me. We have all been enjoying the good things greatly, and I hope all the good people who sent them had their reward in a happy New Year."

Our ladies also sent a bundle of clothes to a student in the Western Theological School in Chicago. He writes: "Your splendid package is received. You have made my Christmas most happy. I can never thank you enough for your kindness. May I prove myself worthy of your aid."

SUBSCRIPTIONS received will be acknowledged next month.

Quiet Day and Conference for Women.

A Quiet Day for Churchwomen, to be conducted by the Rt. Rev. Ethelbert Talbot, D. D., LL. D., Bishop of Central Pennsylvania, will be held on the second Thursday in Lent, February 23d, in Holy Trinity Church, Nineteenth and Walnut Streets. Services beginning with celebration of the Holy Communion at 10.30 A.M., and at 3 P.M.

The Conference of Churchwomen will be held in Holy Trinity Parish House, Twentieth below Walnut Streets, on the second Friday in Lent, February 24th (S. Matthias Day). Sessions at 10.30 A.M. and 3 P.M. Papers will be read and discussions invited on the topics: "How May We Amuse Ourselves?" "The Importance of Trifles," "The Discipline of Difficultics," "Development Through Activity and Repose," "What has Christianity Done for Women?" "What has Woman Done for Christianity?"

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Mention ASCENSION NEWS

The Ascension News

Vol. XII. PHILADELPHIA, MARCH, 1899. No. 3

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH ALL SEATS FREE

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ASSISTANT:
REV. LOUIS A. LANPHER,
1231 Wolf St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
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2022 St. Alban's St.

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Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P.M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4 P.M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:

Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P.M.

DAILY:

Morning Prayer, 10 A.M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P.M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon,

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KALENDAR.—MARCH.

5 Third Sunday in Lent.
12 Fourth Sunday in Lent.
19 Passion Sunday.
25 Annunciation B. V. M.
26 Palm Sunday.
27 Monday in Holy Week.
28 Tuesday in Holy Week.
29 Wednesday in Holy Week.
30 Maundy Thursday.
31 Good Friday.
All Days in Lent are Fasts.

GUILD MEETINGS.

6 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Saturdays, Recreation.
13 and 27 8 P.M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
14 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Missionary Society, first Friday, 10 A.M.
Mothers' Meeting, Wednesdays, 8 P.M.
Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A.M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3 P.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. William C. Mayne.
Assistant Supt., Mr. George W. Welsh, Jr.
Librarian, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS, 3.00 P. M.
For girls, Mrs. Hodge.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10 A.M.

HOLY ORDERS

By Holy Orders is meant the offices of the ministry in the Christian Church. Our blessed Lord, while He was on earth, chose certain men whom He called Apostles —that is, those who were sent— upon whom He bestowed His spirit and to whom He committed the commission and authority to carry on and govern His Church after His ascension into Heaven. This, we learn from the book of the Acts of the Apostles, they did. They at once assumed the leadership and direction of the Church. They spoke and acted with authority. As vacancies occurred in their number they filled them, and they appointed and commissioned other orders of ministers which were needed to administer and carry on the work of the Church.

Holy Order is, therefore, the order, that is the power and authority, to execute the office of the ministry. Christ instituted that ministry, and committed it to those whom he had chosen for the purpose, and they in turn committed it to others, and so from one to another it has been continued down to the present day. No one can bestow it but one who has himself received it. That is what is meant by the Apostolic succession, the commission, handed down from one to another from the Apostles themselves.

The mode of its bestowal is the laying on of hands. This we see from the New Testament was the outward sign or rite used at the first, and it has been regarded as essential ever since. Other ceremonies have been used in connection with it, such as the putting on of vestments or the porrection, that is, the handing of the utensils used in, or the symbols of, the office bestowed; but these are not essential. No uniform words were prescribed to be used, but for the higher offices the words employed by our Lord Himself in giving the original commission are those generally used, viz.: "Receive ye the Holy Ghost." And the inward or unseen grace bestowed is the authority to execute the offices of the ministry, with the supernatural gifts and blessing flowing through them.

There are three grades of Holy Order. As the preface to our Ordinal that is, the form for bestowing Holy Orders—says, "It is evident unto all men diligently reading Holy Scripture and ancient authors, that from the Apostles' time there have been these three orders of ministers in Christ's Church—Bishops, Priests and Deacons." The Bishops are the rulers of the Church, the direct successors of the Apostles, they to whom the government of the Church was commissioned by Christ. They alone have the power of ordination and confirmation. Each has a definite district assigned him, which is called his diocese, and in which he is the supreme and sole ecclesiastical ruler. All authority to exercise any ecclesiastical office must come from him, he alone exercises discipline there, though he can and should call in the other clergy to consult with and assist him. He is chosen by the votes of the clergy and laity of the diocese, but receives his commission from other Bishops.

The Priests are the pastors of the different congregations of the laity. One is set over each congregation by the Bishop, though the congregations, or their representatives, may select the one they wish to have. He performs the rites of divine worship, celebrates and administers the Sacraments, exercises the spiritual discipline and teaches and preaches to that congregation. He is responsible for the care and carrying on of the work of his parish, which should be a definite part of a diocese. The laity may be associated with him in the care of the property and administration of its temporal concerns.

The Deacon is the assistant of the Priest in the celebration of the divine offices and the care of the congregation. He cannot celebrate the Holy Communion or pronounce Absolution or give the Benediction or have a separate cure or care of souls, and should only Baptize when a Priest is not present. He should have the special care of the poor and needy of the parish, the teaching of the children and the looking after of the young people. In large parishes this office is often, for convenience, exercised by Priests, who, of course, discharge all priestly acts, except that of government, which belongs

to the parish Priest or pastor, unless he delegates to them the whole or a portion of his pastoral work.

There are other ecclesiastical offices, such as Archbishop, who is the presiding Bishop of a province or number of dioceses; or an Archdeacon, who is an assistant to a Bishop as a Deacon is to a Priest; a a Dean, who is the head of a Cathedral or College or Convocation of the Clergy. But these are not separate orders, each having the same inherent power that another Bishop or Priest would have.

So there are what is known as minor orders, such as lay reader, singer, catechist, etc., but these are not sacramental in their character, as they do not involve the bestowal of any special gift or power.

The reception of Holy Orders bestows a character, so that, though one may be deposed from the ministry so that he could not exercise its duty, he never can really cease being what he was and never could be reordained. We ought to look upon Holy Orders, therefore, just as we do upon Baptism or the Holy Communion, as that which our Lord has ordained for the blessing and benefit of His people. They are offices which no one should seek unless he feels inwardly called by the Holy Ghost, and which no one should attempt to exercise unless he has received authority to do so from those who have the power to bestow them, and the people should look upon and use these offices as they do the other sacraments.

RECORD FOR FEBRUARY

Baptisms	5
Communicants added—	
New	1
By transfer	3
Removed	1
Communions of the sick	2
Burials	3

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$262 33
" the Building Fund	50 00
" the Poor	6 58
" General Missions	1 75
" Diocesan "	3 55
Of the Sunday School	3 21
Total	$327 42

PARISH NOTES

GIFTS.—Black silk girdle for the Rector, a patent roller sweeper, eight dozen sandwiches sent to the charity organization ward office, mattress, wrapper, pillow and comfortable for a sick woman, piece of muslin for Mothers' Meeting from Strawbridge & Clothier, fifteen yards of flannel from Menah's, one-half piece of muslin for work of Ladies' Aid.

THE MOTHERS' MEETING.—In order to get sufficient funds to carry on this work, the ladies in charge got up an entertainment for its benefit early last month. Mr. John Hawkins, the proprietor of the "Colonial" kindly placed his dining room at their disposal, and it proved most successful. Nearly one hundred persons were present, most of whom were not connected with our parish, and over one hundred dollars was cleared, after paying all expenses. This will enable the ladies to continue paying for the work done by the members of the Meeting, and also to provide for them an occasional entertainment. Up to February 8th 69 garments had been made for the Boarding Home, 150 for the Pennsylvania Hospital, 79 for the Woman's Homœopathic Hospital, and 246 for the Foster Home, making a total of 544, for which $72.75 has paid, this amount having been contributed by different members of the Parish.

During Lent the members of the Meeting will meet once a week to sew for a charity, a piece of muslin having been donated for the purpose by Strawbridge & Clothier.

BENEVOLENT WORK.—Thanks to a donation of $30 from a lady, not a member of our Parish, we were enabled to make some special provision for several families that were suffering during the late severe weather. It provided coal for two families, overcoats for two boys who had not any, ten pairs of shoes, pair of mittens, two pairs of rubbers, and a quantity of provisions.

LENT.—In addition to the daily service at 10 A.M. and 5 P.M. and Wednesdays at 8 P.M., there is a lecture on Fridays at 5 P.M. Confirmation instructions, Mondays at 4 P. M. and Thursdays at 8 P.M. The Ladies' Aid meets every Thursday at 3 P.M., St. Mary's Guild every Tuesday at 8 P.M., and the Mothers' Meeting every Wednesday at 6 P.M., to sew for charity.

We would like to see more people at the daily services during Lent than have appeared so far. The bad weather may have had something to do with it, but we fear many of our people are careless and do not value this privilege as they should.

HOLY WEEK.—On Monday evening in Holy Week our choir will sing Stainer's "Crucifixion." This was rendered a good many years ago in our Church, and much enjoyed by our people. After it a collection will be made for the necessary expenses and for the benefit of the choir, to give the boys some outing during the coming Summer. The boys have been working very hard of late, and show much improvement in their singing. They deserve to have some reward, and we hope our people will contribute to this fund liberally.

On the other evenings in Holy Week there will be a sermon on the Passion, and as usual the preaching of the Cross on Good Friday from 12 to 3 o'clock. The other services will be daily at 7.30 and 10 A.M. and 5 P.M.

EASTER.—On Easter-Day there will be celebrations of the Holy Communion at 6.30, 7.30 and 8.30 A.M., as well as at 11.30 A. M., when the choir will sing Guilmant's "Messe Solenelle" in E flat, and at morning prayer, Tour's TeDeum, and Benedictus in F, and Barnby's anthem, "Break Forth Into Joy," and in the afternoon Stainer's anthem, "They Have Taken Away My Lord."

THE EASTER OFFERING.—We hope all our people will give just as large an Easter offering as they possibly can. The Pleasanton legacy has wiped out our floating debt, and we do not want to have any new one. Yet, owing to the many bad Sundays we have had, the offerings have not been up to average, and unless we have a very large Easter offering we shall not be able to meet our expenses for the year. We ought to have at least $1,200. Can we not make it that? Let each do his share and it can be done. Beyond paying off the floating debt, the Pleasanton legacy will make no difference in our expenditure this year, as we have had

to meet both the half yearly payments of interest on our mortgage.

SUBSCRIPTIONS. — The following were received during January and February :

Mr. Thos. Neilson.	Miss Pierce.
Mrs. A. R. Sank.	Mr. F. S. Keese.
Mrs. H. C. Pollock.	Mrs. F. S. Keese.
Miss Martha Harper.	Mr. Wm. P. Pepper.
" Matilda Harper.	Mrs. Wm. P. Pepper.
" Dickerson.	Miss M. M. Menah.
Mr. C. S. L. Tingley.	Mrs. Wm. Drayton, 1898-99.
Miss Vogdes.	
Mr. Walter Newman.	Mrs. George Gray Knowles, Jr.
Miss McIlhenney.	
Mr. J. Gibson McCall.	Mrs. Barrington.
Miss Macartney.	Mrs. Thos. H. Fenton,
Miss Wurts.	Mr. David Ritchie.
Mrs. Thos. B. Allen.	Mr. G. W. Welsh, Jr.
Miss Pomeroy.	Mrs. H. Connelly.
" Casey.	Miss M. L. Bloomer.
Mrs. Anna Nathans.	Mr. Wm. Cope.
Mrs. W. S. Jensen.	" Wm. C. Lloyd.
Miss E. Wandell.	Misses Epprecht.
" F. E. Revell.	Mrs. Wm. Cope.

Donation, Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Platt Pepper, $1.00.

ADVERTISERS. — We trust our readers will patronize, as far as they can, those who advertise in the NEWS. These advertisements pay a large part of the cost of the paper, but we cannot expect them to be continued unless they bring some return to those who put them in.

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Sullivan, Photographer, 1705 South street
Joseph Kift & Son, Florists, 1725 Chestnut street.
John Jos. McVey, Church Books, 30 N. Thirteenth street.
Thomas E. Shelton, Wall Papers, 427 S. Twentieth street.
B. & A. Epprecht, Lace Curtain Renovators, 250 S. Twelfth street.
Ware Bros.-Perkler Co., Printers, 117 N. Twelfth street.
Geo. W. Shaw & Co., Ecclesiastical Metal Work, 710 Chestnut street.
Smyth, Diamonds, Watches and Jewelry, 1711 South street.
F. C. Botwright, Carpenter and Builder, 618 S. Eighteenth street.
H. Hermann, Confectioner, 1524 South street.
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KALENDAR—APRIL.

1 Easter Even.
2 Easter Day.
3 Monday in Easter Week.
4 Tuesday in Easter Week.
7 Friday—Fast.
9 Low Sunday.
14 Friday—Fast.
16 Second Sunday after Easter.
21 Friday—Fast.
23 Third Sunday after Easter.
25 S. Mark, Evangelist.
28 Friday—Fast.
30 Fourth Sunday after Easter.

GUILD MEETINGS.

3 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Saturdays, Recreation.
10 and 24 8 P.M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
11 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

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BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS, 3.00 P. M.

For girls, Mrs. Hodge.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10 A.M.

HOLY MATRIMONY.

Marriage is "an honorable estate instituted of God in the time of man's innocency," and when entered into by Christians with the mutual vow of loving and cherishing each other, for better or worse, with exclusive fidelity, until death, living according to God's ordinance, it possesses a sacramental character. That is, it has a sacred, mysterious character which ministers grace to those who so enter into it. One of our Homilies, which are appointed to be read in our churches, calls it in so many words, "the Sacrament of Marriage." And of all earthly institutions there is nothing so important, or which so ministers to the welfare and happiness of the race. It creates the home, which is the formative influence of every life, and should secure its highest well being and greatest joy. Nothing is more essential, therefore, than that the laws of Christian marriage should be understood and obeyed, and that none should enter into marriage but in accordance with them. Those laws allow the union of only one man and one woman, and that union is to last for life. Once entered into it is regarded as just as lasting and binding as a natural relationship. The parties entering into it must be adults of mental and physical competency, and under no legal ban or restraint. If under legal age they must have the consent of their parents, and they must not be within certain degrees of consanguinity or affinity. According to the table of prohibited degrees, which is printed in all Prayer Books of the Church of England, and which the Church in this country has never altered, the nearest relations that can marry are first cousins. In the case of widows or widowers none can marry a nearer relation of a deceased husband or wife than one could marry one's blood relation. The theory being that marriage is so close and binding a relationship that a husband's or wife's relations become just the same as one's own relations.

The essence of marriage is consent. The ceremony of marriage consists in the mutual plighting of the Christian vow to each other in the presence of witnesses. It is usually performed in a Church and before a Priest, in order that the parties themselves may be impressed with the sacredness and solemnity of the step they are taking, and in order that the Priest may bestow upon them the benediction of the Church. But the parties really marry themselves, they are the ministers of the Sacrament. So the Church recognizes as valid what is known as a common law marriage, that is, the living of a man and woman together professedly as man and wife. But every Christian will naturally wish to enter into such a contract with all due solemnity and with the Church's benediction.

A marriage entered into contrary to the Christian laws concerning it is null and void *ab initio*. But if in accordance with those laws it should be indissoluble, except by death. If one party is faithless to its vow, that is, commits adultery, the other party, according to the law of the Eastern Church and of our own Church, is free to marry again. But nothing else except that crime, which destroys the fundamental character of Christian marriage, can sever the bond. Not even desertion, or cruelty, or insanity, or imprisonment of one of the parties, the hope being in those cases that there would be return, or improvement, or recovery. In cases where there is cruelty, or ill treatment, or impossibility of living in love and peace together, a legal separation may be obtained, but not an absolute divorce, else the door to repentance would be closed. And even in the case of adultery, if the one party chooses to forgive the other party the bond still subsists, but as mutual fidelity is essential to Christian marriage, if it is wanting on one side the other party cannot be held against his or her will. The Roman Catholic Church does not, professedly, allow divorce and remarriage even in this case, but the Pope can always give a dispensation allowing it, which amounts to the same thing as the law of our own Church, though the expense and difficulty attending such a dispensation practically limits it to a few.

Marriage, then, being so important and binding a contract, upon which the welfare and happiness both of the parties themselves and of their children depend, should not, as our service for its solemnization says, "be entered into unadvisedly or lightly, but reverently, discreetly, advisedly, soberly and in the fear of God."

It should never be contracted clandestinely or hastily, but only by those who know each other so well that they are sure they can live in love and peace together, and are of the same faith, that is, have the same Christian principles. To such it is, indeed, a sacramental relation bringing blessing, joy and grace.

RECORD FOR MARCH

Baptisms, adults	2
" infants	3
Confirmed	20
Communicants added—	
By transfer	5
Removed	2
Burials	2

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$342 25
" the Poor	7 04
" Diocesan Missions	18 01
" General "	25
" Flowers	27 54
" the Choir	32 54
Of the Sunday School	4 02
Total	$431 65

Received from executors of Julia A. Pleasonton, deceased, $9,488.86.

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS.—On Easter day there was presented on the altar, among the "other devotions of the people," a beautiful baptismal shell of mother of pearl with a silver handle and binding, a gift to the Church by Mr. F. Hartley Merrick, in memory of his godchild, Mary Norvell Walsh, the youngest child of one of our vestrymen, Mr. Stevenson H. Walsh, who died in February from the results of an attack of grippe. We have also received a gift of linen for six choir cottas and material for a cassock, 37 pounds of candles for the Altar, a new filter for the Vestry and a piece of muslin for the Mothers' Meeting from John Wanamaker and flowers for Easter.

THE PLEASONTON LEGACY.—The Accounting Warden received last month from the executors of Miss Julia A. Pleasonton the sum of $9,488.86, which is all that is coming to the Church from this source at this time. This, with the $2,155 already received, has enabled us to pay off all our floating debt, and to reduce our mortgage debt from $21,000 to $12,000. This means a saving in our annual expenditure *hereafter* of nearly $600 a year. And there is still to come to us, after the expiration of a life interest, a further sum of about $10,000, but this may not be for many years. The tablet which the Vestry has placed in the Church to the memory of Miss Pleasonton is at last in position, and is not only a merited tribute to her, but an ornament to the Church.

THE EASTER OFFERING.—As we said in our last issue we needed a very large Easter offering to meet all our current expenses up to May 1st, the end of our financial year. The actual amount required was $1,800. Of this sum, one member of the congregation offered to give one-fourth, that is $450, if the rest was made up by the congregation. As we did not go to press until after Easter day, although it occurs in April, we are enabled to say that the total Easter offering, including about one-half of the the above sum, was $765.49. This leaves some $800 still to be made up to secure the remaining $225 promised. Will not all who for any cause have not yet made a special Easter offering still do so, that we may enter another financial year without a new debt?

ENTERTAINMENT.—As we feared that the Easter offering would not realize the full amount needed to meet our current expenses, our ladies have been busying themselves in getting up an entertainment, which is to be given in the New Century Drawing Room, on April 27th. It will consist of a play called "A Night Off," by the Manheim Dramatic Club, who have most kindly volunteered their services for the occasion. The tickets are $1 apiece. They can be had from any of the lady patronesses, or from the sexton, and we hope all our people will not only take them themselves, but make the most earnest efforts to sell as many of them as they possibly can among their friends. We want to see every seat in the house filled that we may make as much money as possible.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER.—Our services during Holy Week, including Good Friday, were much better attended than during the early part of Lent. At the Cantata of "The Crucifixion," sung on Monday evening by the united choirs of this Parish and of St. Andrew's, West Philadelphia, we had the largest number of persons present we have ever seen in the Church. Not only was every seat in the Church and every chair brought out of the Parish building in addition occupied, but the aisles far up were filled with people who stood during the entire service. There were 750 coins in the offertory, showing that there must have been very nearly if not quite that number of persons present. The amount of the offertory, however, we are sorry to say, was only $32 in all. The music was admirably rendered, and both the choirs and the choir master, who got out of a sick bed to be present, deserve a great deal of credit for it.

THE CHOIR has been working very hard in preparation both for the Cantata and the Easter music, for which a very elaborate program was prepared, and at a great disadvantage, owing to the sickness of the choir master, who was not able to play at all on Palm Sunday and who had to give up a number of practicings, and also owing to the sickness of the leading boy, who was to have taken the solos. He was obliged to leave the Church after the singing of the Benedictus on Easter Day.

A lady of the congregation offered two medals as prizes at Easter for the best behaved boys in the choir, they were awarded to W. A. Rowe and Robt. Lindsay. One for the best singer was awarded to Horace Walsh.

EXTRA ENVELOPES.—All envelopes for benevolent purposes sent out during the past year should be returned this month, which closes our financial year.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following have been received since our last issue:

Mr. Clement Troth	Miss Holbrook
Mrs. Walter Cox	Miss Lucy Perry
Mr William Miliken	Mrs. J. M. Wirgman
Miss Anna Griffith	Mr. George Wharton
Miss A. H. Chamberlaine	
Miss Davis (2 years)	Theo. H. Butler

OPEN CHURCHES.

As the house of God should always be free to all His children, so it should be kept open daily for private prayer and meditation. People should be accustomed to the Church as a holy place and the home of their own soul's life; as a place whose doors are open when they want to think about the higher things of life, when they want to pour out their thoughts before God, and free themselves for a little time from the trouble and distraction of their ordinary surroundings. Says the Rev. Dr. G. W. Shinn, "When the objection is made that people can pray in their own homes, and that there is no need of opening the Church for them, the objector had in mind the comfortable classes who have homes where they can command quiet and seclusion. It may not have occurred to him that there are many people who find it difficult, indeed, to secure any quiet place at home for their devotions. Many live in overcrowded dwellings and boarding houses, in noisy and distracting surroundings, where it is entirely hard to find the slightest help toward being devout. Why should they not be thought of? Why should not the Church doors be opened for them? It would be a blessed thing if the business men could turn aside from the business activities of the street and spend a brief space in the Church. It would be helpful to the workingman who left his home early in the morning if a few minutes of the noon hour were his in the open Church. Think what such a quiet place might be to the poor, tired and tempted ones whose faith and courage are almost exhausted, if the doors of God's house stood open for them, and the altar ever spoke of an Intercessor who pleads with God for them. So important is it to pray, that if but one soul a day were to come into the Lord's house, it would be worth all the trouble of keeping a Church open.—*22d Annual Report of the Free and Open Church Association.*

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1331 MORRIS STREET

Formerly with J. J. EARLEY

The Ascension News

Vol. XII. PHILADELPHIA, MAY, 1899 No. 5

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH ALL SEATS FREE

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334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. LOUIS A. LANPHER.
1231 Wolf St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
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SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2022 St. Alban's St.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

SERVICES

SUNDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 2.30 P.M.
Choral Evening Prayer, 4 P.M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P.M.

DAILY:
Morning Prayer, 10 A.M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P.M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

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KALENDAR—MAY.

1 Saints Philip and James.
5 Friday—Fast.
7 Rogation Sunday.
8 Rogation Day—Fast.
9 Rogation Day—Fast.
10 Rogation Day—Fast.
11 Ascension Day.
12 Friday—Fast.
14 Expectation Sunday.
19 Friday—Fast.
21 Whitsunday.
22 Whitsun Monday.
23 Whitsun Tuesday.
24 Ember Day—Fast.
26 Ember Day—Fast.
27 Ember Day—Fast.
28 Trinity Sunday.

GUILD MEETINGS.

1 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Saturdays, Recreation.
8 and 22 8 P.M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
9 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Missionary Society, first Friday, 10 A.M.
Mothers' Meeting, Wednesdays, 8 P.M.
Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A.M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3 P.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. **William C.** Mayne.
Assistant Supt., Mr. **George W.** Welsh, Jr.
Librarian, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS, 3.00 P. M.

For girls, Mrs. Hodge.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10 A.M.

UNCTION

The anointing with oil as a religious act has been used very generally and from the earliest times. We read in Genesis of Jacob pouring oil upon the pillar he had set up to consecrate it as a solemn witness and attestation of the intercourse he had held with God. Aaron and the other Levitical Priests were anointed to consecrate them for their holy office. Samuel anointed Saul and David as kings of Israel, and generally in the Old Testament anointing with oil is spoken of as a consecration or as the symbol and vehicle of joy and consolation. The very name "Messiah" or "Christ" signifies "the anointed one."

So we read of its use in the New Testament. S. Mark speaks of the Apostles anointing with oil many who were sick, and their being healed. And S. James directs in his Epistle that "if any be sick among you, let him call for the Elders"—that is, Presbyters—"of the Church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord," and promises that "the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up, and if he have committed sins they shall be forgiven him." So in the early Church we find that anointing was used in connection with Baptism and Confirmation. In the Eastern Church Confirmation consists in anointing with oil, which has been blessed by the Bishop for the purpose. So it has always been used in the coronation of kings. The coronation service of the Church of England to this day provides for its use in that way.

So it has been used as S. James prescribed—for the healing of the sick. This is called in the Latin Church "Extreme Unction," because it is the last of the Sacraments, and is, in that Church, only administered when a person is supposed to be dying. But that is a perversion of the original idea. S. James distinctly says that it is for the healing of the sick, as well as for the forgiveness of sins, and, therefore, could be administered in any case of severe illness. The first English Prayer Book provided for its use in this way, and appointed a prayer to be said in its administration, which beautifully and fully expressed these purposes of healing and pardon. But this was omitted in later editions of the Prayer Book, and the use of unction of the sick has fallen into disuse generally in the Anglican Communion; doubtless from the perverted idea attached to it in the Roman Church. In late years, however, it has been revived in many quarters, and a number of our Bishops regularly consecrate oil to be used by their clergy for the purpose.

Among Oriental people the use of, and dependence upon, outward signs and expressions, is more natural than with us of the West, but it is a question whether we do not lose by the neglect of so expressive and universal and scriptural a rite as this, one directly commanded even in Holy Scripture. As the water of Baptism cleanses from sin, so oil devoutly used may convey to us the healing, consoling and refreshing influences of the Holy Spirit, teaching us to look for those influences not from our own strength or holiness, but from the power of God. And it is as reasonable and likely that He will use a material element as the vehicle for conveying those influences in the one case as in the other. It is to be hoped, therefore, that our practice in this respect will come into accord with the rest of the Catholic Church, so that unction of the sick can no longer be spoken of as it was by the late Bishop Forbes, of Brechin, as "the lost pleiad in the Anglican firmament."

RECORD FOR APRIL

Baptisms, adults	1
" infants	4
Marriages	2
Communicants added—	
New	20
By transfer	2
Removed	11
Dropped	3
Burials	1

OFFERINGS

For current expenses, including Easter Offering	$1,414 50
" the Poor	12 30
" Diocesan Missions	3 80
" Freedmen "	16 70
" Foreign "	17 20
" Schools	55
" Prayer Book Society	10 00
" the Tract Society	7 00
" the Ladies' Aid	7 00
" Flowers	1 18
" the Mothers' Meeting	44 25
Of the Sunday School	5 88
" " " for Missions	64 27
Total	$1,604 63
Proceeds of entertainment for the Church	$677 25
Proceeds of entertainment for the Mothers' Meeting	102 61

PARISH NOTES.

THE ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE CHURCH, given in the New Century Drawing Room, on April 27th, was a great success. The ladies in charge of it worked very hard to make it such. They got up a very attractive souvenir programme, for which was furnished a cut of the chief character in the play. For this they sought advertisements, in which they were very successful, clearing over $300 in this way alone. Another committee attended to the selling of the tickets, over 400 being disposed of. So that, after paying all expenses, we have realized $677.25 in all. Our sincere thanks are due to the members of the Manheim Dramatic Club, who so kindly volunteered their services, and whose performance was very enjoyable, and also to the ladies who kindly allowed their names to be used as patronesses, and to the ladies of our own congregation who worked so earnestly in the matter.

OUR EXPENSES MET.—A member of our congregation having generously offered to make good whatever sum might be needed, in addition to the receipts from the entertainment, to secure the $225 already promised, if the total amount asked for at Easter was raised, we have great pleasure in announcing that our total expenses for the year have been met, and we enter this month on a new financial year without any debt, except what remains of our mortgage. We are most thankful for this, and trust that we shall determine to keep up that record in the future, and in addition get rid of our mortgage debt as well.

ENTERTAINMENT OF S. JOHN'S GUILD.—Through the kindness of Mrs. Ervin, the patroness of S. John's Guild, who, though in Egypt, does not forget it, the Guild was able to return the civilities of S. Mary's Guild by inviting its members to an entertainment during Easter week. The members of both Guilds, the men of the choir and a few other invited guests were present. A pleasant evening was passed with music and dancing and a generous repast.

THE VESTRY ELECTION, held on Easter Monday, resulted in the re-election of those whose terms were expiring, and at the subsequent meeting of the Vestry the same Wardens and other officers and committees were appointed to hold over for another term.

ASCENSION TIDE.—In this month occurs the feast of the Ascension, which, being the name day of our Church, we keep as our special Parish Festival. The Feast itself is one of the great days in the Christian year, ranking with Christmas and Easter, and should be observed by church people more generally than it is. And as, in addition, it is the Parochial festival **of this Church, our people ought to make a special point of keeping it. Our choir will give us a special service both in the morning and evening, and we trust both will be well attended. The Rector preaches his** anniversary sermon in the evening, when he reviews the Parish year past and tells the people of his plans for the future. Let all take enough interest in their Parish Church to attend and hear what he has to say about it.

On the Sunday evening after the Ascension, there will be the usual Guild service, when the members of the different Parish Guilds will enter the Church in procession, and a special sermon will be preached to them by the Rev. Mr. Congar, Rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Rosemont.

On Monday evening, May 15th, will be the annual Parish Tea in Parish building, when we hope to see all the members of the Parish socially. The tickets—25 cents each, to pay the expenses—can be obtained from the Sexton.

ADVERTISING.—For two or three years past we have been doing no advertising of our services. But in order to make our services more generally known, we are now advertising the services each Saturday in the *Ledger* and *Evening Bulletin*, giving the anthems to be sung at the Sunday 4 P.M. and the subject of the sermon in the evening. We hope this will add to the size of our congregation. Master Horace Walsh, our soloist soprano, will sing either a solo or in a duet each afternoon, and the Rector preach on some popular topic each night.

THE ENVELOPES **sent out the** beginning of this month **are for six** months, as so many **people being** away in the Summer, it **would not** be possible to reach them **the beginning** of August if they **were sent** out for only three **months now. It** is hoped that all intending **to be** away during the Summer **will put** in offertory the envelopes **for the** time they expect to be **away** *before* they go, that the Church **may have** the funds to meet its **expenses,** which go on just the **same in the** Summer as in the Winter.

Two benevolent envelopes are sent out now, those for the Poor and for the support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools. These are the *only* collections in the year for these purposes, and we trust every one will contribute to them.

S. MARY'S GUILD.—Ten new members have joined the Guild during the past Winter. From last October until the beginning of Lent the Tuesday evenings were pleasantly and profitably spent as follows: The first and third Tuesday of every month, a trained nurse taught an Emergency Class for an hour; then another hour was spent in dancing or recreation of some kind. The second Tuesday of every month was devoted to the business and devotional meetings. The fourth Tuesday of every month a dancing class was taught, when S. John's Guild was invited to join S. Mary's Guild. When a fifth Tuesday occurred in a month some special lady was invited to give a talk. During Lent the members met to sew for two poor families in the Parish, and twenty-one garments were made. Since Easter seven members of the Guild are studying a play to be given at the Parish Tea, and the others meet to sew for a sale of fancy and useful articles which they hope to dispose of at the same time. On the fourth and fifth Tuesdays of the month the Winter arrangement of Dancing Class and Talk have been resumed since Easter. The meetings of the Guild will be discontinued during the Summer to be resumed again on the second Tuesday in October with classes and recreation. All girls in the Parish who have been Confirmed, not already members of the Guild, are cordially invited to come to this meeting and join it.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following have been received since our last issue :

Mr. David Rea Mrs. G. Powell
Miss S. S. Miles (2 years)

REPORT OF THE LADIES' AID

Until the beginning of Lent the work of the Society consisted in making six garments which were sold, one cassock and three surplices for missionaries, nine cassocks and twelve cottas for the Choir and repairing old ones.

During Lent eighty-three garments were made and sent to the Sheltering Arms as a donation.

Donations of Material — Sixty-three yards of goods for Lenten work, linen for eight cottas and serge for one cassock.

Money Receipts—

Donations	$7 00
By sales	2 30
Total	$9 30

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REPORT OF MOTHERS' MEETING

The ladies in charge of the Mothers' Meeting report having had a most interesting and profitable Winter. The members have been very regular in their attendance, the average number present being 16. Work obtained from several of the hospitals has been given out to be made up, for which the workers were paid. The total number of garments made was 993. Each member was furnished with a dinner on Thanksgiving Day, and for some six weeks a supper was provided before the meetings. The meeting has been made a center for the Star Saving Bank, all the members have opened an account, and all saving regularly every week as their means will allow. The members have all been constantly visited at their homes by one of the ladies in charge.

Money received, donations	$ 44 25
Poor fund	10 00
Proceeds of entertainment	102 61
	$156 86

EXPENDED

Payment for work	$117 20
Thanksgiving dinner and suppers	22 49
Saving bank	10 00
Gifts in aid	3 41
Expenses	3 76
	$156 86

GEORGE F. JONES

Funeral Director

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The Ascension News

Vol. XII. PHILADELPHIA, JUNE, 1899. No. 6

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2022 St. Alban's St.

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SERVICES
DURING THE SUMMER

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.

Children's Service during June, 2.30 P.M.

Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.00 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS, 10 A. M

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

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KALENDAR—JUNE.

2 Friday—Fast.
4 First Sunday after Trinity.
9 Friday—Fast.
11 S. Barnabas.
16 Friday—Fast.
18 Third Sunday after Trinity.
23 Friday—Fast.
24 Nativity S. John Baptist.
25 Fourth Sunday after Trinity.
29 S. Peter.
30 Friday—Fast.

GUILD MEETINGS.

5 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays, Recreation.
12 and 26 8 P.M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. William C. Mayne.
Librarian, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

OUR PARISH YEAR

As usual on the evening of Ascension Day, the Rector preached his Anniversary Sermon, giving details of the work of the Parish for the past financial year. From the report prepared for the Bishop, it appears that the number of Baptisms and Confirmations were about the same as last year, there being one less baptized, one more confirmed. There were fifteen fewer names added to the communicant list and twelve fewer removed. The number of burials was more than double last year, due to the very severe and sickly winter we had.

The Sunday School is not as large as it should be, owing chiefly to the difficulty of securing faithful and devoted teachers. The Bible Classes have held their own, and the Industrial School has been larger and better attended. This school is composed of children living in the actual neighborhood of the Church, and does real missionary work.

The young people's Guilds of the Parish have been prosperous, as is seen by the reports we published in last month's and this month's issue. The Men's Guild gave one smoker during the year, which brought a number of the men of the Parish together. The Women's Guild has carried on the work of its several branches, the details of which will appear in due time in the Year Book, but it has to lament not having more members to take an active interest in it.

The financial report for the year **shows the largest receipts for any year in the history of the Parish. This was owing to the Pleasonton legacy and to the amounts received from the stand in front of the** Church during the Peace Jubilee, and from the entertainments gotten up by the ladies. The ordinary Sunday offerings of the congregation, we are sorry to say, were some $650 less than last year, though in last year's receipts was a gift of $500 which we cannot expect every year, and this year our receipts were very much affected by the unusual number of bad Sundays we had during the Winter.

The Pleasonton legacy puts the Church in a better financial condition than it has ever been in before. It has paid off all our floating debt, reduced our mortgage debt from $21,000 to $12,000, and added $1,000 to our endowment, the latter being held by the Vestry as a reserved fund to draw on during the Summer months when our receipts run down very much and when we have hitherto been obliged to borrow, and have often found difficulty in doing so.

The receipts from the Jubilee stand enabled the Vestry to make the very substantial improvement of tiling the aisles of the Church. And the recent entertainment, the receipts from which were nearly $700, made up the amount needed to meet the running expenses of the Church for the past year.

The review of the year presents some aspects which are very encouraging and some which are not so much so. We have now no debt but the remaining $12,000 mortgage, and our improved financial condition ought to make it easier for the Parish to meet its obligations in the future. On the other hand, we have not increased in numbers during the past year as we should have done. One reason for this is the deterioration of the district West of Broad street and between Lombard street and Washington avenue. This is the district which has, up to Sixteenth street, been especially assigned to this Parish by the Southwest Convocation, to which it belongs. In order to ascertain accurately its spiritual condition the members of our Parish branch of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew undertook, at the suggestion of the Rector, to make a religious census of it, the result of which is as follows: Number of houses visited, 889. Of these, 260 were occupied by colored people, 182 by Roman Catholics, 138 by Presbyterians, 43 by Methodists, 12 by Lutherans, 6 by Baptists, 32 by Jews, 2 by Chinamen, 26 by those professing no religion, 55 were vacant, in 54 were members of the Episcopal Church belonging to other Parishes, and 21 by persons attending this Church. This shows how difficult a field it is to draw from. Added to this is the fact that there are several other Episcopal Churches very near. St. Luke's-

Epiphany, All Saints' and St. Mark's Mission, each only three blocks off, the latter being conducted very much on the lines of the Ascension and in which there are no less than sixty workers from St. Mark's Church.

The fact that we have as large a congregation as we have, so many of whom come from a distance, is proof that the Church must possess special attractions. But the fact that the immediate neighborhood of the Church is such as it is, interferes very seriously with its growth. Our hope for the future is that Broad street south of the Church will improve, and that the Church will profit as well by the general improvement in the central part of the city, and we unite with the Rector in calling upon all our people to take more interest in, and work more for, and give more to, the Church than they have ever done before. We should get rid of all our debt and increase our endowment so that we shall not be affected by changes in the neighborhood, and we should have more and more earnest workers in all our departments.

We thank God for what has been done, the progress that has been made in the past, but we want to see still more done and more progress made in the future.

RECORD FOR MAY

Baptism	1
Communicants, Removed	5
" " Died	1
Communion of the sick	1
Burials	2

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$370 34
" the Poor	5 81
" Diocesan Missions	1 00
" General "	25
" the Schools	3 05
Of the Sunday School	2 86
Total	$383 31

Additional receipts from entertainment, $21.16.

PARISH NOTES

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Ninety volumes for our Parish and Sunday School library, material for three cassocks, flowers for Ascension Day, cake, coffee, sugar, cream, etc., for the Parish Tea.

ASCENSION DAY.—The keeping of our Parish Festival was greviously interfered with in the morning by a pouring rain, which made the mid-day congregation very small. It cleared off by night, when we had a fair attendance, but not nearly so many as the interest of the occasion should have called forth. The Guild service on Thursday evening passed off well, though the Guilds were not out in the force they should have been. The Parish Tea kept up the tradition of the Parish for a pleasant time. The large school room was crowded. S. Mary's Guild gave an effective play, and some members of S. John's Guild some songs. A new feature of the Tea was a small sale by the members of S. Mary's Guild, by which they realized $10.62 for the benefit of their Guild.

THE CHOIR, by universal consent, has improved very much of late. The tone of the boys' voices is especially good, and our leading soprano, Master Horace Walsh, has developed very much. He has been singing solos, or in duets, every Sunday afternoon during the last month, which has attracted much attention. We hope in the autumn still futher improvement in the music will be made.

SUMMER SERVICES.—As usual we change our hours of service this month, discontinuing the 4 p. m. and 7.45 p. m. services on Sunday, and having in their place a twilight service at 7 p. m. The daily service and Wednesday evening service also stop, there being services only on Wednesdays and Fridays and all holy days at 10 a. m. We hope all of our people who remain in the city will avail themselves of these services. There is no more reason why one should neglect going to church in the summer than in the winter.

The rector expects to be at the Church every Sunday during the Summer, and during July and August will take all the duty except the early celebrations, for which he will have help. Any one wanting a clergyman on account of sickness or for baptisms, marriages or burials can find one at the Church before or after any of the services, or can send word through the sexton, who will be at the Church daily.

DEATH OF GEN. LEIPER.—The Parish has lost one of its most distinguished members in the death of Gen. Leiper, which occurred last month very unexpectedly. Gen. Leiper was a veteran of the civil war, in which he so distinguished himself as to rise from a lieutenancy to be a brigadier general. He was in many battles, was taken prisoner and was wounded. The respect in which he was held was attested by the number of men attending the funeral, every seat in the Church being filled and many standing. The General had belonged to the Parish for some nine years, and took special pleasure in our musical services. He attended the last smoker given by the Men's Guild, and promised to make an address at the next one we should hold, giving some of his war experiences.

ENTERTAINMENT. — Additional receipts from the entertainment given last month bring the total amount received up to $698.41, almost seven hundred dollars! Well done!

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.—Our Assistant Superintendent, Mr. George W. Welsh, Jr., has resigned his position, having been transferred to the Church of St. John the Evangelist, at Third and Reed streets, as he lives in that neighborhood and finds it difficult to attend a Church at such a distance as the Ascension. Our thanks are due to Mr. Welsh for the faithful and regular way in which he has discharged his duties since he has been connected with the School.

S. JOHN'S GUILD for young men has now a membership of forty, thirty-five of whom are communicants of our Church, thirty are members of the Bible Class, six serve at the early or late Celebrations, four as cross bearers and banner bearers. The Bible class has contributed ten dollars to the Sunday school fund this year, and many help at the Church entertainments, etc.

The object of this Guild is to improve and help young men, and to bring their families into the Church. Miss Maria J. Gilpin is directress.

THE NEWS will not be issued during July and August. The following subscription has been received since our last issue:

Mrs. D. Hawkins.

REPORT

The following is the report of the Parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop:

Baptisms—adults, 5; infants, 25; total, 30. *Confirmed*—males, 7; females, 14; total, 21. *Communicants* added—new, 21; by transfer, 23; died 6; removed, 32; present number, 527. *Marriages*, 6. *Burials*, 20. *Public Services*—Sunday, 292; on other days, 565; total, 857. *Celebrations of Holy Communion*—public, 179; in private, 5; total 184. Number of Communions made, 2,332 *Sunday Schools*—Officers and teachers, 15; scholars, 110; Bible classes, 2; teachers, 2; scholars, 41. *Other Parish Agencies*—Industrial School: teachers, 14; scholars, 140; Mothers' Meeting: members, 23. Men's Guild, the male communicants; Women's Guild, the female communicants; Young Men's Guild, S. John's: members, 40; Young Women's Guild, S. Mary's: members, 34; Chapter Brotherhood of S. Andrew, members, 12.

Money Receipts—Offerings for all Parish purposes, $5,872.01; offerings for purposes outside the Parish, $240.15; investments, $537.14; other sources, $1,335.92; Sunday School, $135.53; Woman's Auxiliary, $179.35; legacy, $11,644.59; total, $19.944.69.

Expenditures—Parochial, current expenses (including salaries of ministers, music, fuel and lighting, care of Church building and grounds and ordinary repairs of the same), $5.595.36; improvements, $730.00; payment of debts, $10,552.31; interest on indebtedness, $1,217.90; support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools, $109.98; for the poor, $280.77; endowment, $1,000; miscellaneous, $321.47; total, $19,807.79.

Diocesan—Episcopal and Convention Fund, $107.10; Diocesan Missions, $96.70; Episcopal Hospital, $19.03; Sustentation Fund, $34.98; total, $257.81.

General Missions–Foreign, $19.40; Domestic, $62.70; Indian, $23.40; Colored people, $17.90; Prayer Book and Tract Societies, $17; united offering, $7.25; total, $230.94.

Total for all objects, $20,296.54.

Estimated value of missionary boxes and bundles, $188.

Financial Condition—Aggregate value of property of the Parish, real and personal, $80,000; incumbrances: mortgage on the Church edifice, Parish building and ground, $12,000. Other indebtedness, none. Endowment fund, $10,525.

DORNER'S

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1108 S. Broad Street

Mention Ascension News

GEORGE F. JONES

Funeral Director

Formerly with J. J. EARLEY

1331 MORRIS STREET

The Ascension News

VOL. XII. PHILADELPHIA, SEPTEMBER, 1899. No. 7

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH ALL SEATS FREE

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

ASSISTANT:
REV. WM. BERNARD GILPIN,
1332 Pine St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
CHARLES E. BONNET.

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
HOWARD R. O'DANIEL.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2022 St. Alban's St.

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SERVICES

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.

Children's Service, 2.30 P.M.

Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.00 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS, 10 A. M

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

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KALENDAR.—SEPTEMBER.

1 Friday—Fast.
3 Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity.
8 Friday—Fast.
10 Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity.
15 Friday—Fast.
17 Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity.
20 Ember Day—Fast.
21 S. Matthew, Evangelist.
22 Ember Day—Fast.
23 Ember Day—Fast.
24 Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity.
29 S. Michael and All Angels—Fast.

GUILD MEETINGS.

4 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays, Recreation.
11 and 25 8 P.M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, Mr. William C. Mayne.
Librarian, Mr. Lawrence Gardiner.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

ANOTHER SEASON.

As the summer, with its heat and departure of so many of our people from the city, with the consequent cessation of church work, is nearly over, and as we begin to gather our forces again for another season of activity, we want to call upon all our people for renewed and earnest exertions on behalf of our Parish, and point out to them some ways in which each and every one can help it on. In the first place, all Church people should remember that they belong to the Church, not only for the advantage and pleasure it may be to them, but in order, as well, to discharge through it their duty to their fellowmen. The Church exists to evangelize and bless the world, and that it may do that each member of the Church should do his or her full share in supporting and equipping the Church and taking part in its work.

Now, this can be done, first, by ever one belonging to a particular Parish. A person who simply belongs to the Church at large, and goes about from Church to Church without connecting himself with any, taking part in its work and helping in its support, is not doing his duty to it. There are many people who come here regularly, and a great many more from time to time, who are not known to the clergy or any one in the Parish. These people might do a great deal for the Parish, to say nothing of the benefit it might be to themselves, if they would let themselves be known. Let every one who comes to the Church with any degree of regularity have the goodness to give in his name and address that one of the clergy may at least call on him and make his acquaintance. If the clergy are ready and glad to do this, one would suppose that this request would be complied with. No one will be forced to do anything he does not want to do, but the acquaintance, at least, of the clergy can be no disadvantage. We should think it would be valued.

Secondly, let every one belonging to the Church be regular in his attendance. This is very important. It is important to the person himself that he may derive from the Church's services the benefits he should, and it is important from the influence he will exert upon others by his showing his appreciation of it and setting an example, than which nothing is more powerful. Many people get out of the way of Church going altogether because so many professedly Church people are so careless about it themselves. Surely, we must answer for the influence we exert, knowingly or unknowingly, on others. Few things would do more to fill up the Church and bring others to it, as its own members being always at its services. In fact, if all our own members attended with the regularity they should there would be little room left for outsiders.

In the third place, talk about your Church. Tell your friends about it. Tell them how much you love and prefer it yourselves to any other Church. Mention its free seats, its frequent services, the beautiful way in which they are conducted, its weekly Eucharists, its good music. These are things you do not find in every Church. And if they were more generally known they would be more appreciated. We must depend upon our members to bring others with them to Church. If they do not care to do it no one else will.

Fourthly, try to take some part in the work of the Church. We have a great many Parish agencies, including very different kinds of work, so that almost every one can find something to do in connection with the Church if he has the mind to do so. And ought we not to be as benevolent and charitable as we can? Of course, it will require some exertion and self-sacrifice. But can we profess to have any virtue if we are not capable of that? There is work needed to be done in our schools and other departments of church work, which is not done because there are not those who are willing to do it. How can those who refuse or are so unwilling to make the slightest exertion for the good of others, expect to have the approbation of Him who will say, "Inasmuch as you did it not to one of the least of these, my brethren, you did it not to me"?

Finally, let every one contribute as largely to the support of the Church and the carrying on of its benevolent work as he can. There are some who seem to think that a free Church is one in which one need not give anything. But, on the contrary, it is one in which each needs to give most generously, because it has *no other means* of support. It has no pew rents. It does not sell or let its benefits to the highest bidder. It gives to all freely, and so all should give to it. The rich should be glad to give liberally, feeling that they thereby provide religious benefits for others as well as for themselves. And the poor should give what they can, feeling that so far they do provide for themselves and are not wholly dependent upon the charity of others.

We shall speak again more particularly of this matter of church support, but we hope all our members will make a note of these different ways we have mentioned by which they can help their Church, and will resolve to throw their hearts and souls more into its interests and work during this coming season than they have in the past.

THE ASSISTANTSHIP.

The engagement of the Rev. Mr. Lanpher as Assistant Minister of the Parish terminates with the first of this month. His place is taken by the Rev. William Bernard Gilpin, who was a member of the Parish before taking Holy Orders, and so is already known to most of our people. For the last three years he has been curate of a Church in the suburbs of Boston, doing very hard work. We bespeak for him a hearty welcome back to the Parish and earnest support in his endeavors, especially to build up the Sunday School and extend the work of the Church in our immediate neighborhood.

RECORD FOR JUNE, JULY AND AUGUST

Baptism	1
Marriage	1
Communicants Added, by Transfer	2
" " Died	1
" " Removed	2
Burials	3

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$761	82
" Church Debt	2	75
" the Building Fund	2	00
" the Poor	12	05
" the Schools	4	05
Of the Sunday School	1	50
Total	$784	17
Additional receipts from Entertainment	46	16

PARISH NOTES.

THE SUMMER has been a delightfully cool one, a great contrast to the previous summer, which was excessively hot. The effect of the weather has been seen in our congregations, which, though not as large as they should have been, we are glad to say were better than a year ago. We keep a record of the attendance at each service, and so can compare year with year, and the average for the summer months was higher this year than it was last. Perhaps our music had something to do with it, as our choirmaster has tried to keep the standard up through the entire summer, when in so many Churches it is allowed to go down or omitted altogether.

As the summer was a cool one, so it was a healthy one. The Rector was, indeed, visiting some five sick persons during July and August, but one of these was the result of an accident, and he has not been called upon to officiate at a single funeral. One of the sick was a member of our Vestry, Dr. Thomas R. Neilson, who was very ill for some time from blood poisoning, contracted in performing an operation, but we are thankful to say he is now recovering.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL reopens with the first Sunday of this month, when we hope all the teachers and children who are in town will be present. We look for a large and successful school this year, as this is a department of church work in which our new Assistant Minister, Mr. Gilpin, is much interested, and in which he has been very successful in the Parish with which he was connected in Boston. We hope he will be efficiently supported by those who will be willing to take classes in the school. It is a most important and much needed work.

The Sexton has been diligently employed during the summer in reoiling the chairs and other furniture in the Sunday School and removing stains from the walls and ceiling, which adds materially to its appearance. And we hope soon to have a permanent division erected in the large Sunday School room, so as to make in the rear portion a separate room for the Infant School.

MEMORIALS.—Is there not some one in the congregation who would like to put a memorial in the Church to some loved one during the coming winter? We like to see some improvement made in the Church each year. We would suggest the following things as most needed: A stone or marble altar and reredos, the one we have is not worthy of the Church; a metal or carved wood rood screen to be placed on top of the dwarf screen we have. Both of these would be expensive. Less expensive gifts would be handsome stained glass for the windows where there is still only plain glass. There are three more in the chancel to be filled and a large number in the clerestory. The Rector has designs for these, which he will show to any one thinking of putting one or more in, and can give information in regard to the price. By resolution of the Vestry all the windows in the Church must be made by the same firm, so as to secure uniformity.

Another large improvement we need is the extension of our Parish building, so as to give us more rooms for our different departments of work. And then there is the debt, which, though reduced, still amounts to $12,000, on which we have to pay out so much interest every year.

In the way of smaller things, we need a new set of service books for the altar and clergy stalls.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following have been received since our last issue:

Mrs. H. Christian
Mr. J. E. Carpenter, $1
Mrs. George D. Parrish
Miss. E. C. Hare
Mr. Sam'l. Wetherill

FAMILY PRAYERS.

There is one mark of a household in which God is known and loved, which is too often wanting in our day. I mean the practice of family prayer. Depend upon it, the worth

of a practice of that kind can only be measured by its effects during a long period of time, and family prayer, though occupying only a few minutes, does make a great difference to any household at the end of the year.

How, indeed, can it be otherwise, when each morning and, perhaps, each evening, too, all the members of the family the old, the young, the parents and the children, the master and the servants, meet on a footing of perfect equality before the Eternal, in whose presence each is as nothing, or less than nothing, yet to whom each is so infinitely dear that He has redeemed by His blood each and all of them? How must not the bad spirits that are the enemies of pure and bright family life flee away—the spirits of envy and pride and untruthfulness and sloth, and the whole tribe of evil thoughts, and make way for His gracious presence in the hearts of old and young alike, who, as He brings us, one by one, nearer to the true end of our existence, so does He, and He alone, make us to be "of one mind in a house" here within the narrow presence of each home circle, and hereafter in that countless family of all nations and kindreds and people and tongues, which shall dwell with Him, the universal Parent of all eternity.—*Liddon.*

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ENDOWMENT OF OLD SWEDES CHURCH.

The late Dr. Charles J. Stille, ex-Provost of the University who died last month, did an excellent thing and set a capital example in leaving one-third of his estate to the Old Swedes Church in this city. How few persons leave money to churches, and yet to what better purpose could money be given, to carry on for all time the beneficent work which only the Church can do, and yet which cannot be done unless the church is supported and made independent of the fluctuations caused by death and removals among its members.

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Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Vesper Service, 3 P.M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:

Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P. M.

DAILY:

Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P.M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

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KALENDAR—OCTOBER.

1 Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.
6 Friday—Fast.
8 Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.
13 Friday—Fast.
15 Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.
18 S. Luke, Evangelist.
20 Friday—Fast.
22 Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity.
27 Friday—Fast.
28 SS. Simon and Jude.
29 Twenty second Sunday after Trinity.

GUILD MEETINGS.

2 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.
9 and 23 8 P.M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
10 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Classes and Recreation.
7 P.M., Ascension Cadets, Saturdays.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, The Curate.
Assistant Supt., Mr. H. O. J. Childs.
Librarian, Mr. D. L. Witmer.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS, 3 P.M.

For girls, Mrs. Hodge.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The regular sessions of the Sunday School will begin October 1st, at 2.30 P. M. in the Parish rooms, followed by a service in the Church at 3 P. M. We look for increased attendance and deeper interest in the Sunday School this year than ever before.

It may be well to make a few general remarks on the subject of Sunday Schools. There are people who believe in Sunday Schools and there are people who do not believe in them.

Those who believe in them, and we hope all our parishioners are of this kind, may be divided into two classes:

1. Those who regard them as necessary evils.

2. Those who regard them as necessary blessings.

1. Those who regard them as necessary evils are they who never got any good out of the school and who look back upon them with but little pleasure, for they experienced no real benefit, but rather a great deal of discomfort and "nagging" on the part of a teacher who, knowing little, was not able to impart that little to the youthful mind.

The only reason such people have for sending their children to a Sunday School, is to get them out of the way of an afternoon.

Then, they recognize the material benefit that Christmas and Easter brings to the children, and they are not only willing to let them go where they like but allow them to attend as many Sunday Schools as they like.

2. Those who regard the Sunday Schools as necessary blessings, are they who look back upon them as a bright time in their lives. They associate with them some of the most helpful and happiest experiences. And even when most of what they learned has been forgotten, they cherish the memory of the teacher who had a personal influence upon them, because the teacher was one who took the trouble to know the scholar and show his or her interest in some real way. Such influence is seldom forgotten.

People of this class are anxious for their children to have the benefit of what was dear to them. They send their children to the school not for what they can get out of it in material benefits, but for what will help them to be good and true to right principles. They wish them above all things to learn to love their Church and will not allow them to float about from one Church to another.

They will see that the lessons for Sunday are as carefully prepared as those for week days.

They will encourage their children in many ways, especially in attending the children's Vesper service after the Sunday School.

It is hoped that all parents who read this article will wish to be regarded as they who believe that Sunday Schools are necessary blessings, and that they believe that it is our aim to make the Ascension Sunday School one of this kind.

We need the help of the parents at home. The teachers should realize the importance of their work; they must put their hearts as well as minds into the work. They cannot expect scholars to be prompt and regular if they are not. The children will become interested as soon as they see those whom they look up to are interested.

A CHURCH BELL.

There is more religion in the sound of a church bell than most people suppose. This fact was brought to the attention of the writer, while a curate at a Church in one of the thickly populated districts of Boston.

A large number of the people who lived in the houses and tenements that surrounded the Church, were employed in two large manufactories, and it was impossible for them to attend the daily services at the Church. Every morning and evening the small bell in the steeple of the Church was heard to ring for a few minutes. The sound of the bell carried its message into the homes, factories and saloons in the neighborhood, and this message was the fact that the Church was offering her prayers to God for her children—good, bad and indifferent.

Many a time a hard working man or woman said that although they could not come to Church, they heard the bell and knew that their pastor was praying for them. Many a sick person said the little bell brought to them much comfort while they lay upon the sick bed. Many a time sin-sick souls found their way into the Church and joined in the service. It was the bell that reminded them of a place where they could come apart from the world and rest awhile.

We do not know how many men and women were helped to resist a temptation to indulge in some vice by the memory that the sound of the bell brought to their minds, but we know that there are few who having become neglectful of their Church, do not associate the happy, innocent days of childhood with the sound of a Church bell.

The bell plays an important part in every well organized parish. It is necessary to the discipline of the Sunday School and choir; in fact, wherever children are concerned. The congregation as well as the clergy need to be reminded when the time for service is at hand.

These thoughts may suggest to some one the importance of our Church having a bell or at least a gong. The expense would not be much, and the blessing that its message would have for masses of people who pass by the Church, as well as for those within, would be very great.

RECORD FOR SEPTEMBER.

Baptism	1
Marriages	2
Communicants Added	1
by Transfer	1
Communion of the sick	1

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$324 81
" the Poor	11 02
Of the Sunday School	2 86
Total	$338 69

PARISH NOTES.

THE ASSISTANT MINISTER of this Parish will hereafter be known as the Curate. This is the term universally applied in England, to assistant ministers, and some years ago the Bishop of New York strongly recommended its adoption in this country, together of that of Vicar for a clergyman in charge of a chapel, since which time it has become more in use. It is not only a shorter and more churchy term than that of Assistant Minister, but, especially where there are,as in this parish, many English people, it is better understood.

CHANGE OF SERVICES.— With this month the daily services recommence at 10 A. M. and 5 P. M., with Wednesday evening service at 8 P. M. and the Sunday evening services are changed to 4 P. M. Choral Evensong and 7.45 P. M. Evening Prayer and Sermon, in place of the twilight service.

THE DAILY SERVICE.—At the beginning of another season, when this service recommences, we want to call upon our people to use it more than they have done heretofore. Surely it is a privilege to be able to go to God's House for prayer and praise and meditation, not only on Sundays, but any day in the week. To do so, will be to bring our religion into our daily life, and make it more our support and guide. We are all too much taken up with earthly cares and pleasures. We do not think about spiritual things, as much as we should. The Church's daily service is her witness for the necessity of constantly thinking of and seeking God's help. The clergymen of this parish try faithfully to carry out the Church's provisions and yet the laity do not trouble themselves to use them. If a man like Gladstone could derive pleasure, and find the time as he did, even when he had all the cares of the British empire on his shoulders, to attend prayers in Church, at least once a day, surely most persons could do the same Cannot each of our members, as we have suggested before, resolve that they will attend at least *one* service during each *week*? If they did, it would provide a congegation at every service, and we are sure they would be helped and blessed by it.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL has been reorganized by the appointment of the following officers: Superintendent, Rev. W. B. Gilpin; Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Harry O. J. Childs; Librarian, Mr. Daniel L. Witmer; Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eagel. The sessions of the school will begin hereafter at 2.30 P. M. in the school rooms, followed by a Vesper service for the children in the Church, at 3 P. M. It is thought that this arrangement will give greater prominence to the Church service and secure greater reverence and punctuality in entering the Church, than having the service before the Sunday School, as formerly. As the session of the school will last only half an hour, and the service only half an hour, it is essential that there should be the most exact punctuality on the part of both the teachers and scholars.

THE BIBLE CLASSES will meet as formerly, at 3 P. M. recommencing with the first Sunday in this month. Mrs. Hodge and Miss Gilpin will both be present, and they hope to see all the former members of their classes, and any other of the young men and women of the parish who would like to join them.

WOMEN'S GUILD.—The annual meeting of the Women's Guild of the parish meets this month on SS. Simon and Jude's day, Saturday the 28th, after the morning service. Again we ask all the women of the parish to attend it. The object of the meeting, is to present to the ladies of the congregation an account of the work in its various branches which has been done in the past Church year, and to map out what should be done during the year to come. If our members would only feel it their duty to attend this meeting, we are sure that they would become interested, and learn of some way, in which they could help on the Church's work. If people were only willing to give a tithe of the time and attention to Church work, which is the most permanent and important work that can be done, that they give to all wordly interests, how much more might be accomplished than is done now. Do let all our women come to this meeting.

S. JOHN'S AND S. MARY'S GUILDS begin again their meetings this month, and it is hoped to continue the joint social meeting of the two Guilds, one evening in each month, which proved so acceptable last winter.

St. Mary's Guild begins its year's work with a devotional and business

meeting on the second Tuesday in October, at 8 o'clock. It is hoped that all the old members will be present at this meeting, and all young girls in the parish over sixteen years of age, not already members, are cordially invited to come to this meeting, and become Guild members. The weekly meetings during the coming year will be for instruction, improvement and pleasure. A large membership and weekly attendance is earnestly hoped for.

BOY'S BRIGADE.—It is proposed to start a Guild for the younger boys of the parish, between the ages of eleven and sixteen years, and it is thought that the most interesting and profitable thing for them will be a military drill. No boy who is not a member of the Sunday School or Choir can belong to the brigade.

Meetings will be held every Saturday evening, beginning with this month, at 7 P. M., in the Guild Room. Applications for membership may be made to the Curate, the Rev. Mr. Gilpin.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY.—Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Neilson, winter attendants of our church, celebrate this month the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage. We present them with our heartiest congratulations on this occasion, and join with them our heartiest prayers that they may still be long spared to each other and to the Church.

COMMISSIONED.—Our former choir master, Mr. Frederick B. Neilson has received a commission as First Lieutenant in one of the new regiments, and is now on his way to the Philippines. While we cannot but regret the loss of a man with his musical and other talents, still, as that is his choice, we congratulate him on the reception of his commission and trust that he will be happy in his new life.

SUBSCRIPTIONS received in September.

Mrs. Barret, Mrs. I. L. Clark (2 years)

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Evening Prayer and Lecture, 7.45 P. M.

DAILY:

Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

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KALENDAR —NOVEMBER.

1 All Saints'.
3 Friday—Fast.
5 Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity.
10 Friday—Fast.
12 Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity.
17 Friday—Fast.
19 Twenty-fifth Sunday after Trinity.
24 Friday—Fast.
26 Sunday before Advent.
30 S. Andrew.

GUILD MEETINGS.

6 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.
13 and 27 8 P.M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
14 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Classes and Recreation.
7 P.M., Saturdays, Ascension Cadets.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Missionary Society, first Friday, 10.30 A.M.
Mothers' Meeting, Wednesday, 8 P.M.
Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A.M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3 P.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, The Curate.
Assistant Supt., Mr. H. O. J. Childs.
Librarian, Mr. D. L. Witmer.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS, 3 P.M.

For girls, Mrs. Hodge.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10 A.M.

CHURCH SUPPORT.

Churches, like all other institutions in this world, require funds for their support. Not only does it require money to build and furnish churches, but they must be kept in repair, heated, lighted and cleaned; there must be attendance, music must be provided, and if that is to be of a high standard it is costly. So with the clergy. If their whole time is to be given to the work, they must be supported, and a large parish requires a number of them, not only to conduct the frequent services required, but to visit and look after all the people, and attend to the schools, guilds and other parish societies.

The question then is, how is the money to be obtained for all this? Many different methods have been employed at different times and places for supporting Churches. In some countries they are supported by the State. The Church is looked upon as a department of the government and paid for out of the taxes and customs, etc. In other places the Church is endowed, property has been given or left to particular churches for the purpose. Another method very commonly resorted to, especially in this country, is that of renting the pews and seats. But to this there are great objections. It is wrong in principle, for it turns what should be God's House for all His children into the private property of those who can afford to pay for it. This has a very bad effect upon both the clergy and the people. It makes the clergyman dependent upon the approbation and support of the select company to which he ministers, and it makes the people selfish and luxurious, and forgetful of the great purposes for which the Church exists. And it produces the impression generally that religion is only a luxury of the rich, something poor people cannot afford, and so they learn to do without it, to their great loss, of course. We believe the neglect of the Church by so large a part of the community is due to this habit of pew renting more than anything else.

But if a Church is not endowed, which is the best and most to be desired thing if it can be accomplished, and the pews are not rented, how can it be supported? The answer is by voluntary offerings. But these must be sufficient and regular. That they may be, the person giving them must be conscientious and systematic. But it is difficult for people attending a church, some of them only casually, to appreciate how much is required to support a church or how much they individually should give towards it. And even those who do attend Church regularly, and wish to contribute their share towards its support, are very apt to be careless and forgetful of this duty. This is the great difficulty in supporting free Churches. And it is to obviate it that some system of pledges or regular subscriptions is generally resorted to. The plan most efficacious is that which is known as the envelope system. By it every one attending the Church promises to contribute so much a week, and an envelope is furnished him in which he can place his contribution. This helps him to be systematic and regular in making his offering and enables the Church authorities to know upon what they can count. And it is right in principle. It teaches that the giving to the support of God's House should not be a matter of barter and sale for the accommodations furnished in it, but a gift to maintain it for the benefit of all who can use it. And it makes the amount one gives to be measured not by the place in the church which it secures, but by the ability of the giver. "He that hath much should give plenteously, he that hath little should gladly give of that little" according to the Scriptural precept. But the benefits of the Church are given in return irrespective of the amount each contributes.

This system of Church support is that which has been adopted in this Parish, and, therefore, it should be used by all. But we are sorry to say that by no means all even of our communicant members comply with it. And, consequently, while they may contribute on the Sundays on which they are in church according to what they may happen to have with them, they do not give as largely and as regularly as they

should. They do not give in the course of the year as largely as they would if they were renting a pew or contributing by means of the envelopes. In saying this we speak generally. Of course, there are exceptions. There are careful and conscientious persons who will, and do, give as largely and regularly without making any pledge as those who do. But they are exceptions. And, therefore, we urge *every one*, no matter how small the sum is which he feels he can give towards the support of the Church, to give it through the envelopes. It should be just as much a matter of course in this Church for a person to take an envelope as it is in another Church for him to rent a pew. And we want to see all our people doing it. The Church will not be properly supported, and we shall always be struggling with deficits until they do. Each member of a family should take an envelope, as well as the head of the family. It is one of the advantages of this system that it thus teaches each member of the Church the duty and responsibility of personally contributing to its support. The pledge may be withdrawn or altered in amount at any time you find it necessary to do so, but it should be made. We hope to see our list of contributing members largely increased this winter. Our Church needs a larger income for its support than it has, and the way to secure it is for each member to do his duty to it, and comply with the system which has been adopted for its support.

OUR BOYS.

Any one who is anxious to see our Parish grow, should remember that the boys and girls of to-day will be the men and women of the future; and just in proportion to the amount of interest shown these boys and girls now, will be shown by them in the future. The Church has an opportunity to reach many young people in this vicinity, and should take advantage of it. There are many ways of interesting children; but, possibly, there is no way of interesting boys so well as forming them into a company of soldiers. It is just as natural for a boy to pretend that he is a soldier, and hold himself erect and look brave, even though he holds a broom stick in his hand, as it is for a little girl to pretend that she is a mother, clasping her rag baby stuffed with sawdust.

It is proposed to take advantage of this characteristic in the boy and develop it into what constitutes manliness. A corps of cadets has been organized, and the boys have shown their usual enthusiasm and willingness to be trained. The advantage of such an organization to the Church has been fully shown by work of this kind in other Churches. It makes the boy have a great interest in the Church. It gives the clergy an opportunity to meet boys on their own ground and lead them into other branches of Church work.

Many of the boys who have joined the company cannot afford to buy their suits, and as it is very important that all the boys should be uniformed, in order to make them realize that they are in earnest, it is necessary to have the money to buy what is needed.

To meet this expense it is proposed to have a list of honorary members. Any one contributing fifty cents or more, may become an honorary member of the company.

At least fifty dollars is required, and it is hoped that all who are interested in the work among our children will help the Ascension Cadets. Contributions will be thankfully received by the Curate, who is at present in charge of the Company.

RECORD FOR OCTOBER.

Marriages	1
Communicants added—	
By Transfer	1
Removed	2
Died	1
Communion of the sick	1
Burials	2

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$378 02
" the Poor	1 47
" Mortgage Debt	25 00
" Floating Debt	2 75
" Schools	1 25
" Year Book	2 00
Of the Sunday School	7 15
Total	$417 64

PARISH NOTES.

WINTER WORK. — With this month all our departments of work come into full operation — the Mother's Meeting on Wednesday evenings after the Church service, the Industrial School on Saturday mornings, the Embroidery Class on Thursdays after morning prayers, the Ladies' Aid Thursday afternoons at 3 o'clock, the Monthly Missionary Meeting on the first Friday of each month after morning prayer. Will not each of our ladies take an interest in one or more of these branches of Church work? The work and influence of the Church could be greatly extended if more would take part in these different organizations than have done so in the past. Will not especially all our ladies attend the Monthly Missionary Meeting of the Parish on the first Friday, and thus acquaint themselves with the wants of the different missionary fields, and see what they can do to help in them. If many would each do a little, a great deal would be accomplished altogether. Our ladies will now be engaged in making up their annual missionary boxes, and any contributions towards them will be most acceptable.

OLD CLOTHES.—We want to remind the members of the congregation at this time of the year, when they are renewing their wardrobes, that the Church is a depot to receive any kind of old or cast off clothing, even old shoes. Any articles of the kind can be sent to the Church at any time, as it is always open, or the sexton, if notified, will call for any bundles. Whatever is good enough for the purpose we put in missionary boxes, the rest we use in the Parish or among poor who apply for help. Often our children cannot come to Church or Sunday School for lack of clothes or shoes, and are thankful for what we can supply them with.

EXTRA ENVELOPES.—The special envelopes sent out this quarter are for the Christmas offering and for general missions. We require the Christmas offering to make up the average for the year and enable us to meet the interest on our mortgage, which becomes due in December, and which, though reduced in amount, is still considerable. And what is given through the envelopes for general missions is the annual offering of the con-

gregation for the carrying on of the missionary work of the Church in the world at large. We hope every one will be returned well filled. And we must remind many of our people that they have not yet returned all the envelopes they received last month for the poor and for our schools. These envelopes support the benevolent work in our own Parish, and we need means, not only to keep up what we have been doing, but to enlarge the work. We have no other collections for the purpose but these. If any have envelopes marked for the poor or the schools, let them put in them as large an offering as they can and return them in some offertory very soon.

THE WOMENS' GUILD'S ANNIVERSARY on SS. Simon's and Jude's Day was better attended than any other we have had, more money was contributed to the different departments of work and more interest was shown. We hope this augurs a more successful season of Church work than any we have had. Let all our women take part in some of it.

WANTS—The Ladies' Aid of the Parish would like very much a piece of serge for cassocks for the choir, with the necessary lining. Also material which they could make up into clothes for some of our poorer members, especially children, who are in need of them.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE NEWS.—Many of our subscribers are in arrears, and we need their subscriptions to pay our printer. Will not each one, when he gets his notice that his subscription is due, put it in an envelope marked ASCENSION NEWS, with his name and address within, and put it in the alms box in the vestibule of the Church. or hand it to the sexton? This will save the trouble of collection.

The following subscriptions were received since our last issue.

Miss Mary S. Hamilton.
Mrs. C. H. Darlington, $1.00.
Mr. T. L. Wilson.
Miss M. H. White.
Mrs. Jansen.
Miss Jordan, 2 years.

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Millinery
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Mention ASCENSION NEWS

GEORGE F. JONES
Funeral Director
Formerly with J. J. EARLY
1331 MORRIS STREET
TELEPHONE No. 3-45-14 A.

The Ascension News

VOL. XII. PHILADELPHIA, DECEMBER, 1899. No. 10

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Vesper Service, 3 P.M.
Choral Evensong, 4 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:

Evening Prayer and Lecture, 7.45 P. M.

DAILY:

Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

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Please notify Manager of any change of address
Subscriptions can be left at the Church if desired

KALENDAR.—DECEMBER.

1 Friday—Fast.
3 First Sunday in Advent.
8 Friday—Fast.
10 Second Sunday in Advent.
15 Friday—Fast.
17 Third Sunday in Advent.
20 Ember Day—Fast.
21 S. Thomas, Apostle.
22 Ember Day—Fast.
23 Ember Day—Fast.
24 Fourth Sunday in Advent.
25 Christmas.
26 S. Stephen
27 S. John, Evangelist.
28 Holy Innocents.
29 Friday—Fast.
31 Sunday after Christmas.

GUILD MEETINGS.

4 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.

11 and 25 8 P.M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

12 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Classes and Recreation.

7 P.M., Saturdays, Ascension Cadets.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Missionary Society, first Friday, 10.30 A.M.
Mothers' Meeting, Wednesday, 8 P.M.
Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A.M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3 P.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, The Curate.
Assistant Supt., Mr. H. O. J. Childs.
Librarian, Mr. D. L. Witmer.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS, 3 P.M.

For girls, Mrs. Hodge.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10 A.M.

FORMS AND CEREMONIES

There must necessarily be a certain amount of form and ceremony in the public worship of God. There is form and ceremony in the intercourse of man with man. The more polite and refined a society is, the more form and ceremony there is in it. The same is true of all public offices, our courts, the army, the navy, the Government. Even in a republic those in authority can only be approached under certain forms, and still more is this the case in a kingdom or empire. So, it is right and necessary that certain forms should be observed in approaching God. They are necessary to make us mindful of what God is and how inferior to Him we are. Yet there is always a danger in the use of forms that they will degenerate into formalities—that is, be used in a cold, unfeeling, perfunctory way, without the heart and soul being involved, and no worship is real that does not come from the heart. So, owing to this danger connected with them, there are persons who would discard them altogether. They say religion is a matter of the soul, and that outward forms are only show and hypocrisy. This has been the history of them in the Church. Under the old dispensation they were very elaborate, and came to be used by many in a merely mechanical way. This our Lord Himself reproved, and spoke very strongly of those who so abused them, though he never spoke disparagingly of the forms themselves. And so, in the Christian Church, forms were introduced from the very beginning, and gradually they became very elaborate and were abused in the same way. Then came a revulsion, and men said let us sweep them away altogether and do without them. And many of the Protestant bodies were formed on this principle of having no ceremony in the worship of God, erecting only plain buildings they called meeting-houses, and having no liturgy or vestments or other adjuncts of worship, not even organs. But, little by little, these bodies have been departing from these principles, and more and more form is creeping into the worship of all denominations; even that body called the Friends, which protested most against the use of form, has become the most formal, in its peculiar way, of all.

The truth is, there must be some form and ceremony in all worship, and the right thing to do is to try and guard against the dangers connected with it, and not attempt to abolish it altogether, for then we should lose the advantages it possesses.

Still, it is true, also, that it is largely a matter of taste and temperament. Some persons like and are helped by the use of forms, and to others they are very distasteful. This is largely due to education and habit. If persons have been brought up, or have long been accustomed, to worship without any form, or with a great deal of form, they naturally find it hard to conform to the opposite, whichever it may be. Then, there are persons who are very bigoted in regard to forms. They associate the use of certain forms with certain opinions or teachings, and they have no tolerance for them at all. And so there is often a great deal of discussion and contention in regard to forms.

Such a discussion has been going on lately in the Church of England, owing to the growth of ritualism there and the reintroduction of many things in the worship of some of the Churches which have been discarded since the time of the Reformation. The right to do this has been questioned. The Bishops and Archbishops have been appealed to to say what is the law of the Church in regard to them. And the Archbishops, as the highest spiritual authority in regard to such matters, have lately given their decision in regard to two points, viz.: that of the use of incense and the carrying of lights in processions, that they are neither enjoined nor permitted by the law as laid down in the Prayer Book and Canons of the Church. This may be true, as there is certainly no reference to them in the Prayer Book, which sets forth what are the ceremonies of the Church. And yet it seems a pity that if any persons are helped in their worship by the use of these things—things which were used in the Jewish worship and have

been used in Christian Churches, eastern and western, for many centuries—that they should not be permitted to have them. Why should one class of persons want to thrust their tastes and preferences upon all other classes? Is there any right more inherent or essential than that of worshipping God according to the dictates of one's own conscience? Or is there any liberty one should be allowed more than that of worshipping according to the modes that may be most agreeable to oneself?

In this free country, where the Church has no connection with the State and is not bound by the same iron cast law, it is likely that greater freedom will obtain, and that we shall see, as we do, indeed, now, great diversities in the modes of worship in our various Churches. And we think that this is the right way. Let each congregation have the forms and ceremonies they like best and find most helpful. If there are people who prefer plain services, let them have them. And if there are those who prefer more ornate ones, with the use of various ritual accessions, let them have them. But do not let one set of people try to coerce another set, and force them to worship according to ways which are distasteful to them. Let there be no fighting or contention about such things, but let the right and liberty be fully recognized of each one to worship according to the method that he deems right and best suited for himself.

RECORD FOR NOVEMBER.

Baptisms	5
Communicants added—	
By Transfer	2
Removed	4

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$488 56
" the Poor	31 18
" General Missions	2 06
" the Schools	1 60
" the Episcopal Hospital	38 68
Of the Sunday School	6 44
Total	$568 52

PARISH NOTES.

THANKSGIVING. — Through the bounty of the young ladies of Miss Anable's School and of some of our parishioners, all the members of our Mothers' Meeting were supplied with Thanksgiving dinners, consisting each of a chicken, potatoes, white and sweet, celery, a quart of cranberries and a pound of sugar and of rice.

CHRISTMAS.—There will be, as usual, on Christmas Day, three celebrations of the Holy Communion, at 6.30, 7.30 and 8.30 A. M., in order to give every one an opportunity to make their Christmas Communion. The music at the midday celebration will be Feild's service, including the "Te Deum." Special offerings are asked to meet the interest on our mortgage debt, $335, which becomes due this month, and also to make up for the summer months, in which always our expenses exceed our receipts. We should have $1,000 in all on Christmas Day. When you are making gifts to your friends, do not forget the Church, which is your best friend, and which freely gives her services to you without any charge.

THE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS.—A special effort will be made this year to make the children of the Parish have a happy Christmas. There will be the usual service in the Church on the evening of Holy Innocents' day, followed by an entertainment in the school building, in which some of the children themselves will take part, after which gifts and candies will be distributed. The families of the children are especially invited to be present. The entertainment, however, will be only for those children who are regularly attending the Sunday-school now. Contributions for the children's festival may be handed to the clergy or put in the alms chest in the vestibule of the Church.

ADVENT COMMUNIONS. — There will be a special celebration of the Holy Communion on Thursdays, during Advent, at 9 A. M. It is thought this may be convenient for those who cannot come on Sundays or at an earlier hour.

DIOCESAN MISSIONS.—The Rector will be called away from the Parish occasionally this winter to present the cause of Diocesan Missions in different Churches. There being now no Archdeacon, the presiding officers of the several Convocations have undertaken to do this work which formerly the Archdeacon did, and our Rector, as one of them, has to take his turn. He has already preached in two Churches on this subject, and is this month to preach in another one. He hopes not to have to do so more than one Sunday in each month.

THE LADIES' AID SOCIETY meets every Thursday to sew for the Church. Its members would be very glad to make up garments for some of the needy in the Parish, especially the children who have not proper clothes. But they must have material to do this. Will not some one send them a piece of gingham or of flannel for underwear?

MUSICAL RECITALS are given every Sunday evening for an half hour before the service, by our night organist, Mr. Twaddell.

MUSICAL PROGRAMME. — Last winter our organist and choir master, at his own expense, printed every month a musical programme of all the services. It was a great convenience, enabling all the people to see what music was to be sung, a list of all the hymns, tunes, etc. The cost of printing this was considerable, and we cannot expect the choir master to bear it all himself, as it is for the convenience of the people. If our people desire to have it continued it will be necessary for them to subscribe for this purpose. Any persons doing so can hand their subscriptions to the choir master or one of the clergy, or put it in an alms plate or box, in an envelope, designating the purpose.

THE SUNDAY NIGHT SERVICE.—In order to brighten up and make more attractive the night service, and as a musical service seems to be more generally acceptable, that service is this winter being rendered semi-chorally. That is, the Versicles, with the Creed, prayers and responses, are sung, though the earlier part of the service and the Psalter is still read. Two of the men of the regular choir sing now at the night service, in addition to some volunteers.

GIFTS.—A linen baptismal napkin, embroidered. The following volumes have been presented: Sadler's "Commentary on the Four Gospels." Also 29 other volumes for the parish and Sunday School

library. Books from this library can be taken out after any Wednesday evening service.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

As many of our subscribers do not seem to heed the notices that their subscriptions are due, which are sent them in their copies of the NEWS, we propose to send a postal card to all subscribers whose subscriptions are now due. Will not all owing subscriptions pay them this month, that we may be able to close the year free of debt.

The following have been received since our last issue:

Rev. G. W. Hodge. Mr. Carroll Hodge.
Mrs. Hodge. Miss Bryson
Miss Agnes Haynes. Mr. H. L. Kelley.
Miss Sarah Wilson (2 years).

SOME USEFUL SUGGESTIONS.

A new parishioner should at once make himself known to the Rector. This is quite an easy matter. It does not involve much labor, but it accomplishes a great deal. When this is not done it sometimes happens that a person may attend service for years and never become known to any of the members of the Church, nor even to the Rector. It is much better, therefore, to at once make yourself known.

Then, if you propose to finally settle down and make this your Church home, see that you have a transfer from your late parish. Your old Rector will be sorry to lose you, but he will be glad to feel that you are not ecclesiastically homeless.

Contribute as liberally as you can to the support of your Church. If envelopes are used, take one. You don't, of course, want to be dependent upon others for your spiritual privileges so long as you can pay for them. Many have no conscience in this respect and do themselves infinite harm thereby; but you will hardly care to be one of them. It will give you a sense of independence to know that you are doing what you can to support your Church.

Then identify yourself with one or more of the parish organizations, and bear your share of their work. We have never yet found a person who really wanted to work to whom we had to say that there was nothing they could do. We never expect to be in this position.—*Selected.*

THIS SPACE RESERVED

The Ascension News

Vol. XIII. PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY, 1900. No. 1

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KALENDAR.—JANUARY.

1 Circumcision.
5 Friday—Fast.
6 Epiphany.
7 First Sunday after the Epiphany.
12 Friday—Fast.
14 Second Sunday after the Epiphany.
19 Friday—Fast.
21 Third Sunday after the Epiphany.
25 Conversion of S. Paul.
26 Friday—Fast.
28 Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany.

GUILD MEETINGS.

1 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.
8 and 22 8 P.M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.
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Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3 P.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

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Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS, 3 P. M.

For girls, Mrs. Hodge.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10 A. M.

DOUBTS AND DIFFICULTIES

A great many persons have doubts and difficulties in regard to religion. Some find it hard to believe in the existence of a God, or to reconcile human experience with belief in a benevolent God, there are so many things in human life which seem hard and cruel. Or some believe in God, and practice the duties of religion, until some sorrow or calamity comes upon them, and then their faith fails, and they are rebellious or cast down. Then, there are those who have difficulties with the Christian religion, with the doctrines of the Trinity, the Incarnation, the Atonement, or the miraculous element in the Bible, or with its claim to inspiration, the apparent inconsistencies and discrepancies of its histories, and variant teachings in it. Then, there are many persons who, even though believing in the Christian religion, find it very difficult to practice it, to carry out its teachings in their individual lives and conduct. They often are in great doubt as to how, under certain circumstances, they should act; what their Christian profession requires of them, or what is morally right or wrong, or they are oppressed with a sense of wrong-doing. They either have, or think they have, committed grave sins, and they are uncertain as to whether their repentance is sincere and their forgiveness assured; or they do not know what they should do to undo or make up for the wrong they may have done. Then, there are a great many persons who have difficulties in regard to the Church. They do not rightly understand the differences between the various denominations and the principles they teach. They do not know why they should belong to one denomination rather than another; or they do not understand the forms and ceremonies of the Church, what they mean, what is their purpose. And when they hear other people talking about these things, finding fault with them, or ridiculing them, perhaps, they do not know how to explain or defend them.

Now, what should people do who have these doubts and difficulties on any of these subjects? We answer, go to the clergy with them, and ask them to help them. This is the business of the clergy. They have been especially trained for the purpose. No one can be ordained a clergyman until he has gone through years of preparation and study. He must have learned several languages, he must have familiarized himself with all the objections that can be brought against both natural and revealed religion, and learned how they can be answered. He must have studied and mastered questions of Biblical criticism and still himself believe in the Bible as the Word of God. He must be acquainted with the great principles of morals and casuistry, and have some experience in dealing with cases of conscience. And he must know what is the meaning of, and the authority for, all the forms and ceremonies of the Church, and the differences involved in all questions of Church organization and discipline. So the clergyman is the proper person to consult on all such matters. Of course, he is not infallible, and he may not be able to answer every question you may put to him. But neither is any physician infallible, and yet you go to him if you are in any doubt, or have any ailment, as to your physical condition. And if the particular clergyman you go to cannot, himself, satisfy all your difficulties, he can at least refer you to those who can, or tell you authorities to be consulted, and how you can do so. This, we have said, is one of the great purposes for which the clergy exist, and yet, as a matter of fact, a great many persons having such doubts and difficulties as those of which we have spoken, never go to their clergy about them, never let them know they have them. The reasons for this are shyness, dislike of talking about religious matters, especially personal ones, unwillingness to appear ignorant, and dread of the clergy, fear they will be shocked, that they will regard the questions as very wicked, or that they will resent being approached or troubled about such things.

Now, this is a great mistake. The clergy should be looked upon

as the most accessible of professional men, because it is their duty and their pleasure to do just this sort of thing. Other professional men you can not go to without paying them. But the clergy do not ask for pay. They want to be useful, they want to help men in moral and religious matters. That is what they have devoted their lives to. And it is a real grief to them that people so often fight shy of them and do not come to them with their troubles. Of course, they try to meet the doubts and difficulties which they know people have by their sermons and instructions and private conversations, *when they get the chance.* But unless people will tell them what they are thinking about, and what troubles them, they are more or less in the dark, and can only talk at random. Perhaps the very things they try to explain may be understood already, or those things they think to be plain may not be understood at all.

Never hesitate, therefore, to go to the clergy with any trouble you may have. Whether you belong to his congregation or not, any clergyman will be glad to give help and information in regard to religious matters. And our people do not go to the clergy nearly as much as they should.

In this Parish, the clergy announce that they will be glad to see persons wishing to talk to them after any service on Sunday or week day, preferably the latter, as they then will generally have more time, or they will make appointments with any persons desiring to see them. Go to them, and you will find them always ready and glad to help you in any way they can.

RECORD FOR DECEMBER.

Baptisms—	
Adult	1
Infants	2
Marriage	1
Communicants added—	
By Transfer	1
Removed	1
Communion of the sick	1
Burials	3

OFFERINGS

For current expenses, including Christmas offering	$876 59
" the Poor	38 54
" General Missions	2 75
" Church Building	2 00
" Infirm Clergy Fund	2 50
" Christmas Festival and decorations	77 95
" the Schools	6 00
Of the Sunday School	8 74
Total	$1,015 06

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS.—The Eucharistic banner the embroidery class of our Guild has so long been engaged in working, was at last finished, and was most beautifully made up with gold velvet border and gold bullion fringe and tassels; also new banner pole, with the handsomest brass mountings. It was carried in procession for the first time on Christmas Day. It will be the **chief** banner of the Church. A **new** white brocade stole, the class **has** been embroidering, was also finished and used for the first time; also an embroidered linen corporal and stiff chalice pall In addition to this, the Rector received a very handsome lawn surplice, embroidered. Ten tons of coal were given for the poor of the Parish and a quantity of poultry and provisions for some twelve Christmas dinners.

A friend of the Parish has also kindly had printed a new sign for our evening services, and a circular asking for books for the Sunday School.

No one has yet given us the Altar service book we asked for some time ago; that in use now is going to pieces.

CHRISTMAS.—We were blessed with a beautiful Christmas Day and our services were well attended. The number of communicants was slightly larger than last year and offerings about the same. We would liked to have seen them larger. Our people do not seem to realize how important it is we should have a larger income than we have.

The children's Christmas festival was made quite a point of this year. Through the exertion of the teachers, quite a fund was raised and each child was given a present, in addition to the usual candy and fruit. The children themselves contributed to the entertainment by some piano playing and recitations, and by a regular cake walk, admirably performed by two of the younger children. Two members of St. John's Guild gave some singing. There was also a veritable Kris Kringle and his wife, who came in through a window, and, after Christmas greetings, distributed the gifts.

The service and singing in the Church were very good.

The poorer members of the congregation were not forgotten, some twelve families being provided with a dinner, consisting of poultry and other provisions; and ten tons of coal, the gift of one of our members, were distributed among the women attending the Mothers' Meeting who were most needy.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—Mr. Harry O. J. Childs, who was acting as assistant superintendent of the Sunday School, and his wife, who was one of the teachers in the Infant School, having moved out of town, have been obliged to give up their work. Mr. Henry B. Hodge has taken the place of the former. We would gladly welcome other young men as teachers in the Sunday School.

MISSIONARY MEETING.—Do not let our ladies forget the Monthly Missionary Meeting on the first Friday of each month, after morning prayers. The ladies sent to the West a very nice missionary box last month. But we ought to do more still. The postal cards, asking for contributions for the different missionary Boards of the Women's Auxiliary, will be sent out this month.

PARISH VISITING.—The Rector wants to say to those members of the Parish whom he has not seen for a great while, that he has not forgotten them. He will get around to see them in time. But the people must remember that he cannot be everywhere at once, for, though he spends a part of every day regularly in visiting, it takes him the whole winter to get all around to see every one. As he has over three hundred different houses to go to, and those are scattered all over the city, from No. 2400 South to 3800 North, and from Second to Fifty-second street, twenty-eight of them being in West Philadelphia, it does not require much arithmetic to show how long it takes to go to them all. If persons changing their residence would always let the clergy know, they would save them often a great deal of trouble.

PROGRAM OF THE ORGAN RECITALS at 7.30 Sunday evenings during January by W. Powell Twaddell, assistant organist:

January 7th (No. 8)

1. Offertoire, in A flat . . . . . *Read*
2. Lost Chord . . . . . *Sullivan*
3. Duetto (MSS.) . . . *A. Stone, M.B.*
4. Fugue, in G . . . . . *Bach*
5. Harvest Thanksgiving March . *Calkin*

January 14th (No. 9)

1. Postlude, in F . . . . . *Calkin*
2. Evening Song . . . . . *Schumann*
3. Moderne Gavotte . . . . . *Lemare*
4. Berceuse (from organ suite) . *A. Stone*
5. Offertoire, in D minor . . . . . *Lobb*

January 21st (No. 10)

1. Pilgrims' Chorus . . . *Wagner*
2. March (from organ suite) . . *A. Stone*
3. Intermezzo . . . . . *Mascagni*
4. Offertoire, in F . . . . . *Wely*
5. In Paradisum . . . . . *Dubois*

January 28th (No. 11)

1. Wedding March . . . . *Mendelssohn*
2. Spring Song . . . . . *Mendelssohn*
3. Second Sonata . . . . . *Mendelssohn*
4. War March . . . . . *Mendelssohn*

THE NEWS—We enter this month upon the thirteenth year of the publication of this little Parish paper. We feel that it has been invaluable as a means of communicating with our people, teaching them and telling them about the Church, as could not be done from the pulpit. We think it most important, therefore, that it should be kept up. But if this is to be done, our people must pay their subscriptions to it. One hundred and fifty notices were sent out in December to those whose subscriptions were due, and only thirty-five have responded. Will not the others kindly do so? The following are the subscriptions received:

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. P. Pepper, $1; donation, $1
Mrs. Isabel Schell, 50c.; donation, 50c.

Miss Pierce	Mrs. R. Grosholtz, $1.50
Mrs. Wm. Andrews	Miss M. M. Martin
Mrs. John Mason	Mr. F. S. Keese, $1
Mrs. T. L. Smith	Mrs. A. Van Harlinger
Mrs. Tait	Miss Vogdes
Mrs. Biddle, $1	Miss Parmalee, $1
Mr. Walter M. Newman	Mr. E. W. Greenough, $1
Miss Clark, $1	Mrs. C. Loughlin
T. D. Dougherty, $1	Mrs. W. F. F. Eckert
J. D Henderson, $1.50	Mr. H. C. Kerr, $1
Miss M. Wurts	Miss M. M. Menah
Miss N. L. Bloomer	Mrs. C. Bachman
Mrs. Hiller	Mr. John Barton, $1
Mrs. C. J. String, $1	Mrs. G. G. Knowles
Mrs. Wm. G. Price, Jr.	Mrs. Samuel Wadlow
Mrs. Pollock	Misses Harper, $1

Miss Dickerson

EPIPHANY MEETING

The Epiphany Meeting of the Pennsylvania Branch of the Woman's Auxiliary will be held at St. James' Church, 22d and Walnut streets, Thursday, January 11th, at three o'clock. Bishop Whitaker will preside and there will be addresses from Rev. J. Addison Ingle on China, Rev. Arthur S. Lloyd on Africa and Foreign Missions, Dr. Abbott on Japan, Bishop Whitaker on Cuba, and Mr. Shimmin on our Assyrian Missions.

THIS SPACE RESERVED

The Ascension News

Vol. XIII. PHILADELPHIA, FEBRUARY, 1900. No. 2

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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CURATE:
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Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

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Evening Prayer and Lecture, 7.45 P. M.

DAILY:

Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P.M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

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KALENDAR.—FEBRUARY.

2 Purification, B. V. M.—Fast.
4 Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany.
9 Friday—Fast.
11 Septuagesima.
16 Friday—Fast.
18 Sexagesima.
23 Friday—Fast.
24 S. Matthias.
25 Quinquagesima.
28 Ash Wednesday—Fast.

GUILD MEETINGS.

5 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.

12 and 26 8 P.M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

13 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Classes and Recreation.

7 P. M., Saturdays, Ascension Cadets.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Missionary Society, first Friday, 10.30 A.M.
Mothers' Meeting, Wednesday, 8 P.M.
Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A.M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3 P.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, The Curate.
Assistant Supt., Mr. Harry B. Hodge.
Librarian, Mr. D. L. Witmer.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS, 3 P. M.

For girls, Mrs. Hodge.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10 A. M.

CONFIRMATION

"Why should I be confirmed?" In order that every one who asks this question may find a simple and definite answer, the following thoughts are given:

In the first place, it is important for us to remember that in our Baptism we were made members of Christ's Church. We were all given to Jesus, and He took us and made us His own. We belong to Him. Our profession is to follow His example and to be made like unto Him. It is our duty to live for Jesus, and we ought to be ashamed of ourselves if we do not. The truth is, we cannot do our duty without God's help; and this help is given to us in Confirmation. We receive the Holy Ghost to strengthen us.

In order to make the above clear, it is only necessary to consider more fully (1) the History, (2) the Meaning, and (3) the Effect of Confirmation.

History.—Our Lord himself was the first to be confirmed, for He received the gift of the Holy Ghost in an outward and visible sign—the form of a dove. The apostles were the next to be confirmed by the descent of the Holy Ghost at Pentecost; and, again, there was an outward and visible sign—the tongues of fire. Our Lord did not begin His work till He had received the gift, and He forbade the apostles to begin their work until they had received it, thus pointing out the

importance of the gift. But the Holy Ghost came down on the apostles to stay until the end of the world, and from that day the apostles could give the Holy Ghost by prayer and the "laying on of hands," as Confirmation is called in the Bible. For we are told that after Philip had converted and baptized certain Samaritans, the apostles sent Peter and John, who laid their hands upon them that they might receive the Holy Ghost. S. Paul reckons the laying on of hands among the foundation principles of the doctrine of Christ. We have, therefore, no Scriptural pledge that we receive this gift except by the laying on of apostolic hands, and one can not be a Bible Christian and ignore this important rite.

Meaning.— The fullest idea of Confirmation, as taught by the Church, is found in the prayer repeated by the Bishop just before he lays hands upon the heads of the candidates: "Almighty and everliving God, who hast vouchsafed to regenerate these Thy servants by water and the Holy Ghost, and hast given them forgiveness of all their sins; *Strengthen* them, we beseech Thee, O Lord, with the Holy Ghost, the Comforter, and daily increase in them Thy manifold gifts of grace; the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and ghostly strength, the spirit of knowledge and true godliness; and fill them, O Lord, with the spirit of Thy holy fear, now and forever." This ancient prayer teaches (1) that we have been regenerated and born again in Baptism, and in Baptism all our sins, actual and inherited, were forgiven, and (2) that in this Baptismal life we need to be "strengthened" (the same word as "confirmed") by the Holy Ghost that we "increase" or grow in the seven gifts of the Spirit.

Effect.—In Confirmation we offer something to God, and God, through His minister or representative, blesses and sanctifies what we offer. That blessing is God's consecration. In Confirmation, we offer to God ourselves, our souls, our bodies, our hearts, our minds, our wills, and God consecrates all for His service.

A new power is added to all that is thus consecrated. The mind possesses a new power for knowledge, the heart a new power for love and devotion, the will for struggle and for service. Therefore, Confirmation is often called the putting on of the whole armor of God, a wonderful armor that strengthens as well as protects, and the soldier enlisted and professed in his Baptism goes forth to serve the Lord and battle against sin in the power of the Holy Spirit—the selfsame armor worn by Jesus in His fight for our redemption.

If the reader has not been confirmed, may he open his heart to the call of the Mother Church and say, "Why should I *not* be confirmed?"

RECORD FOR JANUARY.

Baptisms—Infants	3
Communicants added—	
First Communion	1
By Transfer	2
Removed	3
Died	1
Communion of the sick	1
Burials	4

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$357 78
" the Poor	4 03
" General Missions	15 90
" Diocesan "	1 25
" Musical Services	64 29
" the Schools	75
At discretion of the Rector	50 00
Of the Sunday School	8 96
Total	$502 96

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS.—In response to our appeal last month, a very handsome altar service book has been presented to the church, in memory of our late parishioner, General Charles L. Leiper. The Ladies' Aid has also received nine yards of material for a cassock, and 47 books have been presented to the Sunday School library, and some magazines for the Guild room The rector received lately a note containing a fifty dollar bill, to be used at his discretion for the benefit of the Church, from a lady who was formerly one of our parishioners. Such a gift is valuable, not only from the good it will do in meeting some expenses not otherwise provided for, but as testifying to the affection still borne for the Church by one who has been removed from us for several years, and can but seldom attend it.

A REAL CHARITY.—Many of our readers will be interested to know what is a real charity. It is the work carried on by the "Mothers' Meeting" of our Parish. Most of the women are hardworking people with families to look after.

The meetings began last November, and since that time some excellent work has been done, in the way of making garments for children in several institutions and a hospital.

The following is a summary of the work done up to January 10, 1900: For the Foster Home, 407 garments; Home of the Merciful Saviour, 48 garments; Home of S. Michael and All Angels, 32 garments; Hahnemann Hospital, 12 garments. Total, 499.

Mrs. Mason, who is the head of the "Mothers' Meeting," has received some grateful acknowledgements for the good work that has been done. Mrs. Innis of the Home of the Merciful Saviour, writes: "The work is well done, and most satisfactory. I cannot express my thanks to you and to all who have helped me so much in this work." Mrs. Barton of the Foster Home, also expresses her satisfaction and gratitude for the work done for the Home.

It is plain, from the above, that a great charitable work has been done. But the "Mothers' Meeting" does not stop here. Many of the mothers have received remuneration for their time, to the extent of $39.29. These cold figures, of course, do not represent the full benefit of the help that has been given to many who need it.

To meet this expense, $33.50 has been contributed by different members of the Parish, leaving a deficit of $5.79.

Last Thanksgiving Day many of the mothers were made happy, by receiving dinners for their families. $18.00 was received and spent for this purpose. Enough has been said to show that the "Mothers' Meeting" is a real charity, and that the work should receive the hearty co operation of all the parishioners,

in order that the work may be carried on and extended.

MUSICAL SERVICE.—The choir gave us a very fine musical service, a cantata called the "Story of Bethlehem," on the afternoon of the second Sunday after the Epiphany. It was very well rendered, and the Church was full.

ENVELOPES.—We are glad to say that more envelopes are now in use by the members of the congregation than ever before. But we would like to see more still taken. Whatever you can give, do it in this way. If all would use them, so that the Church would thus have a sufficient income to meet its current expenses we might then have, as they do in other Churches, special collections on certain days for benevolent purposes, to which our people ought to contribute, as well as to the support of their own Church. The benevolent envelope for the quarter on which we enter this month, will be for Diocesan Missions. For this purpose our Parish is expected to contribute $120. The Rev. Dr. Harris, Rector of Grace Church, Dean of the Northeast Convocation, will preach on this subject in the Church, on the last Sunday morning of this month, and all the offerings at that service outside of the envelopes will be given to this object. If more than $120 is contributed, it will go to the Church Extension Fund of the Diocese. Our Rector will speak on the same subject on the morning of that day in S. Luke's Church, Germantown.

CONFIRMATION.—The Bishop of the Diocese has appointed the evening of April 4th, for the administering of Confirmation in this Church. Preparatory instructions will be given by the Rector on Mondays at 4 P. M. begining with Monday, February 26, and by the Curate at the Wednesday evening service, beginning with February 21. All looking forward to Confirmation will be expected to attend one of these courses, whichever may be most convenient for them.

ALTAR FLOWERS—One of the most beautiful things to see in a Church are the altar flowers. They give a brightness that nothing else can give. But their usefulness should not cease with beautifying the most important part of the Church. They ought to serve as a memorial to some loved one whose life, like the flowers, beautified God's House by his or her presence and the fragrance of devotion. Then the flowers should go into the homes of the sick and feeble to cheer their lonely hours.

The flowers that have been provided by the Altar Guild, owing to the smallness of the fund to provide them, are the florist's fragments, attached to wires stuck into moss. These soon fade, and are little better than artificial flowers.

In view of the foregoing facts, would it not be well for different members of the Church to take upon themselves the providing for the Altar flowers?

It is suggested, therefore, that any one who wishes to place upon the altar a fitting memorial for some loved one, to select a Sunday in the year for this purpose. Any one who feels so disposed, will kindly communicate with the head of the Committee, Miss Parmalee, 2304 De Lancey Place.

The flowers for the summer months are provided by the generosity of one of our members, who raises them herself.

FAIR—A fair will be held Friday, March 2d, at 1502 Spruce street, for benefit of the "Mothers' Meeting." The object of this fair is a worthy one, and should receive the aid of all who are interested in the good work of the "Mothers' Meeting." Miss Graham, of 1502 Spruce street, will be glad to receive articles from the members of the congregation. Every one should contribute something, and in other ways do all they can to make the fair a great success.

ENTERTAINMENT—A very successful entertainment was given by S. Mary's Guild, Tuesday evening, January 30th, under the management of Mrs. Van Harlinger and Mrs. Tait. They were assisted by the talented members of the Guild, and their friends, in music and recitations. The Parish Room was filled with an appreciative audience.

ASCENSION CADETS—It may interest those who have helped us with the cadets, to know that the boys now have their guns and are hard at work drilling under the care of Mr. Carroll Hodge of the City Troop and veteran of the late Spanish war.

The boys are to have a prize drill in the spring. It is hoped that more members of the Parish will become honorary members of the cadets, so as to enable the boys to get the uniforms, which are necessary to the organization of the company. In addition to the uniforms, a silk flag, captain's sword and a bugle are needed. Here is an opportunity for any one to show interest in our boys.

MISSIONARY BOX.

The following acknowledgment of the missionary box, sent in December, has been received:

January 8, 1900.

MY DEAR MRS. GILPIN:—The splendid box of valuable things reached us on Saturday last, and I have no words to tell you how thankful we are for the many useful things.

The suit for Tom fits nicely; in fact, everything seems to be just what we most needed. We are enjoying the delicious jellies and candies, and the chocolate also very much. It was so kind of you all to put them in the box. The pair of men's shoes are a splendid fit for me. I am so thankful for them. I pray that God will continue to bless you all in your work and labor of love for the dear Lord and His Holy Church.

It was one of the largest and most valuable boxes we have ever received. Our box came from Philadelphia last year from St. James' Parish. I have a great many very dear friends in your city. I hope to make a visit there sometime to see them. I have a large work for one man to do. I am supplying eight missions, but I love the work so much that it doesn't seem hard. Really, it it is great privilege to work for our dear Lord and His Church.

Thanking you again and all who contributed to our relief, and praying God's richest blessing upon every member of your Guild, I am, as ever, yours very sincerely and affectionately, —— ——.

SUBSCRIPTIONS—The following subscriptions to the NEWS were received during January:

Miss E. C. Hare (2 yrs.)
Mrs. M. F. Roberts (3 yrs.)
Mrs. C. F. Leaming (2 yrs.)
Miss Maria Gilpin (2 yrs.)

Miss R. McIlhenny	Miss. F. E. Revell
Mr. Fred. Kinzle	Mr. C. B. Hall
Mrs. Chas. L. Leiper	Miss Goodman
Miss C. W. Hare	Miss C. Casey
Mrs. Larzelere	Mrs. Parish
Dr. F. S. Pierce	Miss Means

Donation.—Miss F. E. Revel, 50c.

The Ascension News

VOL. XIII. PHILADELPHIA, MARCH, 1900. No. 3

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WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 7.45 P. M.

THURSDAYS:
Holy Communion, 9 A. M.

SATURDAYS:
Children's Service, 4 P. M.

DAILY: { Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
{ Evening Prayer, 5 P.M.

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KALENDAR.—MARCH

4 First Sunday in Lent
7 Ember Day.
9 Ember Day.
10 Ember Day.
11 Second Sunday in Lent
18 Third Sunday in Lent.
25 Annunciation B. V. M.
All days in Lent are fasts.

GUILD MEETINGS.

5 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.

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13 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Classes and Recreation.

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Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A.M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3 P.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, The Curate.
Assistant Supt., Mr. Harry B. Hodge.
Librarian, Mr. D. L. Wilmer.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS, 3 P. M.

For girls, Mrs. Hodge.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10 A. M.

A PARISH HOUSE

We have long been in need of more accommodations in our Parish building. On Sundays we have not enough rooms for our Bible classes, infant school, etc. The latter is now held in the Church, and one Bible class has to wait until another one is over in order to use the same room; and on weekdays we have often two or three things going on the same evening, requiring a great deal of arrangement, and one thing often interfering with another. Moreover, our Curate is very anxious to have a place where we can carry on a more extensive work among the young men of the Parish than we can with our present accommodations.

Various plans for enlarging the present building have been, at times, proposed, such as putting on another story, or extending it out to Broad street. But these cost too much money. Another plan has now been adopted as, at least, a temporary expedient. The Vestry have determined to rent the house in Kater street, immediately west of the Church, and cut a door into it from our present building. It is a three story brick, six room house, the rooms back and front being of equal size, the stairs going up between them. This will give us a good deal of additional space, rooms that can be used for work, play, smoking, library, etc., during the week, and for class rooms on Sunday, and will be of great advantage in extending the work of the Parish. Of course, it will increase our expenses. The rent of the house ($16 a month) must be paid, and it will have to be heated and lighted. For this we must look to increased offerings or special contributions from those who are interested in seeing our Church do all the charitable work it can. In addition to this, the house will have to be fixed up and furnished. The owner will not do anything to it, and it will probably have to be repapered and painted throughout, and a furnace must be put in, as it is now heated by stoves, also the door cut through. For this we ask for *special contributions*, which can be handed to either of the clergy or placed in any offering in an envelope marked for "Parish House." In regard to the furnishing, we have some few pieces we have been accumulating with this end in view, but we need more, especially in the way of chairs, tables, carpets or rugs. Perhaps there are those in the congregation who may have some pieces of this kind which they could spare, which would be very acceptable. We expect to get possession of the house the middle of this month.

LENT

The call of another Lent is upon us. Let us all resolve to use it as the Church intends it to be used—for practical efforts for the increase of our spiritual life.

We all need awakening. Some of us have been deliberately doing what we know to be wrong or neglecting evident duties. Others have fallen far short of doing what they should have done, become careless and remiss. And we have all been too self-indulgent, and had too little zeal for God and spiritual things. Lent is a call to all to reform and begin anew, and especially to exercise self-discipline and become more devout.

They are many different ways for self-discipline, and the Church leaves her children free to choose that method which each thinks best suited for himself. But let all see that they use this Lent in some way for discipline. That is essential for all bodies of men and for all individuals who would accomplish anything. An undisciplined life means a life that is a failure, if not a positive harm to the world. Let us put ourselves under discipline as an exercise, that we may gain the invaluable power of self-control under all circumstances. And let us give ourselves more to prayer and to good works.

We shall hope to see our people more regular at Church on Sundays and during the week. We hope to see our daily service better attended than it was last Lent. The boys of the choir will be present at the daily afternoon service at 5 P.M. as usual. And we shall have this year, as during Advent, an extra Celebration of the Holy Communion on Thursdays at 9 A.M. until Holy Week, when there will be the

daily Celebrations at 7.30 and 10 A.M. On Friday afternoons at the 5 o'clock service, the Rector will give a course of instructions on the "Doctrine, Discipline and Worship of the Church," and there will be a special service for children on Saturdays at 4 P.M. The Confirmation Instructions will be on Wednesday evenings at 8 o'clock and Monday afternoons at 4 o'clock. Any one can attend these Instructions, and all thinking of Confirmation are expected to attend one course whichever may be most convenient, either that in the afternoon or the evening.

May this Lent be a spiritually profitable one for all in the Parish.

RECORD FOR FEBRUARY.

Marriage	1
Communicants added—	
By Transfer	2
Removed	1
Died	1
Burials	2

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$270 73
" the Poor	13 52
" General Missions	14 90
" Diocesan "	16 22
" the Schools	20
Of the Sunday School	8 17
Total	$323 74

PARISH NOTES.

PICTURE OF THE CHURCH—Our diocesan paper, *The Standard of the Class*, contained in the number for February 3d a history of our Parish, with excellent photographs both of the exterior and interior of the Church and of the Rector. Copies were mailed free of charge to all the members of the Parish, and a hundred additional copies sent to the Church for distribution. If any have not seen it and would like to have a copy, they can apply to the Verger for one.

DEATH OF MR. JORDAN.—The congregation will miss the familiar figure of Mr. G. F. Jordan, who passed away February 8th, after an illness of six weeks. For more than ten years Mr. Jordan has been a most regular and interested attendant at the Church, generally present at two services each Sunday, frequently assisting in collecting the offerings. He was always too at our parish teas, and at the teas given to the members of the Mothers' Meeting, taking much pleasure in waiting upon young and old. Though seventy-five years of age at the time of his death, he preserved his health and faculties remarkably up to the time of his illness. He passed away most peacefully at the end, his devoted wife and the Rector being alone with him at the time. May he rest in peace.

REMOVAL.—We shall suffer a great loss in the removal to New York City of Mrs. John Mason. Mrs. Mason has for many years been the most efficient head of our Mothers' Meeting, a position entailing a great deal of work. She has also generally had charge of our annual Parish Tea and other entertainments which have been gotten up for the benefit of the Parish. In fact, we do not know how her place is to be filled on these occasions. Our only hope is that her removal to New York may not be a permanent one.

CANTATA. — Maunder's cantata entitled "Penitence, Pardon and Peace," will be rendered by the choir, largely augmented, at the 4 P. M. service on the second Sunday in Lent, March 11th. As the one given after Christmas was so successful, we have no doubt this will be the same.

A RECEPTION was tendered by the members of S. John's Guild to the Rev. Mr. Gilpin and to Mrs. Spencer Ervin on Monday evening, February 26th, in the Parish building. It was a most enjoyable occasion. A number of musical pieces were rendered by Mrs. Ervin and some members of the Guild, followed by an ample collation.

THE LADIES' AID will sew on Thursday afternoons during Lent for the Maternity Hospital, and would be glad if any of the ladies of the congregation would join with them. They will be thankful for donations of suitable material or of money.

DIOCESAN MISSIONS.—The Rev. Dr. Harris, Dean of Northeast Convocation, presented this cause most forcibly to our congregation on the morning of the last Sunday in February, and all the offerings outside of the regular Sunday envelopes were given towards making up the amount which this parish is expected to contribute to this object, which is $150. We made a mistake last month in saying it was only $120. This sum is more than double what we were asked to give last year, owing to a new system of apportionment having been adopted by the Convocation. The effect of this system is that the amount heretofore contributed by the larger and richer parishes has been greatly reduced, and that asked from the smaller and poorer parishes largely increased. We do not think this is fair. But since it has been adopted by the Convocation, we ought to try and comply with it. The offerings on Sunday, February 25th, together with some previously received only amounted to $18.47, so there is a great deal yet to make up. Will not each member of the congregation contribute through the white envelope marked "Diocesan Missions," as largely as possible. These envelopes may be placed in any offering during this or next month.

CHILDREN'S LENTEN SERVICES. During Lent there will be special services for children Saturday afternoons at 4 o'clock. These services will be particularly interesting to children. There will be a short address, illustrated by pictures representing the figures around the cross.

March	3.	The High Priest.
"	10.	The Roman Soldier.
"	17.	The Mother of Jesus.
"	24.	S. John, the Faithful Disciple.
"	31.	The Penitent Thief.
April	7.	The Centurion.
"	14.	S. Joseph of Arimathea.

SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES. The subjects of the addresses at these services during Lent will be as follows:

I. The Voice of Jesus.
II. The Word of Jesus.
III. The Ear of Jesus.
IV. The Hand of Jesus.
V. The Touch of Jesus.
VI. The Look of Jesus.

A GUILD FOR GIRLS.—We have, in our Parish, a "Mother's Meeting," S. Mary's Guild for young women, S. John's Guild for young men, and the Ascension Cadets for boys. It is now proposed to have a Guild for girls between the ages of twelve and fifteen. The meetings will be held Saturday afternoons at 2.30, beginning March 3d. The object of this guild is to band together the girls and interest them in the work of the Junior Auxiliary

to the Board of Missions. We hope that the mothers who cannot take an active part in missionary work, will encourage their children to come and join the Guild; we are sure such interest on the part of the children will do them much good and be of great benefit to the Church.

THE NEWS.—The following subscriptions have been received since our last issue:

Mrs. Wm. H. Cope.
Mr. Wm. H. Cope.
Mrs. Harry Connelly (2 years).
Miss Barrington.
Mrs. Gilfillan.
Miss Rousseau (2 years).
B. & A. Eppreeht.
Mrs. Thos. B. Allen.

QUIET DAY AND CONFERENCE FOR WOMEN

The Quiet Day for Churchwomen will be held in Holy Trinity Church, Nineteenth and Walnut streets, on the second Thursday in Lent, March 8, 1900, to be conducted by the Rev. Floyd Tomkins. Services: 8 A.M., Holy Communion; 10 A.M., Holy Communion; 12 M., Meditation; 1 to 3 P.M., Intermission; 3 P.M., Address; 4 P.M., Address; 5 P.M., Evening Prayer.

The Conference of Churchwomen will be held on Friday, March 9th, in Holy Trinity Parish House. Sessions at 10.30 A.M. and at 2 P.M. Topics: "The Bible: Is It Regarded as the Guide of Our Daily Life;" "Our Children and Our Country;" "The Consumers' League;" "The Modern Craze for Work."

HYMN FOR CANDIDATES FOR CONFIRMATION

Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing
Always, only, for my King;
Take my lips, and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold;
Not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use
Every power as Thou shalt choose.

Take my heart, it is Thine own;
It shall be Thy royal throne.
Take my will, and make it Thine;
It shall be no longer mine.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure-store.
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee. Amen.

—Frances Ridley Havergal

SERVICE

We are placed in this world not to do our own will, but the will of God. As communion with God is our special privilege, so the service of God is our special vocation. We were made to commune with God and to serve Him. A beast has no idea of such a calling. He follows the instincts God has given him, and those instincts restrain him from the abuse of his appetites. This call to God's service raises our lives far above the animal nature into a sphere of superhuman and God-like existence, for which we were made.

But the vocation to serve God, as well as the privilege to commune with Him, depend for their growth upon our use of them. An arm allowed always to hang at the side would grow small, withered and useless. Exercise it regularly and constantly and it grows strong and powerful. This is one of God's laws of growth. So the vision of God fades away from those who neglect their prayers, and they fall into a godless life, and so the joy and love of God's service grows cold and dead in those who follow their own will and pleasure. On the other hand, the sense of God's presence, and his abiding and protecting care, become more and more vivid and real to those who increase the earnestness of their prayers, and His love comes home to the heart with greater conviction to those who live for Him.

SEVEN DESIRES AND HOW TO OBTAIN THEM

1. If you desire prosperity; believingly and faithfully cast your portion into the Lord's Treasury. *Malachi iii, 8-11.*

2. If you desire charity from your fellow-men; less gossip, unkind speeches and insinuations will bring it—and God's blessing, too. *St. Matthew vii, 2.*

3. If you desire love from God; daily acts of love toward your neighbors will bring it. *St. James ii, 8.*

4. If you desire strength to withstand temptation; daily acts of self-denial, in will and deed, will bring it. *St. Matthew xvi, 24.*

5. If you desire the wisdom that maketh wise unto salvation; God's word, daily read with prayer, will bring it. *Psalm 119, 81.*

6. If you desire a more devotional heart; you will get it if you make that the special intention of your daily prayers this Lent. *I Thessalonians v, 17.*

7. If you desire to grow in grace, to increase in godliness; a duly-prepared-for weekly Communion this Lent and at all times will help you. *St. John vi, 56, 57.*

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Mention ASCENSION NEWS

The Ascension News

VOL. XIII. PHILADELPHIA, APRIL, 1900. No. 4

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH ALL SEATS FREE

RECTOR:
REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

CURATE:
REV. WM. BERNARD GILPIN,
1416 Lombard St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
J. EDWARD CARPENTER.

ACCOUNTING WARDEN:
CHARLES E. BONNET.

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST:
HOWARD R. O'DANIEL.

SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2022 St. Alban's St.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

SERVICES

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Vesper Service, 3 P.M.
Choral Evensong, 4 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:

Evening Prayer and Lecture, 7.45 P. M.

DAILY: { Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish
Published under the direction of the Rector

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KALENDAR.—APRIL.

1 Passion Sunday.
8 Palm Sunday.
9 Monday before Easter.
10 Tuesday before Easter.
11 Wednesday before Easter.
12 Maundy Thursday.
13 Good Friday.
14 Easter Even.
15 Easter Day.
16 Monday in Easter Week.
17 Tuesday in Easter Week.
20 Friday—Fast.
22 Low Sunday.
25 St. Mark, Evangelist.
27 Friday—Fast.
29 Second Sunday after Easter.

GUILD MEETINGS.

2 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.

9 and 23 8 P.M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

17 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Classes and Recreation.

7 P.M., Saturdays, Ascension Cadets.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Missionary Society, first Friday, 10.30 A.M.
Mothers' Meeting, Wednesday, 8 P.M.
Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A.M.
Ladies' Aid, Thursdays, 3 P.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, The Curate.
Assistant Supt., Mr. Harry B. Hodge.
Librarian, Mr. D. L. Witmer.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS, 3 P. M.

For girls, Mrs. Hodge.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays, 10 A. M.

THE LORD'S DAY.

There are some persons who have no idea of any moral obligation in regard to keeping the Lord's Day. They see no need of giving themselves, or granting to other people, one day in seven as a day of rest, or of using it for religious worship.

There are those who say that they see nothing moral in the Fourth Commandment. They regard it as part of the old Jewish ceremonial system which has been abrogated. But, in reality, it stands on a very different basis. The Ten Commandments were given by themselves to Moses under circumstances of great solemnity, and they have always been regarded by both the Jewish and the Christian Church as being the great summary of the moral law. And any one who reflects must see that it is a moral obligation to giving to others, and to taking for one self, a certain portion of time for rest and for religious worship.

While it is the part of man in this world to work, God does not require, and human nature cannot stand, working all the time without intermission. It is as necessary for the human body and mind to have rest and diversion as it is necessary for any machine to be stopped and repaired, from time to time. People may say that it is arbitrary to demand this particular proportion of one day in seven for a day of rest, but it is no more so than the requirement of the body for seven hours in every twenty-four for sleep. And it is a moral duty for every one to conserve and develop both his physical and mental powers, which one cannot do if one is over and unceasingly worked. Still more immoral is it for one to force others, over whom they have control, to work all the time without intermission.

So, in regard to religious worship, if there be a God, a certain amount of reverence and worship is His due, and if a man has a spiritual nature, he must give some time to its cultivation, and unless some particular set time is given to it, it will not be done. Hence the duty of keeping the Lord's Day for these two purposes—rest and worship.

It is true that there are certain classes of persons, especially the Puritans, who have insisted upon the keeping of this day with too much severity; they have turned it into a day of fasting, austerity and gloom, forbidding all, even the most innocent, relaxation and recreations on that day, and insisting that all its hours should be taken up with religious exercises. From this there has lately been a great revolt; rational people have felt that that was unwise and unnecessary. But in that revolt they have run very naturally into the other extreme of neglecting its observance altogether, ceasing to keep it as a day of rest and worship at all, and turning it into a day of boisterous and laborious pleasure seeking.

In addition to this, the increase of wealth and the many modern modes of easy and inexpensive locomotion, making it possible for persons of all classes to go out into the country or on various excursions, have tended to make the proper observance of the Lord's Day altogether forgotten. And many of our Church people have become most careless in regard, both to their occupations and to the performance of their religious duties on that day.

But it ought to be possible for conscientious people to observe the due mean between too much strictness and too much laxity in regard to the keeping of Sunday. Our Church has always taught that it was a festival, a day of cheer and brightness, when all persons are entitled to a holiday from their daily labor and to the enjoyment of all innocent and healthful recreation, especially those that do not require labor for themselves or other people, and a day which should be hallowed by at least one attendance on the public worship of the Church.

All Christian people ought to realize the moral duty of giving themselves, both their bodies and minds, one day's rest in seven, from all secular avocations, and, still more, of allowing it to all those whose labor they employ or can control.

It may not be possible for all persons to have the same day for rest, as certain works have to be carried on continuously. But that is not

essentially the point, it is the proportion of having one day in every seven. So all households should be arranged so that every member should be permitted to attend Church at some time in the course of each Sunday. Unless our Church people are more careful in regard to this matter themselves, and will try to exert what influence they can towards preserving the Lord's Day for the purposes for which it is intended, a great moral and physical injury will result.

EASTER.

The Queen of Festivals is again upon us. Will not all our people try to observe it with due solemnity and devotion? Of course, we try to make our Church and services as beautiful and attractive as we can on that glorious day, but our people should come to them, not as onlookers at a show, but try to enter into their meaning and significance. Let every one realize what Easter teaches in regard to the divinity of our Lord and the religion we profess and the glorious hope it gives us for the future. So, let every one prepare himself with sincerity for his Easter Communion and make it really the beginning for a new and better life.

We shall have celebrations as formerly on Easter Day at 6.30, 7.30 and 8.30 A. M., in addition to the mid-day service, so that all can make their Communion at some hour during the day. Or, if anything should prevent one communicating on the day itself, let him do so on Easter Monday or Tuesday or the following Sunday, when there will be the usual celebrations.

We hope, too, that every one in the congregation will make a special and large Easter offering towards meeting the expenses of the Church. We are sorry to say, that in spite of the large reduction in our debt that we were able to make last spring through the receipt of a legacy, and some other reductions which we have made in our expenses, our regular income is still inadequate to meet our ordinary expenditures. It is, therefore, only by special and large offerings at Christmas and Easter that we can hope to come out square at the end of the year. The Rector has frequently asked the congregation for at least $1,000 on these occasions, but the whole amount has seldom been realized. Let us see if this year our people cannot, by special exertion, raise that full amount, as we shall need really more to meet our expenses for the year ending May 1st.

RECORD FOR MARCH.

Baptisms, Adult		1
Infants		6
Communicants added—		
By Transfer		5
Removed		3
Died		1
Burials		4
OFFERINGS		
For current expenses	$272	28
" the Poor	5	49
" General Missions	2	10
" Diocesan "	7	30
" the Schools		25
" the Choir	12	19
Of the Sunday School	9	44
Total	$309	05

PARISH NOTES.

SPECIAL SERMONS—During Lent the Rector has had engagements to preach, in addition to his work in the Parish, at S. Timothy's, Eighth and Reed Streets; Epiphany Chapel, the Chapel of S. Simon the Cyrenean, S. Matthew's, Francisville; S. Paul's, S. James', Hestonville; Trinity Church, Oxford; Trinity Chapel, Centerville, and Christ Church Chapel. The Curate has preached in S. James', Hestonville, and at Cold Spring on the Hudson.

HOLY WEEK. — Our services during Holy Week will consist, as in former years, of the daily celebrations at 7.30 and 10 A. M., with the exception of Good Friday, when the mid-day service, consisting of Morning Prayer and the Litany, will begin at 11 A. M., and be followed by the preaching of the Cross from 12 to 3 P. M. There will be also the daily evening prayer at 5 P. M., and a sermon on the Passion at 8 P. M. every night except Monday, when Stainer's cantata of the Crucifixion will be rendered by the united choirs of the Ascension and St. Andrew's, West Philadelphia, and some special soloists. On Good Friday, at 9.30 A. M., the Curate will conduct a special service for the children.

EASTER MUSIC.—The choir will render Woodward's Te Deum in E flat and Guilmant's Mass in E flat, on the morning of Easter day, and Harry Rowe Shelby's Cantata called "Death and Life," at the 4 P. M. Service.

EASTER FESTIVAL.—The Children's Easter Festival Service will be held at 2.45 o'clock Easter Day. The children meet in the Sunday School room at 2.30, and march into the church at 2.45. All the children of the Parish, whether they belong to the Sunday School or not, should be present at this service to join in the children's praises. The mite boxes, which the children have been trying to fill during Lent, will be offered at this service. The children's offering for Missions should be much larger this year than last year.

After the service Easter plants will be distributed to the children.

ENTERTAINMENT.—The ladies of our congregation, in order to help meet our current expenses, have secured the services of some ladies and gentlemen who have kindly offered to give a dramatic entertainment at the New Century Drawing Room on the evening of Monday, April 23d. A large number of ladies have consented to act as patronesses, and a souvenir programme has been printed, from which we hope to realize a good deal from advertisements. The cards of admission will be $1.00 each, and can be obtained from any of the patronesses or from our verger, Mr. Morgan. The entertainment will consist of two plays called "Man Proposes" and "Poor Pillicoddy." There will also be some music, we hope, by Mrs. Spencer Ervin and others.

ST. MARY'S GUILD. — As the second Tuesday of this month occurs in Holy Week, the regular monthly meeting of St. Mary's Guild will take place the third Tuesday—the 17th. The members of the Guild are rehearsing to take part in the entertainment to be given by the members of St. John's Guild, on the evening of April 26th.

PARISH HOUSE.—The project of obtaining the house adjoining the Church property, on Kater Street,

has fallen through, owing to a disagreement with the agent in regard to it. Would that this might lead to putting an additional story on our Parish Building, which would not only give us the accommodation we should have had in the Kater Street house, but would include a gymnasium, which we very much need.

SUBSCRIPTIONS — The following subscriptions have been received since our last issue:

Mrs. Volmer	Miss M. McElhenny
Miss McKnight, $1.50	Mrs. Jackson, $1.00
Mrs. Smythe, 1.00	Miss Anna Macartney
Mrs. J. A. Bonsack	Mr. Thos. Neilson
Mrs. John Alexander	Miss O'Hara, $2.00
Mrs. M. H. Barrett	Mrs. J Jackson, 1.00

Mr. Samuel Milliken

A PASTOR'S CARE.

A woman, now well past fifty years of age, tells the following story of the Rev. Mr. Keble, the real leader of the great Oxford movement, though he worked quietly and out of sight, in his country parish.

"I was born in Mr. Keble's parish, and attended his Church. When I was about fourteen years old, Mr. Keble asked me to join the Confirmation class. I had a saucy tongue in those days, and told him that I was not good enough. But he told me that was pride, and that I ought to want to be good, and so I consented. One day, before the Bishop came, Mr. Keble saw me laughing in Church, and, after service, he spoke to me about it. I was a silly girl, and I got angry, and said: 'There, I told you I was not good enough to be confirmed,' and, turning away, I came no more to the class. I thought Mr. Keble would come after me, but he did not, and, in my pride, I was again angry because he did not come. The following summer, however, I took the fever and nearly died, and I remember well that when I came out of the fever, there was Mr. Keble sitting by the bedside. I just felt bad, and when Mr. Keble said: 'Martha,'—for that was my name—'would you not like to be confirmed now?' I said 'Yes.' Then he went away, and returned with the Bishop, who confirmed me in my bed.

"I got better after that, but when I got well I felt wicked again, and did not make my Communion for a long, long time. Whenever I saw Mr. Keble coming I got out of his way, and yet I knew I was naughty and proud. But one day I was walking along the road all alone, coming home from work, and I sort of came to myself, and said to myself: 'Martha, you are a naughty girl, and God will surely punish you. If you do not make your Communion now, you never will.' I was still too full of pride to let Mr. Keble know it, and so I ran away and took Communion at the next parish. Well, the very next day I met Mr. Keble on the road, and, in my pride and shame, I looked the other way. But he would not let me go by. He crossed the road and said: 'Martha, I am glad to hear that you made your first Communion yesterday. You must come back now, where you belong.'

"Soon after that I moved away to another parish, and saw no more of Mr. Keble, till one day I heard he was dying. When I heard that news I walked all the way home to learn how he was. I knew the cook at his house, and when I was coming up the path she stood at the door, and called out: 'Why, Martha C——, where have you been all this time,' and I went into the kitchen with her. Pretty soon the nurse came down from upstairs, and said Mr. Keble had heard my voice, and wanted to see me. She led me up to his room, and there was Mr. Keble in bed, and I was just crying. He put out his hand, said: 'Martha, I am too ill to talk, but I want you to kneel down while I give you my blessing.' Then I knew that all those years Mr. Keble had been praying for me while I had been so rude to him, and as proud and conceited as I could be."

RESURRECTION THOUGHTS.

ROBERTSON: "There are times when we envy, as possessed of higher privileges, those who saw Christ in the flesh. We think that if we could have heard that calm voice, or seen that blessed presence, or touched those lacerated wounds in His sacred flesh, all doubt would be set at rest forever. Therefore, these words must be our corrective. God has granted us the possibility of believing in a more trustful and more generous way than if we saw. To believe, not because we are learned, and can prove, but because there is something in us—even God's own Spirit—which makes us feel Light as light, and Truth as true; that is the blessed faith. Blessed, because it carries with it spiritual elevation of character. Narrow the prospects of man to this time world, and it is impossible to escape the conclusions of the Epicurean sensualist. If to-morrow we die, let us eat and drink to-day. If we die the sinner's death, it becomes a matter of mere taste whether we shall live the sinner's life or not. But if our existence is forever, then plainly that which is to be daily subdued and subordinated is the animal within us; that which is to be cherished is that which is likest God within us; which we have from Him, and which is the sole pledge of eternal being in the spirit life."

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Mention ASCENSION NEWS

The Ascension News

Vol. XIII. PHILADELPHIA, MAY, 1900. No. 5

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH ALL SEATS FREE

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WM. J. MORGAN,
2022 St. Alban's St.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

SERVICES

SUNDAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Vesper Service, 3 P.M.
Choral Evensong, 4 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:
Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:
Evening Prayer and Lecture, 7.45 P. M.

THURSDAYS:
Holy Communion, 9 A. M.

DAILY: Morning Prayer, 10 A. M.
Evening Prayer, 5 P.M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish
Published under the direction of the Rector

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KALENDAR.—MAY.

1 S. Philip and S. James.
4 Friday—Fast.
6 Third Sunday after Easter.
11 Friday Fast.
13 Fourth Sunday after Easter.
18 Friday—Fast
20 Rogation Sunday.
21 Rogation Day.
22 Rogation Day.
23 Rogation Day.
24 Ascension Day.
25 Friday—Fast.
27 Expectation Sunday.

GUILD MEETINGS.

7 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays and Thursdays, Recreation.

14 and 28 8 P.M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

8 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Classes and Recreation.

7 P.M., Saturdays, Ascension Cadets.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Missionary Society, first Friday, 10.30 A.M.
Mothers' Meeting, Wednesday, 8 P.M.
Embroidery Class, Thursdays, 10.30 A.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent, The Curate.
Assistant Supt., Mr. Harry B. Hodge.
Librarian, Mr. D. L. Witmer.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

BIBLE CLASSES.

SUNDAYS, 3 P. M.

For girls, Mrs. Hodge.
For young men, Miss Maria Gilpin.

CHURCH UNITY

There is no question but that the greatest hinderance to the spread of Christianity and the greatest weakness to the cause of religion is the divisions among Christians. As long as Christians are divided up into so many different bodies, not in communion with each other, teaching such various and contrariant doctrines, and wasting so much strength and money in maintaining many different churches and institutions in the same locality, it is impossible that the world at large should have that respect for religion that it should, and bow to its teachings, or that the Church should exert the influence and do the good it otherwise might. Look at our small country towns, each with six or seven mean little churches, each struggling to exist and resorting to all sorts of modes and rivalries to maintain itself, when there are not more than enough people really to fill one large fine parish Church. And the same thing is true of the cities. There are many small and feeble Churches where there should be a few strong ones. And when such different doctrines and practices are taught, is it any wonder that men are puzzled as to which is true, and doubt whether there is truth in any of them. How, too, can the missionary work of the Church be carried on under such circumstances? If all the different Christian bodies send missionaries to the same place, what idea of the Christian religion do the heathen get, and how are they to know which is the true Church?

That this state of things is not in accordance with the mind of Christ is seen from His prayer in the most solemn moment of His life when He was bidding farewell to His disciples: "that they all might be one," and giving as one of the reasons of his prayer that they might be one, "that the world may believe." And in New Testament times we find no such divisions—only one Church—and when any sign of division occurred, it was sternly rebuked by the Apostles.

And that which makes these divisions so wrong and inexcusable is that so many of them are about such trivial things. We venture to say that a large number of the members of the different religious denominations could not give an intelligent reason for their existence as separate bodies. The separations have occurred about questions and issues which were largely personal, and have long since ceased to exist, so there is absolutely no excuse for their continuance.

But how are they to be done away with? How can Christians be brought together in one body, or how can even some of the divisions among Christians be done away with? When persons have been born and brought up as members of a particular body of Christians, and Churches have been built and often endowed as belonging to such a body, it is very difficult to get men to change or have the property transferred to any other denomination. And yet, if the present condition of things is wrong and an injury to the cause of Christ, ought not a way to be found for doing away with this evil? Ought we not at least to try to work towards this end? An evil that has existed a long time and taken deep roots may take a long time and require great efforts to eradicate, but it never will be done at all unless a beginning is made. Slavery would not have been done away with in the British Empire and in this country if no one had ever testified against it that it was evil. So we must begin this work of bringing Christians together by rousing their attention to the fact that is wrong for them to be separated. There are multitudes who are unconscious of there being any evil in it. They accept the present condition of things as if it was normal and right, and are so absorbed in the interests of their own particular denomination that they never think of the interests of the Church at large, and how its work and efficiency is hindered by these divisions. Then, too, many of the separations among Christians are due to ignorance and superstition, and inability to understand the position and principles of others and the attaching of too much importance to things that are not essential. All need to become more liberal and charitable in their judgment of

others. So there is a vast educational work that must be carried on as a first step in the direction of Church unity.

It is chiefly to carry on this work that the "Church Unity Society"—of which the Rector of this Parish is the general secretary—exists. It has published a number of papers and tracts on the subject, which it distributes, as far as it can get the means to do so, among the clergy and members of the various religious bodies, pointing out the evils of division and the duty and necessity of unity. We should be glad if members of this congregation would become members of this Society, and thus help on this great work.

There has been a wonderful doing away of hatreds and prejudices and estrangements among Christians of late years, and many signs of a tendency towards union. But there is a great deal yet to be done—the end is yet far off. But it is worth working for, and it will not come unless it is worked for, and there is no work so blessed as that of the peacemaker.

OUR FINANCES

For the past financial year, in spite of a considerable reduction in our expenditures, and of about $400 received as the proceeds of an entertainment gotten up by our ladies, we come several hundred short of meeting our expenses for the year. These expenses are kept down to as low a figure as is possible, for we pay our clergy and pay for our music as little as we can expect, and yet we do not meet even that expenditure, and we do not see how it can be otherwise until *all* our debt is paid off and our endowment fund increased, or there is a very large increase in the size and wealth of our congregation. We believe our people contribute, generally, very handsomely in proportion to their means. But we have very little wealth in our Parish, and so cannot get the means to carry it on as we should like to see it.

RECORD FOR APRIL

Baptisms, Adult	3
Infants	2
Marriage	1
Confirmed	24
Communicants added	
First Communion	22
By Transfer	4
Removed	6
Communions of the Sick	4
Died	1
Burials	3

OFFERINGS

For current expenses (including Easter Offering)	$1035 33
" Flowers	43 84
" Tract Society	8 00
" the Poor	6 13
" General Missions	1 00
" Diocesan "	5 60
" the Schools	50
" the Choir	15 69
Of the Sunday School	11 86
" " " " for Missions	85 00
Total	$1212 95
Proceeds Entertainment about	400 00

PARISH NOTES

HOLY WEEK. — Our services, which consisted of at least four each day, were well attended. The Church was filled on Monday night when the Cantata of the Crucifixion was rendered. The Rector preached on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday evenings, and the Curate on Wednesday and Friday. A service for the children was held by the Curate on Good Friday at 9.30 A.M. and the Rector preached the Stations of the Cross from 12 to 3 P.M.

EASTER was a gloriously beautiful day and the Church, too, was very attractive. There were about 350 Communicants at the four Celebrations. There was a large attendance of the children at the 3 P.M. service, and each child was presented with a growing flower in a pot. At 4 P.M., the Cantata of Death and Life was well rendered by an augmented choir. The Easter offerings amounted to just $700, though $1,000 was asked for. Unless this amount is made up, we will begin again the old process of eating into our reserve fund, which means living on our capital instead of our income.

NEW CHOIRMASTER.—The engagement of Mr. O'Daniel as choirmaster and organist of the Church having expired the end of last month, his place has been filled by the appointment of Mr. Walter St. Clare Knowdle, and as Mr. O'Daniel has secured another position out of the city, he was anxious to be relieved before the expiration of his engagement. Mr. Knowdle, therefore, entered upon his duties on Low Sunday. Since last June he has been organist and choirmaster of the Church of the Evangelists, on Catharine Street above Seventh, and comes to us very well recommended. We trust he will be able to keep up the reputation this Church has always had for good music.

THE VESTRY.— At the annual election for Vestrymen held on Easter Monday, Messrs. Francis S. Keese, Thomas Robb, John D. Henderson and G. Gibson McCall were duly elected to serve until Easter, 1903. At a meeting of the Vestry held subsequently, Mr. Wm. Moore Wharton and Dr. Arthur Van Harlingen were elected to fill vacancies caused by the resignations of Mr. Robert R. Corson and Mr. Stevenson H. Walsh. The Rector appointed Mr. J. Edward Carpenter Rector's Warden and Mr. Charles E. Bonnet was re-elected Accounting Warden. Mr. John D. Henderson was elected Secretary of the Vestry, in the place of Mr. George Gray Knowles, who declined a re-election to the Vestry owing to his removal to Washington. Messrs. Samuel Wetherill, J. Edward Carpenter and Francis S. Keese were elected delegates to the Diocesan Convention and representatives of the congregation in Convocation.

GIFTS. — The members of S. Mary's Guild and of the embroidery class presented the Curate with a very handsome white silk chasuble, stole and maniple, embroidered in blue. Another member of the congregation also gave him a surplice. A white silk stole, two white silk bookmarkers for the lectern Bible were made for the Church by the embroidery class of the Altar Guild. Material for a cassock was presented, some pieces of carpet for kneeling hassocks and four large photographs for the Guild room. An alb, amice and girdle for the Cross bearer were also presented, and used by him for the first time on Easter day. The servers ought properly to be vested in the same way. If any one will present the linen for the purpose our ladies will gladly make

them. We need, also, linen for new cottas for the choir. A piece of muslin for the Mothers' Meeting was presented by John Wanamaker.

THE ENTERTAINMENT for which our ladies have been working came off on the evening of April 23d, and proved very successful. Two plays were rendered by some ladies and gentlemen living out in the neighborhood of Ogontz, to whom we owe many thanks. There were also some Gibson tableaux by some of this year's débutantes and other friends, which added much to the attraction of the evening. The New Century Drawing Room, where it was held, was well filled, and the receipts over all expenses from the sale of tickets and from a souvenir programme amounted to about $400.

PARISH FESTIVAL. — We shall keep our Parish Festival as usual this month. Special anniversary service and sermon on the evening of Ascension Day at eight o'clock, Guild service on Sunday evening, May 27th, and Parish Tea on Monday evening, May 28th. We hope to see all our parishioners at these services and at the Parish Tea.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE NEWS.— The following subscriptions have been received since our last issue:

Mr. David Rea.
Dr. Crowley.
Mrs. John Minshall.
Mrs. S. Wilkes O'Neil (2 years).
Miss Kate G. Pomeroy.

OUR ADVERTISERS

It is only right and proper that we mention the subject again, and urge our people in return for their ads to give their patronage. But in so doing, be sure to mention this paper, or we do not get the credit due us.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

The work among the children has been most encouraging.

Since the schools opened last October there have been continual additions, and the attendance of both teachers and scholars has been very good.

The children seem to appreciate what has been done for them at Christmas and Easter, and have been generous in their offerings at the Sunday School services, and through the Lenten offering for Missions. After paying all expenses there is a surplus of $65.00 in the treasury. Beside this, the children gave $85.00 through their mite boxes. The total offering of the children is about 40 per cent. greater than last year.

The children of the Sunday School are arranging for an entertainment to be given at the end of the month. It is to be an entertainment of special interest to the parents and friends of the children. In addition to a cantata to be sung by the older girls, and fancy drill by the boys of Co. A., Ascension Cadets, there will be pieces and songs by the little ones.

The object of this entertainment is to raise a fund to send some of the children into the country during the hot summer months. It is the hope of the Curate to keep up the work among the children through the summer, for most of the children remain in town.

Most of the Sunday Schools close during the summer on account of the difficulty in getting teachers; this difficulty will be partly overcome by having the Sunday School continue after Whitsunday in the morning, at 9.30 The instruction will be given in the Church, instead of the Sunday School room.

THE GUILD OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

This Guild was organized at the beginning of Lent to interest the younger girls of the Parish in the work of the Junior Auxiliary to the Board of Missions.

Miss Alice Marion Pepper is in charge of the Guild, assisted by Mrs. Gibson McCall.

The following is Miss Pepper's report of the work done by the Guild:

"The Guild met every Saturday afternoon during Lent at 2.30, with an average attendance of fifteen girls between the ages of twelve and sixteen.

The total number of garments made, 14, consisting of 8 flannel skirts, 2 underwaists and 4 checkered aprons. Eight beautiful scrapbooks were also made by the younger girls.

The Guild received a donation of 26 garments, which in addition to their own work, have been sent to Asheville, N. C. to be used in the Missionary work of the Church among the "poor whites."

EASTER COMMUNIONS, ETC.

The Philadelphia correspondent of *The Living Church* gives the following interesting items in regard to Easter in some of the churches of this city:

	Comm'cants	Offerings	S. S. Off.
S. Timothy's, Roxborough	400	$975 65	$165 00
S. Mary's, West Phila	430	1,000 00	53 76
Grace Church	350	5,050 00	187 00
S. Clement's	409	2,092 68	
S. Andrew's, West Phila.	500	550 00	225 00
Holy Apostles	524	1,857 96	4,071 26
Ascension	330	700 00	80 00

The percentage in each church to its whole number of communicants was:

Grace Church	50.00 per cent
Holy Apostles	45.64 "
S. Andrews, West Phila.	77.25 "
S. Clement's	54.68 "
S. Mary's, West Phila	65.55 "
S. Timothy's, Roxborough	70.00 "
Ascension	67.55 "

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VOL. XIII. PHILADELPHIA, JUNE, 1900. No. 6

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SERVICES
DURING THE SUMMER

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.

Children's Service, 9.30 A.M.

Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.30 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS, 10 A. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

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KALENDAR —JUNE.

1 Friday—Fast.
3 Whitsunday.
4 Whitsun Monday.
5 Whitsun Tuesday.
6 Ember Day.
8 Ember Day.
9 Ember Day.
10 Trinity Sunday.
11 S. Barnabas.
15 Friday—Fast.
17 First Sunday after Trinity.
22 Friday—Fast.
24 Nativity S. John Baptist.
29 S. Peter, Fast.

GUILD MEETINGS.

4 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays, Recreation.

11 and 25 8 P.M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent, The Curate.
Librarian, Mr. D. L. Witmer.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

THE YEAR'S REPORT

Our conventional and financial year extends from May 1st to May 1st, thus closing just before our annual Parish Festival, Ascension Day, giving us an admirable opportunity of reviewing our past year at that time. This our Rector always does in his sermon, on the evening of the Festival. We regret that this year the night was so inclement that but few, comparatively, of our parishioners were present. For the benefit, therefore, especially of those who were not present, we repeat the substance of what was said.

After reading the annual report, the Rector noticed the following points in regard to it: The number of baptisms was four less than last year; three more were confirmed. The losses to the communicant list were three less, the gain one less, the total being forty-three gained, thirty-five lost by death, removal and neglect of duty. It is these losses which, in spite of our considerable gains, keep the Parish in about the same condition. There has been one more marriage and one more burial than last year. The number of scholars in the Sunday School and Bible classes has been about the same, though the attendance at the children's service and the general interest in the school have been much improved. There have been two more teachers and ten more scholars in the Saturday Industrial School. The Mothers' Meeting has been much larger, and more work has been done. In addition to the other Guilds of the Parish, a Guild of young ladies, to help in missionary work, and a cadet corps for the younger lads, were organized during the year by the Curate. These statistics show that the work of the Parish has been fully kept up to the former level, though all the progress that might be desired has not been made.

In considering the financial report, the Rector noticed that there is an apparent deficit of the receipts, compared with the expenditures, of some $200. The real deficit, however, is some $500, as in the receipts we included a considerable sum raised for the Mothers' Meeting, which, of course, can be used for no other purpose. The actual difference in the free will offerings between this and last year was $388.67, which is less than the amount of some special offerings made last year, showing that there has been no falling off in the free will contributions of the people. It is also to be noticed that we have given this year for benevolent purposes, over $1,200, a much larger sum than ever before. This may have had something to do with making our receipts for current expenses less. However, the fact remains that we have failed to meet our expenses for the year by about $500, and this amount has been paid out of the sum which had been set aside out of the legacy we received last year as a reserve fund. We have, therefore, used up so much of our endowment. This not only ought not to go on, but the amount already taken from that fund ought to be returned. The Rector urged the congregation to consider most carefully this question of our finances. He thanked the ladies most warmly for their work in getting up an entertainment by which over $500 had been made, but said that was not the way in which Churches ought to be supported. He did not see how our expenses could in any way be cut down and, therefore, urged that some means be adopted to increase our revenue. He pointed out the fact that in November of this year he will complete (if he lives until then) the twentieth year of his Rectorship in this Parish, and it would not only be a great gratification to him, but a most substantial gain to the Church if that event could be commemorated by the removal of the remaining indebtedness of $12,000 upon the property. But, if that cannot be done, let every one see, at least, how much more he or she can contribute regularly during the coming year. Every one who has an income, no matter how small it may be, ought to give something to the support of the Church, and that that may be given regularly or systematically it should be given through the envelope system. Let *every one*, therefore, attending the Church use the envelopes.

We are trying to carry on a Church here, not on the selfish principle of reserved seats, but so that it may reach all sorts of people. But, that it may be supported, something must be found to take the place of pew rents. We cannot depend upon mere desultory giving; it must be systematic. If the number of envelopes taken could be largely increased, the income would be proportionably increased.

While thanking God, therefore, for His blessing and what has been accomplished in the past year, let us see if we cannot make more progress still in the year to come. Let each member of the Parish be interested in and do his full share in working for, and in supporting it, and there will be no question but that that end will be gained.

Our Church is situated in a position where it is prominent and can reach the people, but it is out of the way of wealth, so each one belonging to it must do everything possible for it.

RECORD FOR MAY

Baptisms, Infants	4
Marriage	1
Communicants added—	
First Communion	1
By Transfer	3
Restored	1
Removed	3
Died	1
Burial	1

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$325 91
" the Poor	8 69
" " Deficit	40 00
" " Schools	3 80
" " Diocesan Missions	37
Of the Schools	9 75
Total	$388 52

PARISH NOTES

Summer Services.—The usual changes in the services will be made, beginning with this month, except that the Sunday evening service will be at 7.30 P.M., instead of 7 o'clock. It is thought that this hour may be, on the whole, more convenient for most of the congregation. And the Wednesday evening service will be continued. The Curate expects to be in the city most of the summer, and he believes that those who have been attending this service will be as glad to do so in the summer as in the winter. The 4 P. M. service on Sunday will be discontinued, and the daily prayers. There will be, however: Morning prayer and the Litany every Wednesday and Friday at 10 A.M., and service on all Holy days at 7.30 and 10 A.M.

The Sunday School will be discontinued until October, but the children's service will be kept up throughout the summer, at 9.30 A.M., instead of in the afternoon.

Our Dedication Festival was duly observed. A goodly number were present at the early celebrations on Ascension Day, though the congregation at the mid-day service was very small, and the choir was composed only of some of the boys. Another year we shall hope to make the musical service of the mid-day service quite a feature, as we have done in years gone by. The music at the night service was all that could be desired, and we take this occasion of congratulating our new choir master on the progress he has made already with the choir. The attendance at this service, too, however, was very small, owing to its being a very rainy night. At the Guild service, on Sunday evening, the young men made a very good showing, but S. Mary's Guild of young women did not make the appearance that it should. The Parish Tea, on Monday, was largely attended. There was abundance of provision, even for the capacity of those usually attending this Tea. There was a short address of welcome by the Rector, in which he urged all present to feel that they were personally responsible for the support and welfare of the Church, making a special point of all working during the coming year, not only to enable the Church to meet its current expenses, but to make up the deficit of the year past. After this followed a little play by some members of S. Mary's Guild, and then a drill by the Ascension Cadet Corps. The boys looked very well in their new uniforms, and went through their drill quite creditably. They are much indebted to Mr. Basil Jones, their instructor, for the time and attention he has given to them. A little sale was also conducted at the Tea, by members of S. Mary's Guild, of some articles they had made and some articles that had been left over from the Fair held during the winter, the proceeds of which were to be used in the purchase of material for a new set of cottas that are needed for the choir. Altogether, the tea, which is the sixteenth of the kind we have had, may be said to have been a great success, and we trust it may be the means of increasing the interest and devotion of our parishioners to their Church.

An Offer.—One of our ladies, who is much interested in our Church, is distressed that we should be behindhand with our current expenses, has offered to be one of ten to give $50 each to make up the amount we fell behind this last year. Who will meet her? Two others have given $40 between them for this purpose.

The Clergy.—The Rector and his family have moved out of town, as usual, for the summer, his address being the same as last year, Meadowbrook, Montgomery county, Pa. He expects to be in town for at least one service nearly every Sunday, and occasionally during the week. The Curate will remain in town most of the summer and can be found at any time at his residence, 1416 Lombard street. He hopes to do a great deal of visiting among those who remain in the city during the summer.

A Children's Entertainment. The children of the Parish are to give an entertainment on Thursday evening, June 14th, at 7.30, in the Parish rooms. The beautiful cantata "The Little Gypsie" will be sung by boys and girls. The Ascension Cadets will give an exhibition drill, and there will be exercises by the children and others. Every effort is being made to make the entertainment a joyous occasion for young and old. The proceeds are for the Summer Outing Fund, in connection with the summer work among the children. Those who go away to the cool summer resorts should remember the children who remain in the city during the hot summer months. The price of tickets is 25 cents for reserved seats, children of the Parish, 10 cents. Tickets may be had from the teachers of the Sunday-school, or from the children's entertainment committee.

The News.—We are again behind in paying the expenses of this paper. This is because many of our subscribers have not paid their sub-

scriptions. The total amount due for subscriptions the beginning of May was $40. The manager sent a personal letter to each subscriber asking for a remittance, but only $17 has so far been paid. We ask, as a particular favor, that all those owing money to the NEWS will please pay it at once, that we may close the season without debt. The following subscriptions have been received since our last issue:

Mrs. John G. Johnson	$3.00
Mrs. Wm. Drayton	1.00
Mr. C. J. Yost	1 50
Mrs. D. Hawkins	.50
Mr. and Mrs. Botwright	3.00
Miss Trucks	1.50
Mr. Samuel Wetherill	.50
Mr. Geo. Wharton	.50
Miss Macauley	1.00
Mr. Tingley	.50
Mrs. John Wirgman	.50
Mrs. J. H. Mason	1.00
Miss Holbrock	.50
Mrs. Christian	.50
Mrs. J. G. McCall	.50
Mrs. A. L. Griffith	.50
Mrs. T. H. Fenton	.50
	$17.00

REPORT

The following is the report of the Parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop:

Baptisms—adults, 5; infants, 21; total, 26. *Confirmed*—males, 10; females, 14; total, 24. *Communicants* added—new, 24; by transfer, 19; died, 7; removed, 28; present number, 535. *Marriages*, 7; *Burials*, 21. *Public Services*—Sunday, 272; on other days, 574; total, 846. *Celebrations of Holy Communion*—public, 185; in private, 9; total, 194. Number of Communions made, 2,387. *Sunday Schools*—Officers and teachers, 19; scholars, 110; Bible classes, 2; teachers, 2; scholars, 41. *Other Parish Agencies*—Industrial School: teachers, 16; scholars, 150; Mothers' Meeting: members, 23. Men's Guild, the male communicants; Women's Guild, the female communicants; Young Men's Guild, S. John's: members, 26; Young Women's Guild, S. Mary's: members, 25; Chapter Brotherhood of S. Andrew, members, 10. Ascension Cadets, members, 15.

Money Receipts—Offerings for all Parish purposes, $5,230.36; offerings for purposes outside the Parish, $379.66; investments, $476.52; other sources, entertainments, etc., $919.39; Sunday School, $244.88; Women's Auxiliary, $186.47; other Societies, $33.36; total, $7,470.64.

Expenditures—Parochial, current expenses (including salaries of ministers, music, fuel and lighting, care of Church building and grounds and ordinary repairs of the same), $5,170.93; interest on mortgage, $570.00; support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools, $213.45; Ascension Cadets, $105.50; for the poor, $354.14; miscellaneous, $620.87; total, $7,034.89.

Diocesan—Episcopal and Convention Fund, $111.91; Diocesan Missions, $191; Episcopal Hospital, $38.49; Sustentation Fund, $34 80; Christmas Fund, $2.50; total, $378 70.

General Missions—General, $119.71; Foreign, $31.09; Domestic, $80.58; Indian, $13.40; Colored people, $7.40; Prayer Book and Tract Societies, $19; Church building, $2; total, $273.18.

Total for all objects, $7,686.77.

Estimated value of three missionary boxes and bundles, $160.

Financial Condition—Aggregate value of property of the Parish, real and personal, $80,000; incumbrances: mortgage on the Church edifice, Parish building and ground, $12.00. Other indebtedness, $750. Endowment fund, $10,525.

"SOMEWHERE"

Somewhere the thing we long for
Exists on earth's wide bound,
Somewhere the sun is shining
When Winter nips the ground.
Somewhere the flowers are springing,
Somewhere the corn is brown
And ready for the harvest,
To feed the hungry town.

Somewhere the twilight gathers,
And weary men lay by
The burden of the daytime,
And wrapped in slumber lie.
Somewhere the day is breaking,
And gloom and darkness flee;
Though storms our bark are tossing,
There's somewhere—placid sea.

And thus we find it ever,
In this mysterious life:—
There's always gladness somewhere,
In spite of pain and strife;
And somewhere sin and sorrow
Of earth are known no more,
Somewhere our weary spirits
Shall find a peaceful shore.

Somewhere the things that try us
Shall all have passed away,
And doubt and fear no longer
Impede the perfect day.
O brother, though the darkness
Around thy soul be cast,
The earth is rolling sunward
And light shall come at last.

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Mention ASCENSION NEWS

The Ascension News

VOL. XIII. PHILADELPHIA, SEPTEMBER, 1900. No. 7

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH

ALL SEATS FREE

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REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE,
334 So. 13th St.

CURATE:
REV. WM. BERNARD GILPIN,
1416 Lombard St.

RECTOR'S WARDEN:
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SEXTON:
WM. J. MORGAN,
2022 St. Alban's St.

Any one desiring to see the clergy in regard to spiritual matters or church work, can find one of the clergy in the Church after any of the Sunday or week day services.

SERVICES
DURING THE SUMMER

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.

Children's Service, 9.30 A.M.

Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.30 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS, 10 A. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

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Published under the direction of the Rector

SUBSCRIPTION - - 50 Cents Per Year

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KALENDAR —SEPTEMBER.

2 Twelfth Sunday after Trinity.
7 Friday—Fast.
9 Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity.
14 Friday—Fast.
16 Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity.
19 Ember Day.
21 St. Matthew Even. Ember Day.
22 Ember Day.
23 Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity.
28 Friday—Fast.
29 S. Michael and All Angels.
30 Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity.

GUILD MEETINGS.

3 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays, Recreation.

10 and 24 8 P.M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent, The Curate.
Librarian, Mr. D. L. Witmer.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

SUMMER WORK.

Never in any age or in any country have the poor been so well provided for as in this city to-day. Our churches, hospitals, institutions, and charity organization societies are living monuments to the generosity of those who have some concern for the souls and bodies of their fellow men, women and children.

The great Gospel truth "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you" has touched the hearts of many and they have responded again and again.

In the face of this general statement it is important for us to ask if it is true of us in particular. What have I done as my share in the work that Christ asks me to do?

The parish is the unit of the Church's work in the community of souls. All who are members of a parish are like the leaves upon the branch that draws its life from the common trunk—the Church. "I am the vine, ye are the branches," said the Master. Then surely it is not only for us to ask "What am I doing?" but also, "What is my parish doing?"

When the mercury rises in the thermometer, many of our good people rise too, and seek a cooler place than the hot city, where they can live more comfortably. There are many who cannot go away; necessity keeps them home.

It should be of great interest to all of our people to know what our parish is doing for those who cannot go away during the summer months.

In the first place, the services of the Church have gone on much as usual. The Sunday and Wednesday evening services have been well attended, and the children have shown a great interest in their Sunday morning service and instruction.

The Parish picnic was held July 24th at Lake Grenlock. The Church of the Holy Comforter united with us. The young men and maidens of both parishes vied with each other in the sports, much to the interest and amusement of the mothers and children.

Thursday outings have enabled about 250 children with those interested in them to spend a day away from the hot streets, and enjoy the natural beauty of Bartram Garden. These outings have given much pleasure to those who are not able to go on the country week outings.

The boys' camp, "Camp Neilson," gave a week's outing to the choir boys, the Ascension Cadets, and some of the members of S. John's Guild. The camp was situated on one of the most beautiful spots on the upper Delaware, on the estate of Mr. Thomas Neilson. The boys declare they had a "Bully time" and felt most grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Neilson for the many kindnesses shown them.

The foregoing review does not show that we have done much this summer, but we have done something. What has been done is due to the children and their friends. The money necessary to meet the expenses has come from their own efforts—the delightful little entertainment given in July, under the management of Miss Charlotte Hare, and the sale of mounted "Perry Pictures." Several of the older girls have shown their interest in our work by mounting about 1,000 pictures in a tasteful way, and the children have sold a number of them.

Every parish ought to have a fund for children's summer outings, especially when it is situated as we are in a crowded district with many poor people close to the Church. Children have a wonderful faculty of becoming interested in those who are interested in them. Many of us never cease to be children in this respect at least. Why should we not make the most of this human trait, especially when it draws them to the side of the dear Master who rebuked those who would keep them away from Him?

Record for June, July and August.

Baptisms	4
Marriages	2
Communicants, added—	
New	2
By transfer	3
Removed	2
Died	2
Communion of the sick	1
Burials	7

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$538 68
" the Poor	3 80
" General Missions	15
" the Schools	1 12
" " Parish Tea	18 00
At discretion of the Rector	17 67
	$579 42

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—Fifty prayer books from the Female Prayer Book Society, for use in the Church; a sign, painted by one of our boys, to protect the yard to the south of the Church from intrusion.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.—The experiment of keeping up the children's service during the summer at 9.30 A.M. has proved very successful, an average of about fifty children being present each Sunday. Owing to the continued absence of so many of the teachers during September, the same arrangement will be continued during this month, the regular Sunday School in the afternoon not beginning until the first Sunday in October, when we shall hope to see all the teachers in their places. And are there not others in the parish, both male and female, who will offer themselves for this good work during the coming winter?

THE CLERGY.—For the first time in nearly twenty years, the Rector was absent from the services of the Church for a whole month, having taken charge of the services of the Church of the Saviour, Jenkintown, during August, as he was spending the summer in that neighborhood. The Curate remained in town all summer and took charge of all the services during August. He will take a holiday during part of this month.

OUR DEFICIT.—Only *one* person has so far responded to the offer of a lady, which we mentioned in our last number, to be one of ten to give $50 each to make up the deficit in our expenses for our last financial year. Where are the other eight? We hope that a systematic effort may be made this autumn to get rid of all our indebtedness. There is nothing worse for a free Church than to be struggling on under a weight of debt.

IMPROVEMENTS. — Some very needed renovations will be made during this month to our parish building. The ceiling and walls in several of the rooms will be recolored, the wood work reoiled, etc. The doors of the Church will also be reoiled. Owing to the solid way in which the Church is built, this is the only renovation that it will scarcely ever need.

THE NEWS.—This little parish paper has been continued without intermission for nearly thirteen years, and has proved itself very useful in giving information to all interested in the parish as to what is going on in it. It is an organ of communication between the clergy and all the members of the parish, enabling the clergy to speak about and explain a great many things which they could not do from the chancel, and it reaches all, whether they happen to be in the Church or not. And the teachings given in it reach thus a great many more persons than they would if only given in the Church.

But it costs something to print this paper, and it requires some one to look after it, collect its subscriptions, etc. For a good many years some member of the congregation did this for the sake of the parish, and then it was comparatively easy to meet our expenses, but lately no one could be found to do it, so we had to engage some one to act as its business manager, giving him a commission on its receipts. After a trial, however, of several years, with two successive managers, we are convinced that the receipts of the paper are not sufficient to pay its way on that basis, as we find we are constantly running behindhand We have, therefore, been obliged to cancel our engagement with Mr. George V. Baird, who has acted as manager for the last two years, and who has done his best to make the paper a success financially, but has found it impossible.

We hope before our next issue to find some one in the parish who will undertake the work for love, and be able to make its ends meet. In the meantime, it will be issued as usual, and all subscriptions can be sent directly to the Church or handed to the verger.

FREE EXCURSIONS

Our Curate sent the following letter to the *Ledger* lately. We hope it may have some effect another season.

A CORPORATION WITH A SOUL.

Editor "Public Ledger."

Sir: I have just read with much interest your article in Saturday's *Ledger* on practical philanthropy in Boston. I would like to speak of another philanthropy practiced in Boston that is well worth being imitated by other cities. I refer to the summer outings that are provided by the city and the railway companies for the poor. The large Marine Park recently built by the State would not be enjoyed by the very poor if it were not for the generosity of the Boston Elevated Company, which controls almost all the surface lines in the city. This company, through churches and charitable societies, distributes about 100,000 free tickets, so that mothers and children and sick and aged persons who cannot pay may be carried to the woods or seashore.

While I was located in Boston as an assistant priest, I always received, without asking for them, 500 free tickets. I called upon the president of the company to thank him for the help his generosity gave to many of my poor people. He told me that he did not consider any thanks necessary, as the company realized that a large percentage of their patrons were poor people, and they were glad to be able to do something for the children of those who did so much for their company. As a result of this policy, the company has the masses on its side, and, although the employés every winter have a good reason for demanding better protection against the weather, they have not done it, nor are they likely to strike, and, if they did, would not have the sympathy of the masses, who know that the corporation has a soul.

During the past summer I have tried to do something to help the poor to enjoy some of the beautiful spots around Philadelphia, but have felt greatly discouraged by the fact that every child over 4 years, as a general thing, had to pay 16 cents for car fare. This means that those who need the outings most are debarred, unless some one can pay the car fare for them. The Sanitarium is a great institution, but how many children can pay the fare to Chestnut Street wharf?

The "Children's Country Week" does a great work in helping the poor, but how much greater would their help be if the great corporation that controls our railways exercised some of the philanthropy that is so willingly given by Boston's corporation!

Very sincerely yours,

WM. BERNARD GILPIN.

August 25, 1900.

Take up thy cross, and follow Christ,
Nor think till death to lay it down,
For only he who bears the cross
May hope to wear the glorious crown.

CHURCH SUPPORT.

In England the Church is called the Established Church. It is supported like our public schools by the State, and every man is entitled to the privileges of the Church because he is an Englishman, just as every citizen in this country has the right to send his children to the public school. In England the Church may be said to provide the State accommodations and the Church serves the people.

Many English families come over to this country and take it for granted that the Church here is provided for them and supported as at home, and they never think that it is their duty to support the Church themselves or else accept its service as a charity.

Who, we may ask, supports the Church in this country? Who keeps a clergyman on hand, pays for music and gives every one the opportunity to hear the gospel and enjoy the privileges of Christ's Sacraments? The answer is simple. The Church in this country is supported by those who pay for it out of their own pockets. The State does not support the Church in this country. The Church does not live on air and it is not fed by a miracle. It is provided by those who furnish the money to pay the bills. It is true that the Church and her clergy are always ready to serve everybody in need of spiritual help, the rich and poor, the little and great, and those who are just between. But it is also true that the clergy you see about the streets, those you call upon in case of sickness, trouble or death, the constant service with its sweet music, the guilds, picnics, concerts and other entertainments are provided and supported by those who put their hands in their own pockets for Christ's sake and pay the bills. These are the people who support the Church in this country and they are ones whom the others should thank for the privileges of the Church. To which class, reader, do you belong? Are you one of those who pay for what you get from the Church and for what your family get? Do you pay all it is worth, all that you could pay if you tried? Or are you one of those who pay nothing and take all you can get and then call yourself an honest Christian. There are some who pay one cent and talk of their rights as though they paid a dollar.

It is possible for every one to become one of those who support the Church and he or she will have a share in the work for Christ which the Church is trying to do and would do better if it were better supported.

GIVING.

We heard a man ask the other day, "When will this incessant begging for money (he meant for Church purposes) cease? It is call upon call, now for this, now for that, and I am sick and weary of it."

More ask the question than those who, like our frank friend, put it into words.

The answer is as easy as the question. It will never cease. It is part of the law of the situation. While their remains a heathen upon earth, an unfaithful Christian, a sick man—soul-sick or body-sick—an orphan child, a cripple, an outcast, a wretched creature anywhere with any wretchedness, the demands will still be made; and they will still be answered worse or better.

When all men on earth are blessed, when the sunlight of Heaven gilds the hills and valleys of the world, and wraps the blue seas in eternal calm, then may men rest from their work and their giving—not before.

Till then let the demands be made, and made boldly. The situation is plain. God owns a man, and all he has, and is, and will be. Ask him to give for one of God's purposes. You only ask him to accept the situation, to acknowledge the facts. There is no call for timidity. Let the applicant do his duty. It rests with him to whom he applies whether he will do his. He should at all events be furnished with frequent and favorable opportunities. *The Church Standard.*

BEAR ONE ANOTHER'S BURDENS.

A great Bishop of the Church once wrote, "Poverty is the load of some, and wealth is the load of others, perhaps the greater load of the two. It may weigh them to perdition. Bear the load of thy neighbour's poverty, and let him bear with thee the load of thy wealth. Thou lightenest thy load by lightening his." This is a noble Christian precept. There is nothing more Christ-like than the spirit which prompts us to bear one another's burdens.

THE BOYS' TEN COMMANDMENTS.

I. Say my prayers.
II. Go to Church regularly.
III. Quit swearing.
IV. Mind, quick and sure.
V. And be obliging.
VI. Don't quarrel.
VII. Don't be nasty.
VIII. Never steal.
IX. Tell no lies.
X. Never shirk any work.

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Vol. XIII. PHILADELPHIA, OCTOBER, 1900. No. 8

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SERVICES

SUNDAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon 10.30 A. M.
Children's Service, 3 P.M.
Choral Evensong, 4 P. M.
Shortened Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7.45 P. M.

HOLY DAYS:

Holy Communion, 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

WEDNESDAYS:

Evening Prayer and Lecture, 8 P. M.

DAILY PRAYERS, 10 A. M. and 5 P. M.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Administered at any week day service, or on Sunday afternoon.

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KALENDAR—October.

5 Friday—Fast.
7 Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity.
12 Friday—Fast.
14 Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.
18 S. Luke, Evanglist.
19 Friday—Fast.
21 Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.
26 Friday—Fast.
28 SS. Simon and Jude.

GUILD MEETINGS.

1 8 P.M., Business Meeting of S. John's Guild. Other Mondays, Recreation.

9 8 P. M., Business Meeting of S. Mary's Guild. Other Tuesdays, Recreation.

8 and 22 8 P. M., Meeting of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

Ascension Cadets Drill, every Thursday at 7.30 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent, The Curate.
Ass't Superintendent, Mr. Henry B. Hodge.
Librarian, Mr. D. L. Witmer.
Organist, Mr. Albert H. Eayre.

A DREAM

It is pleasant sometimes to dream, even when our dreams may not be realized. Let us indulge in such a dream in regard to our Parish. In the first place, we should dream as we ought, that all our indebtedness of $13,000 was removed. For no one should rest content or spend money for anything else, so long as he is in debt, or, indeed, consider his property really his or safe so long as there was any debt upon it. Then, in our dreams we would see the shop at the corner of Broad and South Streets disappear, and in its place rise at the corner of the two streets a massive tower and beyond that a front to the Church on South Street, and beyond that, for the lot of the shop is longer on South Street than the front of the Church would be, a side chapel where early celebrations and daily services could be said. Then our ears would be greeted with the sound of sweet music from a belfry overhead, proclaiming throughout the neighborhood the call to daily prayers and Sunday services, and reminding our own parishioners—a reminder they very much need—of the duty of punctuality in attending the Church's services.

Then, as we enter the Church, we would see all the windows filled with handsome stained glass, and in place of our present wooden altar and reredos, which is not worthy of the Church, one of stone or marble, richly carved, and at the entrance of the choir a screen of wood or metal, surmounted by the Holy Rood. Then, at the lower end of the Church we would see our Parish building enlarged, extending out to Broad Street, giving space for gymnasium, rooms for schools and classes, the assistant clergy and sexton, and for Sisters or Deaconesses, who should work in the Parish.

Then we should like to be told not only that the debt of the Church was paid, but that an endowment fund had been provided, which would be sufficient to protect the Church from all danger arising from the shifting of the population or the loss of a few wealthy members, and which would enable it to pay its clergy reasonable salaries and provide suitable music and all those accessories which are necessary to enable a city Church successfully to do its work, and grapple with the irreligion and suffering with which it is surrounded.

We call this a dream, for our Church has none of these things as yet. Its building is incomplete and hidden by the shop which stands north of it, its decorations are imperfect, its Parish building is too small to provide the accommodation needed for its work, its revenue is insufficient properly to pay its officers or meet its necessary expenses, and so it cannot do the work it should; nor is its future as sure as we should like to see it. And if we cannot secure all these things for it, at least we can dream of what we should like to see it become.

Are there not some of our Parishioners or friends who have the means to do so, who would be glad to be the instruments by which some, at least, of the features of this dream might be realized? We read of benefactions and additions and decorations being made to other Parishes: why should not such be made to ours? And what Church needs or deserves this more than one in which the services are free to every one who enters it?

If our dream could be wholly, or even in part, realized we should feel as if the work of building up the Parish had been completed, and we would be ready to sing our Nunc Dimittis.

If there are those who cannot afford to provide any of these things for the Church during their lifetime, when they are making provision for the distribution of their earthly goods, which they cannot take away with them, will they not direct that some portion of theirs shall go to this purpose, than which they could find no better?

And we have faith to believe that our dream, even in all its features, will some day be a reality.

THE ENVELOPE SYSTEM

At the beginning of another season, the Rector wishes to urge upon *all* the members of the Parish, the duty of complying with the envelope system, which is the system which has been adopted by the Vestery for the support of the Church

Churches, like all other things, have to be supported. There are the salaries of the clergy and sexton. These three officers are expected to give all their time to the work of the Church, so they cannot do any other work, but must depend upon the salaries they receive. So, if the congregation wants good music there must be a choirmaster and organist and singers who must be remunerated for their services. Then there is the heating and lighting and necessary repairs to the Church, all of which require money. And where is it to come from? We have no pew rents. We do not think it is right to make a charge of the services of the Church. So we depend entirely upon free will offerings. But unless these are made systematically, they will not be sufficient for the support of the Church. The use of the envelope is necessary to insure this. Every one attending the Church should take an envelope for *the same amount that he would give in another Church as pew rent*, or if he could not afford to pay a pew rent, for whatever amount he can afford. But whatever amount he gives, *if it is only five cents a week*, he should give it *through the envelopes*. Then he will be sure of giving it, and the Church will have an income it can depend upon.

Every communicant especially, no matter how young he or she may be, should have their names on the list of those using the envelopes. Every one who has an income or an allowance should give a certain percentage of it to God's service, and this is the way to do it.

We want this winter to see the list of those taking the envelopes largely increased, for we need a large income. Our present receipts are not sufficient to meet even our very moderate expenses.

There are always large white envelopes addressed to the accounting warden in the rack inside the main door of the Church. In each of these there is the printed form of a pledge to give weekly or monthly, or as it may suit the convenience of the giver, a sum towards the support of the Church. Let each regular attendant take one of these and fill it up, with his name and address, with the amount he proposes to give, and return it by mail to the warden, who will send him in return a package of envelopes for each Sunday in the current quarter. These are to be filled with the amount pledged Sunday by Sunday.

RECORD FOR SEPTEMBER.

Marriage	1
Burials	3

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$181 87
" the Poor	13
" General Missions	10
" the Floating Debt	10
" Texas Sufferers	5 00
Of the Sunday School since June first	9.95
	$197.15

PARISH NOTES

WINTER SERVICES.—We begin as usual with this month all our winter services. The Sunday afternoon choral service without any sermon at 4 P. M., with second evening service with sermon at 7.45 P. M. The daily services at 10 A. M. and 5 P. M. And the Sunday-School, followed by the children's service, is changed to 2.30 P. M. The male and female Bible Classes recommence at 3 P. M.

ST. MARY'S GUILD holds its first business meeting of the season on on the second Tuesday of this month the (9th) at 8 P. M. in the Parish Building. It is hoped that all the members may be present to arrange plans for the winter. And there are quite a number of young women in the Parish who have been confirmed who have not yet joined this Guild, whom we trust will do so at this meeting. Any girl belonging to the Parish who is confirmed is entitled to be a member of the Guid; others not confirmed may be elected as a probationers after due nomination.

ST. JOHN'S GUILD.—This Guild, that has done so much for the young men of our Parish, began its Winter work October 1st. In addition to the athletics, for which the Guild has gained quite a reputation, it was decided to devote one evening every month to literary and social enjoyment. The Guild had as their guest Mr. D. L. Witmer, who has shown much interest in all branches of parochial work. He gave a very interesting talk, holding up the example of Joshua as the type of man for young men to follow. As a result of his earnest words, the Guild decided to take up some active work in the Church. Some were appointed to act as ushers at the services, attend to arranging the prayer-books and hymnals, and to act as servers at the Holy Eucharist services. The following officers were elected :

President, Albert Chalman.
Secretary, James Atkinson.
Treasurer, Boyd Burleigh.
Banner Bearer, Arthur Chalman.

Executive Committee: Albert Chalman, James Atkinson, Boyd Burleigh, W. Banks, Chester Martz. Rev. W. B. Gilpin, CHAIRMAN.

THE PARISH BUILDING looks much improved by the painting that has been done to it, and we hope all who frequent it will try and see how nicely they can keep it. What made it look so shabby was the result of carelessness or deliberate injury done by the boys and young men to whom it is so freely opened, whereas they ought to regard it as under their protection. The cost of the improvements is about $150, which will be an additional tax on our receipts this winter, but our committee on the care of the buildings thought it was a necessary expense they had to incur.

THE BENEVOLENT ENVELOPES for the Poor and the Sunday and Industrial Schools which have not yet been returned, should be filled up and returned this month, which is the end of the quarter. And it is upon these offerings that we depend to meet the needs of the poor of the Parish and to carry on the Friendly and Industrial Schools.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE WOMEN'S GUILD.—As SS. Simon and Jude's day, which is the anniversary of the Women's Guild, occurs this year on Sunday, the business meeting of the Guild will be held on the following

Monday immediately after the ten o'clock prayers All the women of Parish are urged to be present on this occasion, that they may know what is being done and should be done in the way of benevolent work in the Parish.

THE BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW.—There are dark days as well as bright days in all church work. Last year was a dark one for our chapter. But few men came forward to help in the work that a chapter is expected to do. We hope the coming year will be a bright one and the men of our congregation will come forward and offer themselves to do something to help along the good work that we propose to do.

At the first meeting of the chapter it was decided to undertake the publishing of THE ASCENSION NEWS. This is an important work, and its success will be assured if the members will help in the matter of getting advertisements and subscriptions.

It was also decided to have a Bible Class for Brotherhood men and their friends. This class will meet Sunday afternoons at 3 o'clock in one of the Parish rooms.

A hearty invitation is extended to all men of our Parish to attend the meetings of the Brotherhood, also to attend the Bible Class Sunday afternoons.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL. The first session of the Winter School, will begin October 7th at 2.30 P. M. in the school rooms.

We are looking forward to a bright and happy year with our children. What greater duty has the Church to preform than to brighten and instruct the lives of her children?

There is nothing in all the world that can make children happier and wiser, than to learn all that the Church has to tell them about the Loving Saviour. The old saying that a handful of good life is worth a whole bushel of learning is as true to-day as ever it was. There is the best authority in the world for the belief that although a child's head may be chock full of learning, it is of no value without a conscience behind it. Yet, what do we see about us but people insisting upon their children getting the best education, and not caring so much about the conscience being developed. The Sunday School is the Church's training school for the conscience, and all parents who love their children ought to be sure that they have the benefit of this training.

A year ago we asked our people to help us and help their children by sending them to our Sunday School. We repeat the wish now, for we feel sure that by coming the children will develop a deeper love for their Church and learn to value the help we try to give them.

We want our young men and women to realize the importance of this work and help us by taking classes in the School. The success of the School and its work depends in a great measure upon the teachers. Their personality plays an important part in the training of a child's mind. No one need shrink from the task because they do not think they know enough. If they have love for God in their hearts, the children will feel the power of their lives.

The system that has been adopted for the coming year makes the work of instruction very easy for the teacher. A teachers' meeting will be held Wednesday evenings at 8:30 to give help to any who may desire it.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PAPER.—There are few of the older people who look back upon their Sunday School days, do not remember the pleasure and help they once got from reading a paper that was given them from time to time. Many of us can recall some good stories we read, and have not forgotten some of the information we gained in regard to the work of the Church in the mission field. We would like our children to have the benefit of this information, and, therefore, suggest to some one who is interested in our children, and would like to see them take a greater interest in the work of the Church in distant lands as well as at home, that they help us to subscribe for the Sunday School papers.

The Shepherd's Arms is a very helpful little paper for children in the Primary class, and *The Young Christian Soldier* for the older children. We are sure these papers would make our children better and happier; and, therefore, we venture to suggest that some one who is interested in the children help us to subscribe for the papers. As a memorial to some one who has departed this life, nothing could be more fitting than a gift of this kind to the Sunday-School, especially to one has shown in his life one of the most beautiful of all human traits, a love for God's little ones, or some dear little one who has been taken away. About twenty-five dollars would be needed to meet this expense. The Curate will be glad to receive any contributions that may be devoted to this cause.

THE NEWS.—The following subscriptions have been received:

Rev. G. W. Hodge.	Miss Hopkins.
Mrs. Hodge.	Mr. W. C. Floyd.
Mr. Carroll Hodge.	Mrs. C. H. Darlington.

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The Ascension News

Vol. XIII. Philadelphia, November, 1900 No. 9

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Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.00 P. M.

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REV. WM. BERNARD GILPIN, *Curate*, 1416 Lombard St.

WARDENS.

T. EDWARD CARPENTER,
CHARLES E. BONNET.

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST.

WALTER ST. CLARE KNODLE.

SEXTON.

WM. J. MORGAN,
2022 St. Albans St.

Guild Meetings.

Monday, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, St. Mary's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, Ascension Cadets . . . . . 7.30 P. M.

Sunday School, 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent . . . . . THE CURATE
Asst. " . . . . . MR. H. B. HODGE
Librarian . . . . . MR. D. L. WITMER
Organist . . . . . MR. MORLEY

Industrial School.

Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

Bible Classes.

For Young Women . . . . . 3.00 P. M.
MRS. HODGE.
For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . 3.00 P. M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN.
For Men and St. Andrew's Brotherhood, 3.00 P. M.

For Boys and Ascension Cadets . . . . 2.30 P. M.
MISS BRINTON and MISS HODGE.

THE VALUE OF A CHURCH.

A great many people have very little appreciation of the real value of a church. They look upon it as if it was only a convenient place to hear preaching in. But that is a very small part of its use. In the first place, it is a *Monument*. That is, it answers the same purpose that is answered when men erect monuments to commemorate great events or persons. It is a witness to God of His existence and relation to us and our faith in Him. Every time we see a church we necessarily think of God and religion. So, though one never hears a sermon, the mere sight of a church preaches a sermon to him and keeps him mindful of the duties of religion.

Then, the church is a *Temple*, that is, a place where men go to worship God, to pay Him the reverence and honor which is His due. If there is a God, men certainly owe Him worship, and there should be fitting places where men can go to render it. This all men have felt, and all nations have had their temples. Then, the church is a *Palace*, a place where God holds His court, as it were. It sets forth the glory and dignity of God, and men go there with their petitions and wants, or to declare themselves His subjects and swear or renew their fidelity to Him.

Then, it is a *Home*, the one home of the universal Father, a place which every child of man should feel is his, no matter how poor, or lowly, or lonely he may be. Our religion teaches us that all who are baptized are the children of God and heirs of His kingdom. So His house is the home of all, where everyone has a right and a welcome—the one home that can never be taken from us. So all, and more than all, the sweet memories and associations which cling round our earthly homes should cluster round it, and no spot on earth be so dear to us.

Then, it is a *School*, a place all need to go to that they may learn the highest and most blessed truths we can learn anywhere, get the highest and most necessary education we can receive, the knowledge how to live that we may best enjoy this world and fit ourselves for the life that is to come. Far more needful than any secular education is the teaching of morals and virtue the church

The Ascension News.

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish.

EDITOR
Rev. G. Woolsey Hodge.

ASSISTANT EDITOR AND TREASURER
Rev. Wm. Bernard Gilpin, 1416 Lombard St.

PUBLISHING COMMITTEE
Ernest Chase, John C. Gaiser,
Wm. C. Morgan.

TERMS:
Single Copies, by Mail, 50 Cents a Year.

Kalendar.

Nov. 1. All Saints.
" 2. Friday, Fast.
" 4. Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity.
" 9. Friday, Fast.
" 11. Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity.
" 16. Friday, Fast.
" 18. Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity.
" 23. Friday, Fast.
" 25. Sunday next before Advent.
" 30. S. Andrew. Friday, Fast.

gives. And it is something we need to keep on learning all our life.

So, too, is the church a great *Benevolent Agency*. From it springs all the charitable and philanthropic associations and instrumentalities by which Christians try to ameliorate the sufferings and minister to the wants of their fellow beings. So every well-appointed church will have provision made for all such good works in every way it can.

Then, the Church is a great *Missionary Power*, to reach after and rescue those who else would never hear the Gospel, and who are lying in the darkness and wretchedness of ignorance of and alienation from God. Could any other work be so blessed and glorious, or more valuable to mankind?

These are some of the uses of a church beside simply that of a place where the Gospel is preached. And that a church may answer all these purposes, it should be as fully and properly appointed as possible. If a church is to be a monument, a temple and palace, it must not be mean and poor or hardly distinguishable from any other building. When men see it they should know at once that it is a church, and it should be of such proportions and beauty and richness as to be worthy of its purpose, and impress men with a sense of the majesty and greatness of Him to whose honor it is erected.

A greater effect can be produced upon the soul by the size and solemnity and richness of a church than by any words that could be uttered. So if it is to be the Home of all, no restrictions of any kind should be put upon anyone entering it or that would make one feel unwelcome or out of place in it. If it is to be an educational or benevolent or missionary centre, it should be fully furnished with all the necessary buildings and appliances that will enable it efficiently to carry on these works.

The great trouble with many of our churches, and the reason why they are so little effective, is because they are so poor and mean and ill appointed. We do not look in secular things to accomplish much if we have not efficient plants, nor can we expect it to be otherwise in spiritual things. So let us try to appreciate the value of a church. Compare it to any other institution, a school, a bank, a store, a manufactory, anything else, and who will dare say it is not far away the most valuable and necessary for a community? What good work can there be comparable with that of building or helping to build, or equipping, or supporting a church?

Let each see that he has some hand in it, and let us particularly see if we cannot make our own parish church just as perfect and well furnished and thoroughly provided for as it can be, in order that it may fully answer all its various purposes.

A HUMAN CALENDAR.

The calendar has become one of the necessary things of the day. There are all kinds of calendars. Some are beautiful art productions and useful ornaments. But what is a human calendar? It is both beautiful and useful, because it is made up of living persons. People want to do something to help their church meet its expenses without resorting to fairs or amateur theatricals to get money to carry on religious work. There are so many persons who dislike this worldly way of getting money that we are sure they will be glad to know something about the human calendar and the part they are to take in it. Everyone is familiar with the divisions of a year into months, weeks, days and hours.

One person becomes a year, and gets twelve persons to be the months.

Each month pays $1 for this privilege and gets four persons to be the weeks.

Each week pays 50 cents and gets seven persons to be the days.

Each day pays 25 cents and gets twenty-four persons to be the hours.

Each hour pays 10 cents.

Here the calendar ends for the year.

When each person has paid their share there is a goodly sum for the work of this parish.

It is not an endless chain, or, like the brook, something that goes on for ever. It stops with the hours.

Who is willing to be a month, pay one dollar and get four persons to give 50 cents each?

Who is willing to be a week, pay 50 cents and get seven persons to give 25 cents each?

Who is willing to be a day, pay 25 cents and get twenty-four persons to give 10 cents each?

Who is willing to be an hour and give 10 cents?

Let us set to work at once and have our calendar completed by the first of January, and we can call it the New Century Calendar.

We all want to be in it.

The Rev. W. Bernard Gilpin, has been appointed Secretary and Treasurer of the scheme.

A large calendar will be made and the name of every person will be placed upon the place they choose to take.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[This column will be devoted to answering questions. They may be placed in one of the boxes at the church door, or sent to the Assistant Editor.]

Was the Episcopal Church started by Henry VIII?

The Church of England is said, by some, to have first started at the time of Henry VIII. Cardinal Gibbon, in his work "The Faith of Our Fathers," makes this statement. The Roman Catholics and ultra-Protestants agree on this one point, if nothing else.

The facts are simply these. The Church of England was never closely united to the Church of Rome, and that attempts of the Popes to assume jurisdiction over the insular church met with protests and rebellion. As far back as 220 A. D., there were Christians in Britain, and S. Albans, the first British martyr, was executed by Diocletian. Three British Bishops attended the Council of Arles, A. D., 314. Wales and Cornwall remained Christian during the Saxon invasion.

The ancient British Church was almost, but not altogether extinct when, in 596, Augustine came to Britain as an apostle of Rome, and then the Roman influence began to show itself in the British Church, but Papal bulls were disregarded and appeals to the Pope were refused. The Synod of Cloveshoe, 747, asserted the complete independence of the British Church.

The highest point of supremacy attained by the Pope was when King John surrendered his kingdom to him and received it back to be held of the Pope on an annual rent. This was the act of a king and not the people.

The famous statute of *Provisors*, enacted in England in 1350, and the more famous statute of *Praemunire*, enacted 1389 and again in 1393, restricted the interference of the Pope in England. The Church of England was closely affiliated with the Roman Church at the time of Henry VIII, and it is a matter of opinion whether Henry separated from Rome or Rome separated from Henry. Certainly he did not found a Protestant church, he simply broke with the Pope and acted as his own pope, so to speak. The Church wiped off the corruptions that had come with the papal influence and continued, as we find it to-day, the pure branch of the Holy Catholic Church.

RECORD FOR OCTOBER.

Baptism	1
Marriages	2
Communicants added, new	1
By transfer	2
Removed	3
Communion of the sick	1

OFFERINGS.

For Current Expenses	$357 32
" the Poor	55 90
" " Floating Debt	5 20
" " Sunday and Industrial Schools,	1 20
" " Mortgage Debt	10 00
" General Missions	20
" Diocesan "	25
" Freedmen "	3 50
" Texas Relief Fund	8 10
At discretion of the Rector	25 00
Of the Sunday School	9 05
Total	$475 72

PRAYER FOR THE PARISH.

Almighty and Everlasting God, Who dost govern all things in heaven and earth, mercifully hear our prayers, and grant to this parish all things needful to its spiritual welfare. Strengthen and confirm the faithful; visit and relieve the sick; turn and soften the wicked; arouse the careless; recover the fallen; restore the penitent. Give to all our people the spirit of prayer, and send to us such help as Thou shalt see best for us in the carrying on the work which thou hast given us to do. Remove all hindrances to the advancement of Thy truth, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within the fold of Thy holy Church, to the honor and glory of Thy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ALL SAINTS' DAY.

One Feast, of Holy Days the crest,
I, though no Churchman, love to keep,
All Saints'—the unknown good that rest
In God's still memory folded deep,
The bravely dumb that did their deed
And scorned to blot it with a name,
Men of the plain, heroic breed
That loved Heaven's silence more than fame.

—*Lowell.*

PARISH NOTES.

The Benevolent Envelopes sent out this quarter with the regular envelopes for the support of this church are for "General Missions." This is the way in which the members of our parish are asked to contribute to the great work of extending our holy religion in this country and throughout the world. What is received through these envelopes is sent to the Board of Missions in New York, to be used at their discretion.

The Twentieth Anniversary of the Rev. G. Woolsey Hodge's entering on the rectorship of this church will occur on the last Sunday of this month. He will preach a sermon in the morning of that day commemorative of the event.

Holy Baptism administered at any week-day service, or on Sunday afternoons after the children's service, which is at 3 o'clock.

The Mothers' Meeting will begin November the Seventh. The Mothers, after the shortened Wednesday evening service, meet in the Parish Rooms. It is hoped that all the members will be present, and there will be some new members.

A choir is wanted for the Wednesday evening service. The Curate would be glad to receive the names of any of our young people, men or women, who would like to help with their voices at this service.

The ASCENSION NEWS is now published under the auspices of the Ascension Chapter of the Brotherhood. The NEWS comes forward in a new garment, so to speak, and wants to go into every home. Will you not show your appreciation of the NEWS and the Brotherhood's work by sending in your subscription?

You are asked to patronize those who advertise in our parish paper, and they who have anything to advertise are asked to try our paper. We will do all we can to help you, and hope you will try to help us.

The Ascension News

Vol. XIII. Philadelphia, December, 1900 No. 10

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The Ascension News.

The Church of the Ascension,

Broad, below South.

CLERGY.

REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE, *Rector*, 334 S. 13th St.
REV. WM. BERNARD GILPIN, *Curate*, 1416 Lombard St.

WARDENS.

T. EDWARD CARPENTER,
CHARLES E. BONNET.

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST.

WALTER ST. CLARE KNODLE.

SEXTON.

WM. J. MORGAN,
2022 St. Albans St.

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Thursdays, Ascension Cadets . . . . . 7.30 P. M.

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For Boys and Ascension Cadets . . . . 2.30 P. M.
MISS BRINTON and MISS HODGE.

TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RECTORSHIP.

On the 28th of November Mr. Hodge completed the twentieth year of his Rectorship of this Parish. On the following Sunday he preached a sermon commemorative of that event from the text: "Give account of thy stewardship."

He remarked that as all were responsible for the use they make of their time and talents in this world, so the conclusion of twenty years was a fitting time to review the work of our Parish. He then gave a brief sketch of it during that period. He pointed out in what a depleted condition it was in 1880 when he took charge of it, only thirty-two persons being reported in that year as on its communicant list and but $700 raised for all purposes. The property of the Parish consisted of the old two story church building on Lombard street above 11th street, which was very unattractive and in a very unfortunate neighborhood. In a little time, however, the building was considerably improved, a vested choir introduced with a weekly and holiday communion, daily service, etc. The seats were made free, and all the doors taken off the pews so as to do away with the pew idea. By May 1881, there were 140 communicants on the roll and $2766 had been raised during the year. From this time the improvement went on until, in May 1885, there were 240 communicants and $3379 was contributed. It was felt, however, that it would be impossible to do a large and permanent work among white people in that locality and in that building. Accordingly in the spring of 1885 an opportunity of selling the church to a colored congregation was embraced and the present lot on Broad street was purchased. Sufficient funds were procured to build the Parish Build-

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Kalendar.

December	2.	First Sunday in Advent.
"	7.	Friday, Fast.
"	9.	Second Sunday in Advent.
"	14.	Friday, Fast.
"	16.	Third Sunday in Advent.
"	21.	S. Thomas, Apostle.
"	23.	Fourth Sunday in Advent.
"	25.	Christmas Day.
"	26.	S. Stephen, Martyr.
"	27.	S. John, Evangelist.
"	28.	Holy Innocents.
"	30.	Sunday after Christmas.

ing and lay the foundations of the church. Services were held in the Parish Building a little over a year, during which time the main body of the church was erected, the chancel arch being boarded up and a temporary chancel arranged in the nave. During the winter of 1888 the chancel was built, at a cost of some $7000, and in 1890 the Roosevelt organ was put in and some other improvements made, costing over $5000. In addition to which various gifts have been made to the church from time to time as memorials, such as the stained glass windows, all of which were imported from England, the eagle lectern, the altar rail, chancel gates, stone pulpit, etc. The total cost of the land and buildings has been about $67,000, against which there still remains a debt of $13,000. The total amount raised during the twenty years as free will offerings has been $163,675.38. This sounds like a large sum, but when the amount paid for the building is taken out it leaves less than $5000 a year average income, which has supplied the entire services of two clergymen, the choir, sexton, etc., heating and lighting of the church and Parish Building, and all the charitable work of the Parish.

The spiritual work of the Parish during this period can be estimated by the following figures: 15,356 services have been held, 3374 celebrations of the Holy Communion, 4688 sermons, 604 baptisms, 509 persons confirmed, 135 marriages and 349 burials; 1029 names have been added to the list of communicants, of whom 535 are on to-day. From four to six services have been held every Sunday and two every day during most of the year, and sometimes three and four. A Sunday School and one Industrial School on Saturdays during the winter have been conducted, and various Guilds and other parish agencies. The new church has always been left open during each day for private devotions, and no seats or pews have ever been rented.

While, owing to the fact that there has been no improvement in the immediate neighborhood of the church since it was built, but on the contrary, a deterioration in the district south of it, there has not been as great a growth and as much financial strength secured as might have been desired, still a very substantial work has been done—a work which only a free church and one with frequent and bright services such as ours could have accomplished.

The Rector referred to the various changes in the membership of the vestry, of the congregation and in the Diocese which had occurred during his Rectorship. He expressed his obligations to the different assistant ministers he had had, and to those members of the congregation who had stood by him to support him during these years.

In conclusion, he urged the congregation to unite in the effort inaugurated by the vestry to signalize this anniversary by an effort to extinguish our debt. He pointed out that since 1885, we had paid out $18,314.74 in interest on our debt, and that if we could have had that whole sum at once we would not only have been free from debt all this time, but had $5000 over for our endowment fund from which we should have been receiving, instead of paying, interest. As long as a property is in debt it is not really owned; nor can a church be consecrated until it is entirely paid for, and until out of debt it will be always hard to support a free church; nor is its future secure, especially when we consider the constant fluctuations in the population and in the membership of the church itself. Let us see, therefore, if by the first of May next we cannot entirely remove this encumbrance; let all the members of the congregation do what they can themselves, and see what they can secure among their friends.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The interest shown by the children in their Sunday School is very encouraging. The attendance is much larger than last year and the offerings have been doubled. Last year the children gave $100 as their offering to Mission work, and we expect it will be much larger next Easter.

It is proposed this Advent to devote the offerings of the children to help poor afflicted Texas Diocese. The following letter has been received from our Bishop:

PHILADELPHIA, PA., Oct. 22, 1900.

Dear Sunday School Officers, Teachers and Scholars:

You all know what a terrible disaster has come upon the people of Texas. Churches, parish buildings, schools and dwelling houses have been swept away and others injured by the awful flood. Many Sunday School scholars and teachers and parents have been drowned, and many others have lost their homes and everything they had in the world. Shall we not help to replace the churches which have been damaged, so that the Sunday Schools may go on and the Gospel be preached to the poor throughout that great Diocese? Let us send our Advent Offering this year to Bishop Kinsolving for this purpose, and let us all work together to make it as large as we can.

Your affectionate Bishop,
O. W. WHITAKER.

Our children have been taught that by their baptism they became missionaries. We propose to make our Sunday School a Missionary Sunday School. No better time than this to show what we can do for those less fortunate than ourselves. We would be glad to have all who can, help us.

Christmas is universally associated with the receiving and giving of gifts. Last year every child in the Sunday School was made happy by receiving from "Santa Claus" a small present. We would like to repeat this happy experience this year, and ask our people to remember the children. The teachers will be glad to receive money or gifts, so that all the children may have something to take away with them after the Christmas Festival, which will be held as usual on the night of the Festival of Holy Innocents.

RECORD FOR NOVEMBER.

Marriages	5
Communicants added, by transfer	3
Removed	2
OFFERINGS.	
For current expenses	$317 35
" CHURCH DEBT	305 50
" the poor	6 00
" the Episcopal Hospital	26 27
" the Industrial School	3 20
" the Year Book	1 75
" Missions, diocesan	80
general	82
Of the Sunday School	10 01
Total	$671 70

To Subscribers.—A blue mark opposite to this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the *News* is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor.

The following subscriptions have been received:

Mrs. G. M. Dallas	Mrs. G. D. Parrish
Mrs. Carmen	Mrs. G. W. Biddle
Mrs. Rhein	Miss R. Bryson
Mrs. Alexander	Miss Lloyd
Mr. Ritchie	Mr. H. C. Kerr.

PARISH NOTES.

Extra Communion.—Beginning with the first Thursday in Advent, there will be a celebration of the Holy Communion on every Thursday at 9 a. m.

S. Mary's Guild.—Mrs. Van Harlingen having resigned the position of Superior of S. Mary's Guild after two years of earnest work on its behalf, Miss Isabel Anable has been appointed in her place. Quite an attractive programme has been arranged for the Tuesday evenings on which the Guild meets, and five new members were taken in at the November meeting.

Christmas.—There will be the usual additional celebrations on Christmas Day at 6.30, 7.30, and 8.30 a. m, and special offerings are asked to meet the interest on our mortgage, which falls due this month. We must not let the extra gifts for the extinguishment of the debt take away from our ordinary contributions to meet our current expenses.

Gifts.—The Rector was the recipient of a beautiful surplice, elaborately embroidered around the bottom and sleeves, also twenty large crysanthemums, in commemoration of the twenty years of his Rectorship. Twelve yards of serge were also presented to the Altar Committee for cassocks, and ten yards of linen for cottas.

Christmas.—There will be the additional celebration of the Holy Communion on Christmas Day at 6.30, 7.30, and 8.30, in addition to the mid-day, at which service the choir will sing St. Cecilia's Mass. Special offerings are asked for as usual to meet the interest on our mortgage due this month, and we hope the donations made for the debt will not diminish the regular Christmas offering.

Foot Ball.—The members of the St. John's Guild met the Lakewood second eleven on the grid-iron and defeated them to the tune of 10 to 5.

Although the game was most exciting, and some sensational end runs were made, and the line proved to be a stone wall to the Lakewood warriors, no one was injured. The boys showed by their good fielding and defensive work the benefit of their training in the gymnasium. The line of the team was as follows: Left end, I. Banks; left tackle, F. Dawson; left guard, W. McCann; center, T. Newman; right guard, E. Filler; right tackle, R. Hamilton; right end, M. Nealy; half-backs, G. Trainer, Boyd Burleigh, V. Magee; full back, Andrew Lindsey. Touchdowns, Burleigh, 1; McCann, 1; Lakewood, 1. Umpire, H. Hindermyer, Referee, T. Shelton. Linesmen, A. Chalman and J. Atkinson. The champions will play Lakewood first eleven Saturday, December 8, at 3.30 p. m., at Belmont Park.

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Vol. XIV. Philadelphia, January, 1901 No. 1

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WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (Choral) . . . . . 4.00 P. M.
" (with Address) . . . 7.45 P. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 5.00 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) . 8.00 P. M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.00 P. M.

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MISSIONS.

The season of the Epiphany upon which we enter this month should make all Christian people think of the missionary work of the Church. Christ commissioned His servants to go into all the world and make disciples of all creatures. It is to the fidelity of others in doing this that we owe the fact that we have been brought into the light and enjoy the blessings of the Christian religion. And if we appreciate it for ourselves and possess its spirit we will want to carry it to others.

The Church must always be missionary. She is not obeying our Lord's command if she is not. She must be always trying to reach and bless not only those about her, but stretching out her hands to those in heathen lands. And each Christian should have part in this work. All cannot personally be missionaries, though all should remember their responsibility to influence by word and example those about them. And all should contribute to the support and carrying on of missions, that thus they may have some share in this glorious work of trying to make the kingdoms of this world the kingdom of our God and of His Christ.

The Epiphany season is the usual time when the collections for missions are made in our churches. In this parish where we use the envelope system, a special envelope is sent out this quarter marked "General Missions." These envelopes may be put in the plate at any service, and their contents are sent to the Treasurer of the Board of Missions and are devoted to the carrying on of the general work of the Board.

In addition to this we have two representatives from this parish on each of the five committees of the Women's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions.

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Kalendar.

January 1. The Circumcision.
4. Friday, Fast.
6. The Epiphany.
11. Friday, Fast.
13. First Sunday after Epiphany.
18. Friday, Fast.
20. Second Sunday after Epiphany.
25. Conversion of S. Paul.
27 Third Sunday after Epiphany.

This society is intended to enable the women of the church to aid in the missionary work. Its special work is the making up of missionary boxes, which are so great a help to the poorly paid missionaries, paying the salaries of teachers in church schools, of nurses in hospitals, deaconesses, etc.

Different methods have been adopted by the delegates from this parish in making their collections. For some years each of them appealed either personally or by letter or postal card to all the female communicants of the parish for help in their special branch. Thus, for a couple of years, the treasurer of the parish branch sent out a printed letter from the rector setting forth the needs of the different missions, and asking each to state on an enclosed postal card the amount they were willing to contribute to each department of missions, sending the same to the Treasurer at their convenience. This plan did not seem to work very well, as the returns were less than formerly.

So this year the ladies of our parish branch have decided to adopt another plan, which is for the ten delegates to divide up the parish between them, and each apply to those members assigned to them, either personally or by letter as they may prefer, for contributions to the general work of the Society. Of course any persons desiring to do so can designate the particular branch of missionary work to which they wish their offerings to go. But if they are not designated they will be equally divided between the five branches, that is, the Foreign, Domestic, Freedmen, Indian and Diocesan Committees; or if any special appeals are presented at the regular monthly missionary meetings held on the first Friday of each month, the ladies present will vote appropriations to them as far as the money on hand will permit. This mode of collecting it is thought will bring in more money and be easier both for those collecting and for the people appealed to. But it will be necessary for all to remember that contributions are asked for *all* the departments of missionary work, not for only one. It will be one appeal for five missionary objects.

We hope very much that more of our ladies will attend the monthly missionary meetings. These are for the purpose of disseminating information and stirring up interest. The delegates from the parish attend the monthly meetings of the Diocesan committees held in the church house, where they learn the wants of the various missions, and then they come back to the parish and report and those present vote what money they have to give in response, or agree to make up missionary boxes, as the case may be. Let all try to take more interest in trying to do good. We are all too much absorbed in ourselves and our own interests and pleasure. The cases of need on the part of those trying to serve the Master's cause are often pitiful. And the least we, who stay at home, surrounded with every comfort and luxury, can do, is to try and soften the lot of those who at every sacrifice are carrying the standard of the Cross into heathen lands or into those parts of our own country where there is either not the ability or the disposition to support the Church. Believing that there is no other such source of peace and blessing and elevation for the world as in our holy religion, let each do all he can to hasten Christ's full Epiphany to all mankind.

A PRAYER FOR MISSIONS.

Father of mercies, who to Thine Apostle Saint Peter didst reveal in threefold vision Thy boundless compassion; forgive, we pray Thee, our unbelief, and so enlarge our hearts, and kindle our zeal, that we may fervently desire the salvation of all men, and, with more and more ready diligence labor in the extension of Thy kingdom for His sake who gave Himself for the life of the world, Thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

The very soul of our religion is missionary, progressive and *world-embracing*; it would cease to exist if it ceased to be missionary, if it disregarded the parting words of its Founder. That Church is dead that is not anxious to preach the Gospel to every creature.—*Selected.*

PRAYER-BOOK HABITS.

It is sometimes asked, Why do we have so many services during the week? Why does the church bell ring so often? The answer is that the Prayer-Book provides for Daily Morning and Evening Prayer. These are not Sunday Services only but Daily Services, to be said every day. At these Daily Services the Psalms are read through every month, and the Old and New Testaments every year, and on Wednesdays and Fridays, which are specially appointed Fast Days, the Litany must be added to the Morning Prayer. Again, there is a Collect, Epistle and Gospel, for every Sunday, which points to a weekly celebration of the Holy Communion, and there is a special provision for a Communion Service during the week. Moreover, each Holy Day has its Epistle and Gospel for the Celebration on that Holy Day. So that the Prayer-Book clearly provides not only for Daily Morning and Evening Prayer in the Church, but also for Weekly and Saints' Day Celebrations of the Holy Eucharist.

But an objection is often made. Suppose only one or two persons attend these Weekly Services, is it worth while to open the church, and take so much of a clergyman's time? It is indeed a pity, a great pity, that people should think of their church only on Sunday. We are to learn in this world to be prepared for the continual worship of God in the next, and these Daily Services should be part of our preparation for heaven. It is a pity that more of our people do not make the effort and come to one at least of these Daily Services. The attendance will surely bring its blessing. But it is part of the Priest's duty to intercede and pray for his people. What they will not or cannot do he must do for them. As the clergyman stands or kneels in the chancel it is not for himself alone, or for those who are present. He is there to pray and to plead for the absent, for the sick, and those at work who cannot come, and for the lazy and careless who will not come. The Daily

Services and the frequent Eucharists are part of the Priest's work for his people. They are as important as his preaching, his teaching and his visits. There he is asking God to soften the hearts to whom he ministers. There he is winning blessings for those who scorn or ignore his efforts.

RECORD FOR DECEMBER.

Baptisms	3
Communicants added:	
New	1
By transfer	3
Removed	2
Died	1
Communions of the sick	1
Burials	1

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses, including Christmas offerings	$ 828 18
For the debt	170 62
" poor	8 98
" Christmas festival	17 12
" General Missions	1 60
" schools	1 50
Of the Sunday-schools	22 98
	$1050 98

To Subscribers.—A blue mark opposite to this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the *News* is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor.

The following subscriptions have been received :

Mrs. Waterall, Mrs. Andrews, Mrs. Hiller, Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Allen, Miss Schell, Miss Perry, Mr. Thomas Robb, Mr. Thomas Neilson, Mr. Beers, Mr. Goodridge, Miss Butler, Miss Chamberlaine, Mr. Walter Cox, Miss M. Wurts, Miss M. H. White, Miss Agnes Haynes, Miss C. W. Hare and Mrs. Jensen.

PARISH NOTES.

Gifts to the Church.—Thirty copies of Hutchins Psalter for the choir. A linen baptismal napkin embroidered. The repairing and setting of the Christmas Rood screen. 6 Bottles Dexertive for Industrial School.

The Christmas Entertainment for the children was very successful in spite of the short time to make the necessary preparations. The tableaux were beautiful and impressive. The first tableaux illustrated the carol "Ring Out the Bells for Christmas," Misses May Moreland, Jennie Lindsey, Carrie Wagner and Edith Stevenson. II. The shepherds illustrating the carol "Noel, Noel!" Richard Stevenson, John Strong, Robert Lindsey and Clarence Martz. III. The three kings, illustrating the carol, "We, three kings from Orient are!" George Jack, Franklin Brunt and Irving Conger. IV. The stable scene illustrating the carol, "Sing, oh sing, this happy morn." In addition to the shepherds and wise men there was a chorus of angels around the "manger," Lizzie McCracken, Annie Kirkpatrick, Mamie Boggs, Katie McClay, Martha Smythe, Carrie Moore, Mabel Walker and Annie Carpenter, who were assisted by a number of the girls of the Sunday School and Mr. Redamayne, who accompanied the carols on the violin. The children were treated to a novelty in the way of a Christmas tree that seemed to light up of itself, as a little boy said. The tree was decorated with small red, white and blue electric lamps by Mr. Carroll Hodge and Mr. Richard Gilpin. Each child received a small present and a box of candies.

The Advent Offering of the Sunday School which is to be devoted this year to aid the Texas sufferers, amounted to $12.40, and this together with $7.60, the offering of Mrs. Hodge's Bible Class, makes a total of $20 contributed by our children to help the unfortunate diocese.

St. John's Guild.—The annual meeting of the Guild was held on St. John's day. The following officers were elected for the coming year: *President*, William Perry; *Vice-President*, Miss M. J. Gilpin: *Secretary*, James H. Atkinson; *Treasurer*, Boyd Burleigh; *Banner Bearer*, William McCann. The Executive Committee has not yet been appointed by the President.

The Human Calendar like most things that are human, is slow of growth. The undertaking to get an individual to represent some part of a year—a month, week, day or hour, is much larger than one would suppose. But when we remember that we have the whole year before us, and we are working to clear away the debt before the year is over, we should not feel discouraged at this stage of the proceedings.

It has been proposed that a card be printed for the different days with the twenty-four hours upon it, on the principle that if we take care of the hours the days, weeks and months will take care of themselves.

We feel sure that there will be many opportunities for people to fill up their cards, if not now, certainly during the summer months when people like to take up something of this kind to interest them and their friends.

Will you be one of the 365 persons who will be a day and during the year try to get twenty-four persons to give 10 cents? If you are willing to do this for your church you will be doing something that will help very materially to rid us of the debt. If you think this is too little to do and you would like to do more, we will give you another card with seven days upon it. Each day is to pay 25 cents.

These cards can be had from the clergy or the sexton, and will be sent to any address upon application to the treasurer.

REV. W. B. GILPIN,
Church of the Ascension.

The following letter has been received by the ladies in charge of the missionary box:

MY DEAR MRS. GILPIN:—The box was received and opened on Saturday afternoon, and each of the admirable gifts was examined and accepted as just exactly the thing. Every article of apparel was just right, only I have not yet tried on my share, as I am still suffering from the grippe, and we thought it best not to risk more cold and perhaps an interruption of my services, but the measures were all correct. But, my dear madame, there was one large addition to what you so kindly informed me would be sent, which addition touched my wife very much. "Oh," she said, "the clothing and the sheets and other things are worth more, of course, but that the ladies of the Church of the Ascension should have thought of all these little articles!—just the difference as they know between absolute need and enjoyment—they were so thoughtful!"

There was no need to say a word about the magazines, which were put in, for most of them I had not seen, which also contained many valuable articles. Shall I add our gratification for the beautiful pictures?

And now, my dear madam, this is a very poor and empty way of saying thanks, indeed, and many fervent prayers that you all may be blessed and prosperous for so thorough a fulfillment of the stewardship given to your branch of the Auxiliary. But how can I express it better? After long thought and delay till I was ashamed of myself, I can only send you this, and only wish I could speak it to you—the paper is so pale and the writing so thin and meagre.

But, indeed, we are most deeply thankful to you and to the Giver of all good gifts.

I am ever sincerely yours in the faith.

The Ascension News

Vol. XIV. Philadelphia, February, 1901 No. 2

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON 10.30 A. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

Evensong.

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" (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P. M.
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The Church of the Ascension.

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MISS BRINTON and MISS HODGE.

CONFIRMATION.

The time for the annual Confirmation is drawing near, and we hope that all those in the parish who are old enough to receive it and have not done so as yet will consider the duty of presenting themselves at this time.

All who have seen a Confirmation know that it consists in the laying on of the hands of the Bishop, and its purpose is to invoke on the head of the recipient the grace of God to enable that person to live a Christian life. And we believe that when it is received with the right disposition that grace is given so that the person is confirmed or strengthened to keep the vows of his baptism which he takes upon himself at that time. When one is a child he is of course guided and governed by his parents, guardians or teachers. But when he becomes old enough to understand for himself the difference between right and wrong, good and evil, and to direct and govern himself, then he ought solemnly to undertake to do what is right of his own accord, and Confirmation ought to be administered just at that time in order to settle and confirm him in the right way. Or if through neglect or wrongdoing one is not Confirmed just at the period of life the Church intends it should be received, then at any time or any age when one has the opportunity it should be received as a blessing and a help to enable one to do what he is obligated to do and which will be of the greatest advantage to him.

Some are deterred from receiving it from a fear that they cannot live up to the profession which it requires them to make. But they should remember that every Christian is morally bound to do all that he undertakes when he is Con-

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Kalendar.

February 1. Friday, Fast.
2. Purification B. V. M.
3. Septuagesima.
8. Friday, Fast.
10. Sexagesima.
15. Friday, Fast.
17. Quinquagesima.
20. Ash Wednesday.
24. First Sunday in Lent.
All days in Lent are Fasts.

firmed whether he is Confirmed or not. The difference between one who is Confirmed and one who is not, is that the one acknowledges his obligation and declares himself determined to try to fulfil it and seeks God's help to enable him to do so, and the other makes no effort to do what he knows he ought to do.

The preparation that is necessary for Confirmation is first an intellectual one, the candidate must understand thoroughly what are the principles and teachings of the Church and the requirements of the Christian life. And secondly, he must be spiritually prepared by seeing that his heart and life are in accordance with the teachings of our religion and that he honestly intends to lead a Christian life.

To asisst in this preparation those in this Parish who propose to present themselves this year, the Rector will give a series of instructions every Saturday evening at 8 o'clock in the Guild room in the Parish building beginning with Saturday, Feb. 9th, and continuing each Saturday until the Confirmation which is to take place on the evening of Wednesday, March 20th.

The Rector trusts that every one in the Parish, whether old or young, who has not yet been confirmed will at once serously consider his duty in the matter and attend these instructions. Those already Confirmed are invited to attend them as well if they would like to do so.

MR. CHARLES E. BONNET.

We have the sad duty of announcing the death of our Accounting Warden, Mr. Charles E. Bonnet which occurred at his residence, 606 North 11th St., on January 21st. Mr. Bonnet had been in delicate health for some time, and last October had an illness which necessitated his giving up all work except his duties as Warden, to which he held on to the last. For a time he seemed to improve but on Friday, January 19th he suffered a relapse from which he never regained consciousness until his death on the following Monday.

Mr. Bonnet was born April 1, 1840, at Nismes, in the south of France. He was brought to this country by his father when only ten years of age. His youth was passed in New York. He subsequently removed to this city and engaged in the manufacture of picture frames and mirrors. In early life he connected himself with the Methodist denomination, taking an active part in its work, teaching a Bible class of young men, etc. He was subsequently drawn to the Episcopal Church and became a member of our Parish, he and each member of his family being Confirmed in 1886. In the following year he was elected a Vestryman, and in 1896 the Accounting Church Warden, in which capacity he has served continuously ever since. He was so attached to the church that when he removed from Lombard street, above Broad, where he had been living, to the northern part of the city, he still continued his connection with it, attending the services as regularly as the state of his health permitted. He made a particular point of coming during the summer months and on Sunday afternoons during the winter when he thought he would be more needed. He was most faithful in the discharge of his duties, taking a pleasure in being of service to the church. He was a man of very gentle and retiring disposition, but his bright smile and cordial greeting were a benediction to all with whom he came in contact.

Immediately on his death the Rector called a special meeting of the Vestry when the following Preamble and Resolutions were adopted.

Whereas it has pleased Almighty God to take out of this world the soul of Charles E. Bonnet, for thirteen years a member of this Vestry and for almost five years Accounting Warden of the Parish, therefore,

Resolved, that we place on record our sense of the loss the Parish has sustained by his death. He was devotedly attached to it, continuing his connection with it many years after his removal from its neighborhood. He was most faithful in the discharge of his duties, being ready and willing to serve the church in any way in his power. He was a man of strict integrity, of an unassuming piety, and of a most gentle and amiable disposition.

Resolved, that we extend to the immediate members of his family our deep sympathy in their bereavment, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to them and printed in our Parish paper, and that we attend his funeral in a body.

The funeral was held in the church on Thursday the 24th, five members of the Vestry acting as pall bearers. The Rector went with the body to West Laurel Hill Cemetery where the interment took place.

May he rest in peace and may light perpetual shine upon him.

QUIET DAY AND CONFERENCE.

A Quiet Day for Churchwomen will be held on Thursday, February 28th, in St. James's Church, Walnut and Twenty-second Streets, to be conducted by the Very Rev. Wilford Lash Robbins, D. D, Dean of All Saints' Cathedral, Albany, services beginning with the celebration of the Holy Communion at 7.30 A. M., Matins at 9, second celebration at 9 30, followed by addresses and Meditations. 3 P. M, Afternoon Service, 5. P. M., Evensong.

A Conference of Churchwomen will be held in Holy Trinity Parish House, Twentieth Street, below Walnut, on the following day. Sessions at 10.30 A. M. and 3 P. M. Topics, "The Influence of Environment," Mrs. E. A. Bradley, of N. Y.; "Our Responsibility for the Use of Words," Miss Lucy Jarvis, of Conn.; "The Value of Time," Miss Mary W. Triplett, of Mo.; "What can Churchwomen do to Promote the Due Observance of the Lord's Day." Mrs. McIlvaine, of Delaware.

RECORD FOR JANUARY.

Baptism	1
Communicants added :	
By transfer	2
Removed	1
Died	1
Burial	1

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$320 57
" the debt	06
" "poor	8 98
" "Domestic Missions	2 00
" "Freedmen "	2 50
" "General "	7 20
" "schools	2 00
Of the Sunday-school	9 25
	$352 06

To Subscribers.—A blue mark opposite to this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the *News* is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged.

The following subscriptions have been received :

Mr. W. P. Pepper, Mrs. J. C. Bonsach, Mrs. Willens, Mrs. H. C. Pollock, Mrs. William Jordan, Mrs. Anable, Mrs. Minshall, Miss T. G. Harper, Miss M. W. Harper, Miss Parmelee, Miss N. L. Bloomer, Miss M. Menah, Miss M. McElhenny, Mr. H. L. Kelley.

PARISH NOTES.

Our Curate.—The Rev. William B. Gilpin has gone on a trip abroad for some three months. The opportunity coming to him to do so, the Rector did not want to stand in the way of his going, knowing what an advantage it would be to him, though it is a considerable inconvenience to have him go away at so busy a time of the year. We have no doubt, however, that he will make up for it on his return, by his work, especially during the summer. While he is away the Rev. George W. Read formerly one of our Bible class teachers, will assist the Rector on Sundays, while Rev. Mr. de Gama is doing the same on the week days. All the services will be continued just the same as if Mr. Gilpin was here.

Accounting Warden.—Owing to the inability of Mr. Bonnet to discharge his duties as Warden, Mr. W. Moore Wharton was appointed at a special meeting of the Vestry held Thursday, January 20th, to act in his place, and at a subsequent meeting held after Mr. Bonnet's death he was duly elected Accounting Church Warden. Mr. D. L. Witmer was elected a member of the Vestry to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Bonnet's death.

Diocesan Missions.—The special benevolent envelope sent out with the regular envelopes this quarter is for diocesan missions, that is for the extension and strengthening of the church in the weaker parts of the diocese. For this purpose this parish is expected to contribute this year $156.87. This amount should be made up by the offerings received in these envelopes. The cause of these missions will be presented to the congregation by Mr. G. Harry Davis, of Germantown, on the morning of Sunday, February 10th, being especially sent here by the Board of Missions for the purpose. All the offerings on the following Sunday morning, outside of the regular envelopes for the support of the church, will be given to this fund.

Lent.—As always we shall have the boys of the choir at the daily afternoon service during Lent, and there will be a special lecture on Friday afternoons with a collection. We do trust our people will all make it a rule to attend one daily service during Lent and in their own parish church. Many people nowadays go to the brief noonday services held in St. Stephen's and St. Paul's churches and do not go to their own churches at all. But that is where they belong and where we think they will get the most good. Let those who can, too, come to the Thursday morning communions at 9 o'clock.

St. John's Guild will hold their regular winter sports exhibition in the Parish Building on the evening of February 11th, at 8 o'clock. The events will include high jump, potato race, Indian club race, three legged race, bag punching exhibition, pie eating contest ,sack race, etc. Admission ten cents. For the benefit of the Guild.

Gift to the Church.—A pair of handsome glass altar cruets has been presented to the church to take the place of a pair which has been in use for some years, one of which was recently broken.

The human calendar for the payment of our debt has been hung up in the vestibule of the church. Every vacant space in it should be filled up with a name. Send the name with the money to Miss Elizabeth Gilpin, 1416 Lombard street, or give it to the sexton. This is a way in which every one can contribute to the reduction of the debt, 10 cents, 25 cents, 50 cents or $1, and if all the spaces are taken nearly $1000 will be received.

A FEW REMINDERS.

Some of our people seem to have rather peculiar clocks in their homes on Sundays. They apparently run slower on these days than during the rest of the week, and their owners are apt to arrive behind time at the Church services. This careless habit appears to be growing, and sometimes it displays itself among fully one half of our attendants. Might not an effort to correct this undesirable custom be included among the resolves of the new year?

When people enter the Church during the Prayers, and especially while the Priest is announcing the Absolution, will they not endeavor to remember that the Prayer Book directs that the people should *kneel* at such times, and that, during the saying of the latter, the Priest *alone* is to be *standing*? A little thought on this subject will prevent persons entering the church and going up the aisles while the clergyman is repeating this solemn declaration of God's merciful pardon to "those who truly repent and unfeignedly believe his Holy Gospel."

Sometimes there is an unseemly haste to put on outside wraps manifested by members of the congregation during the singing of the Retrocessional Hymn, and before the last collect in the choir room.

This is something that should not be indulged in. It is certainly done through thoughtlessness. The *extra time* that is thus gained is certainly not equalized by the unnecessary confusion caused by such actions, and the apparent irreverence with which the concluding portion of God's worship is thus treated. The concluding Prayer with the Choir, after the last hymn, should find the members of the congregation upon their knees.

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Vol. XIV. Philadelphia, March, 1901 No. 3

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LETTER FROM THE CURATE.

We are sure our readers will be interested in the following letter recently received by the Rector from the Curate, giving an account of his travels:

"ALGIERS, 5th Feb., 1901.

"*My Dear Mr. Hodge:* I have been living for the past two weeks in a state that is difficult to describe. Two weeks ago we landed at Gibraltar, and since then we have been going from place to place seeing what we could in Spain. The beauty of Grenada, that splendid mosque at Cordova, the grand cathedral at Seville, then leaving Cadiz, arriving at Tangier and finding ourselves in a place that has not moved for hundreds of years, where a wagon is something that has never been seen by the natives—possibly the most primitive and Oriental place in the world. Now we are in Algiers. That is a miniature Paris, with the Arab town hidden away somewhere inside. The place has everything in the way of natural scenery and climate to make it attractive, but it lacks what we hoped to find—the native life.

"I suppose you wonder what all this has to do with the state referred to; but it has a good deal, because I do not suppose for a moment that I forget you and your work, and wonder what you are all doing, and whether my being here does make much difference. I have not heard a word from home, and do not expect to before the middle of the month, when we expect to be in Naples. I can see now that this trip is going to be of great advantage to me personally, as I have already seen so much that I had hardly dreamt of. The religious extravagancies in the cathedrals and churches of Spain; the decadence of

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Kalendar.

March 1. Ember day.
2. " "
3. Second Sunday in Lent.
10. Third " " "
17. Fourth " " "
24. Passion Sunday.
25. Annunciation B. V. M.
31. Palm Sunday.
All days in Lent are Fasts.

the Mohamedan religion as shown in the life of the Moors and Arabs of to-day.

"Yesterday we visited the Trappist monastry near here, where the monks spend all their time iu trying to save their own souls and making wine for the purpose of making money, if not to send the souls of others to pertition.

"We leave here Saturday for Constantine, and then go to Tunis, Malta, Sicilly and Naples. We expect to be in Rome by Ash Wednesday, if not before.

"Last Sunday reminded me of home more than anything else. It was a beautiful day—nearly like our Easter days, only flowers were blooming in the gardens and the soft wind and blue sky made a bright Sunday. I went to the celebration at 8, and felt in the Divine Presence a closeness to all I knew were offering the same sacrifice far away. I assisted the Canon at the 10.30 service, which was much like ours, only that the Communion service was a distinct service after morning prayers, another collection being taken. I think it would be well if we could teach all our people that the alms offered at the Communion are different from those at the other services. I assisted at the celebration. In the afternoon at 3 there was the evensong, which was well attended. The Litany was sung in addition to evening prayer. I preached a short sermon, tried to say something nice about the Queen, etc.

"Yesterday I visited the Trappist monastery, and to-day we go to Notre Dame d'Afrique, where there is a black Virgin. I think there are more than one, but the people here think this is the only one.

"There is so much I want to ask about the Ascension that I hardly know where to begin, and you might feel called upon to answer a multitude of questions that if left to themselves would doubtless solve themselves.

"I want to write a letter to the children of the Sunday School, so that they can have it the Sunday before Lent. I want to urge them to make a fine offertory for the service.

"I hope and pray that all is going well, that you are not finding that the work comes too heavy upon you, and that the assistance you have so far exceeds any that I was able to give, and that all goes well.

"With my kindest regards to Mrs. Hodge and your daughters, and best love to all the children in the Sunday School, believe me, as ever,

"Faithfully yours,

"WM. BERNARD GILPIN."

LENT.

We are passing through the great annual season of spiritual revival the church regularly provides for the improvement and cultivation of our spiritual life. Shall it be a profitable thing for us, or shall it be a mere form, or shall we neglect it altogether?

There can be no doubt that we all need it. We are all apt to become careless, forgetful, neglectful of our religious duties. We are all apt to become cold, and luke warm and indifferent, to allow the interests and pleasures of life to get a too absorbing hold upon our thoughts and affections and so sacrifice our higher interests to them, or to contract habits of sloth and indolence or perhaps indulge more and more in what we know to be wrong and injurious. So we all need a special call to arouse us out of this state and incite us to make a new start and put ourselves under some definite discipline to correct what has become amiss in us. If we use Lent for this purpose it will prove most beneficial to us.

So too its call to attend special services, to more frequent church going, week days as well as Sundays, will have a softening and solemnizing influence on us. The fact of making a practice of going to church and the sweet and tender associations which are connected with it cannot but affect us, making us realize that there is something else for us to think about and attend to than merely the pleasures and occupations of life. Oh, that we might all learn therefrom to connect our religion more with our daily life than we do, to try to bring those holy influences more and more to bear upon us at all times.

But at least let us all resolve to be strict in the observance of Lent. It is something the church *requires* of us. Knowing from her vast experience in dealing with human nature what is best for all, she appoints this season to be observed for prayer and fasting and doing of good deeds, for more frequent and earnest religious exercises, for the infliction of some kind of self discipline as each may need it and can adapt it to his own condition, and to the performance of such charitable acts or alms deeds as we may be moved to make. Our discipline may well largely take this form that what we save from indulgence and extravagant expenditures we may have to give to the maintenance of the church, the extension of its work on earth or the aleviation of human want or suffering. The field for the performance of such work is boundless. The cry goes up everywhere that the church cannot do the work it might for lack of funds. Let us see if by some self denial we may not be able to have more to give away. It is the best use to which we can put our money, and if it requires sacrifice on our part to give, we ourselves will be blessed by the act as well as the recipients of our bounty.

Remember these purposes of Lent, discipline, prayer, charity. Try to fulfil each of them as far as we can and we shall find it a blessed season, full of the highest good to us, something that may benefit all our future lives and make us as well a blessing unto others.

—o—

PARISH NOTES.

Confirmation will be administered in the Church on the third Wednesday evening of this month, March 20th, at 8 o'clock, by the Rt. Rev. Leighton Coleman, D.D., Bishop of Delaware, acting for the Bishop of the Diocese. Confirmation instructions are given every Saturday evening, at 8 P. M., in the Guild room in the Parish building.

RECORD FOR FEBRUARY.

Baptisms	4
Communicants added :	
By transfer	4
Removed	4
Communion of the sick	1
Burials	1

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$346 58
" the poor	4 00
" " debt	1 50
" " schools	1 00
" " General Missions	3 50
" " Diocesan "	43 66
" " Foreign "	6 00
" " Domestic "	5 00
For the Clergy relief fund	10 00
Of the schools	9 10
Total	$430 34

To Subscribers.—A blue mark opposite to this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the News is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the Manager.

The following subscriptions have been received :

Mrs. Grosholz, Miss McKnight, Miss Goodman, Miss Vogdes, Mrs. Gilfillan, Mr. David Rea, Mrs. Wadlow, Mrs. Tait, Miss Sarah Wilson, 2 yrs.; Miss Barington, Mrs. Echert, 2 yrs.; Miss Means, Miss Larzalere, 2 yrs.; Mr. Walter Newman, Miss E. Casey, Mr. and Mrs. Reese, Mr. F. Roberts, Miss Dickerson, Mr. Cope, Miss Annie O'Hara, Mrs. M. H. Barrett, Miss Revell, Miss Pierce, Miss McCauley,

PARISH NOTES.

Diocesan Missions were ably advocated by Mr. G. Harry Davis in the Church on the morning of February 10th, and the offerings on the Sunday following, outside the regular envelopes for the support of the Church, were devoted to this object. Not half, however, of the $156.87 asked from this Parish for this purpose has been so far received. Will not each one in the Parish contribute something through the envelope marked Diocesan Missions, which all using the envelopes have received and which can be found in the rack near the door of the Church. It is sad to hear of the work of the Church being crippled through lack of funds, when if all our Church people should give proportionately to their means so much more could be done.

Lenten work. The Ladies Aid are engaged during Lent in making up garments for the Day nursery on Lombard St., above 15th St., in this city. Children are brought to these nurseries in a very dirty condition frequently, and without sufficient clothing, and it is very necessary that there should be a supply of simple and clean garments to put on them. The Aid meets every Thursday at 3 P. M. in the Parish building and will be glad to have any ladies join with them. The members of S. Mary's Guild are also working for the same object.

The Human Calendar. The Rector called the attention of the congregation at the beginning of Lent to the chart of this calendar, which has been hung up in the vestibule, expressing the hope that every space in it would be filled with a name and the accompanying contribution handed in before Easter that we may be able to reduce our debt by at least $1000. By this means contributions of *any amount* may be made towards the debt and it is much better way of contributing to church purposes than by buying tickets for an entertainment, which we hope to avoid this year. Names and contributions may be given to Miss S. E. Gilpin, Treasurer, or handed to the Rector or Verger.

Holy Week. As the next issue of the News will not be out before Easter Eve we announce now that our services during Holy Week will be the same as in former years, daily Holy Communion at 7½ A. M. and at 10 A. M. except on Good Friday when the mid-day service will begin at 11. A. M. and consist of

Morning Prayer and the Litany followed by the singing of the Reproaches and preaching of the Cross from 12 to 3 P. M. There will be also daily Evening Prayer at 5 P. M. and a sermon on the Passion each night at 8 P. M.

On Easter day there will be celebrations of the Holy Communion at 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 and 11.30 A. M.

—o—

THE CHOIR.

The music to be rendered by the choir for the month of March is as follows :

MARCH 3D. 10.30.

Benedicite . . . . . Lloyd
Communion Service in E flat, Cruickshank

4 P. M.

Magnificat, Nunc Dimittis } in D. Beethold Tours
Anthem.—Seek ye the Lord, J. V. Roberts
(Tenor Solo and Chorus.)

MARCH 10TH. 10.30.

Benedicite . . . . . Lloyd
Communion Service in E flat, Cruickshank

4 P. M.

Magnificat, Nunc Dimittis } in E flat . . . West
Anthem—Incline Thine Ear . Himmel

MARCH 17TH. 10.30.

Benedicite . . . . . Lloyd
Communion Service in G, Sir John Stainer

4 P. M.

Magnificat, Nunc Dimittis } in G . . . S. S. Wesley
Anthem—Come Unto Me . Trowbridge
(Tenor Solo.)

MARCH 24TH. 10.30.

Benedicite . . . . . Lloyd
Communion Service in A . Dr. Garrett

4 P. M.

Magnificat, Nunc Dimittis } in E flat . Kimmens
Baritone Solo—It is Enough, Mendelssohn
(Elijah.)

MARCH 31ST (Palm Sunday).

10.30.

Benedicite . . . . . Lloyd
Communion Service in A . Dr. Garrett

4 P. M.

Magnificat, Nunc Dimittis } in B flat, Sir John Stainer
Anthem—Hear My Prayer, Mendelssohnn
(Soprano Solo and Chorus.)

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat, Nunc Dimittis } in E flat . . . West
Baritone Solo—The Palms . . . Faure

"The Story of the Cross," a sacred cantata by Dudley Buck, will be sung on the evening of Good Friday at 8 o'clock.

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The Ascension News

VOL. XIV. PHILADELPHIA, APRIL, 1901 NO. 4

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HOLY DAYS . . . . . 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON 10.30 A.M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (Choral) . . . . . 4.00 P. M.
" (with Sermon) . . . . 7.45 P. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 5.00 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) . . 8.00 P. M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.00 P. M.

All the Seats are Free at all Services. **God's House is open to all His Children.**

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CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

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SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, St. Mary's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Ascension Cadets . . . . . 7.30 P.M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Brotherhood of St. Andrew . Second Monday, 8.00 P.M.
Missionary Society . . . . . First Friday, 10.30 A.M.
Mothers' Meeting . . . . . Wednesday, 8.00 P.M.
Embroidery Class . . . . . Thursdays, 10.30 A.M.
Ladies' Aid . . . . . Thursdays, 3.00 P.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.30 P.M.

Superintendent . . . . . THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent . . . . MR. D. L. WITMER
Secretary . . . . . MR. MARTIN LESCURE
Librarian . . . . . MR. REDMAYNE
Organist . . . . . MR. FRANK C. MORLEY

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women . . . . . 3.00 P.M
MRS HODGE

For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN

For Men and St. Andrew's Brotherhood . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS MARY NEILSON

For Boys and Ascension Cadets . . . . . 2.30 P.M.
MISS BRINTON and MISS HODGE

THE PARISH

WE cannot too often or too earnestly urge upon all Christian people to have a definite parochial connection. That is, to feel that they belong to some particular church, which is their Parish, their spiritual home; where they know personally the clergyman and he knows them; where they have their interest and their duties and to which they are attached.

The clergy are constantly coming across people who are baptized and confirmed members of the Episcopal Church, but who do not belong to any particular Church, who go about from one to another occasionally, and who do not know, and are not known or visited by, any clergyman. And worse still, there are those who do not belong to any denomination of Christians, but attend the service of one or another as fancy may take them. But that state of things is very bad for the persons concerned, for they do not have any home feeling or affection for any Church; they do not realize that they have any duties towards the Church; they do little or nothing for its support or the carrying on of its charities; they have no one to look after them and their families and follow them up if they are careless or neglectful of their duties, or minister to them if they are sick or in trouble or affliction. And it is very bad for the Church. It does not have the support and interest of those whom it has a right to count on for its maintenance. It is weakened and discouraged and its work hindered by this

THE ASCENSION NEWS

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
1416 Lombard Street

PUBLISHING COMMITTEE
ERNEST CHASE JOHN C. GAISER
WM. J. MORGAN

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KALENDAR

April 1. Monday before Easter.
2. Tuesday before Easter.
3. Wednesday before Easter.
4. Maundy Thursday.
5. Good Friday.
6. Easter Even.
7. Easter Day.
8. Monday in Easter Week.
9. Tuesday in Easter Week.
12. Friday—Fast.
14. Low Sunday.
19. Friday—Fast.
21. Second Sunday after Easter.
25. S. Mark's Day.
26. Friday—Fast.
28. Third Sunday after Easter.

RECORD FOR MARCH

Baptisms:	
Adults	3
Infants	2
Confirmed	22
Communicants received:	
By transfer	8
Removed	4
Dropped	2

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$358 70
" the debt	25 01
" " poor	6 86
" General Missions	8 25
" Diocesan "	51
" Clergy Relief Fund	2 00
" the schools	25
" Flowers	19 63
Easter Offering	10
Of the the schools	10 13
Total	$431 44

lukewarmness and indifference on the part of those who ought to be its very bone and sinew. And multitudes of communicants of the Church are thus constantly lost to it altogether, become unknown to the clergy, and themselves entirely neglectful of all their religious duties, simply from this failing to keep up a definite Church connection with some Parish.

The original idea of a Parish is that of a definite territory or district lying around a Church, of which a Rector is in charge. Just as all the territory of a nation is divided up into districts called Dioceses, over each of which a Bishop has jurisdiction, so the whole of each Diocese should be divided up into districts called Parishes, over which Priests have charge, and all the people living in them should attend and support their own Parish Church. The Priest who is in charge of it, who is called the Rector, because he rules or directs every thing in it, should, with the aid of his assistants or Curates, visit every house, and, if possible, know every person in his Parish.

This idea of a Parish is, however, very difficult to carry out nowadays, owing first to the divisions among Christians, there being so many sects or denominations, each insisting upon keeping up churches or meetings of their own peculiar forms or ideas. So in all our Parishes there are persons living who are all sorts and kinds of Christians and non-Christians as well, whom our clergy cannot get to know and whom they could do but little with if they did. Then, secondly, owing to our modern modes of rapid locomotion, people prefer often, and find it possible, to attend Churches at great distances from their homes. So the clergy must visit not only in the immediate neighborhood

of their churches, but all over the city or the country as the case may be. This consumes a great deal of time. In our own parish this is the case to such an extent that the whole time of our Rector and Curate is taken up in visiting those whom they know to be connected with the Parish, and they have no time left in which to go after those living in the neighborhood of the Church who are going nowhere and who might be brought into the Church if they could be visited.

This is not an ideal state of things. It is much better for people to attend the Church in the district in which they live. Otherwise, if they try to go to one at a distance they are apt to become very irregular and careless about their attendance, and they cannot take part in the work of the Church as they should.

But, at least, let every one see that he is definitely connected with *some* Church which he looks upon as his spiritual home. When one is confirmed and makes his first communion in a Parish, his name is then entered on the parochial register as a communicant there, and it there remains until he *takes a letter of transfer* to some other Parish, or until either from neglect of duty or from his moving to a distance so that the Rector loses sight of him and does not know whether he is alive or dead or still a communicant of the Church or not, his name is stricken off and he is not registered as a communicant anywhere.

Let every Christian be able to say of some particular Church: this is my Parish; here I belong; I know the Rector or Curate, he is my personal friend and spiritual guide; here I go to receive the sacraments and perform my duties as a Christian, and I do all I can to support this Church and to make it as effective as possible to carry on its beneficent work.

PARISH NOTES

EASTER SERVICES. — On Easterday there will be Celebrations of the Holy Communion at 6.30, 7.30, 8.30, and 11.30 A.M. The Celebrant in the middle of the day will be the Rev. Dr. Robins, late Head Master of the Episcopal Academy. At the children's Easter service at 3 P.M., all their Lenten missionary offerings through the mite boxes will be presented. The music at the mid-day service on Easterday will be the whole of Gounod's S. Cecelia Mass. This will be repeated on Low Sunday. The preacher on this occasion will be the Rev. A. G. P. McClure, agent for the General Relief Fund for the Clergy, our Rector on that day being the preacher in Calvary Monumental Church in West Philadelphia, of which he formerly had charge, when it was situated on North Front Street, it being the fiftieth anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of that Church.

THE EASTER ELECTION for four vestrymen to serve for three years will be held on Easter Monday, between the close of divine service in the morning to 1 P.M. All who have been registered as communicant members of the Parish, and have been contributing to its support through the envelope system for one year are entitled to vote. We regret to say that Mr. Samuel Wetherill, our oldest vestryman, owing to his loss of eyesight and general ill health, declines to allow his name to be used for re-election. This will leave one vacancy to be filled.

EASTER OFFERINGS.—As the Rector announced on Passion and Palm Sundays, an Easter offering of fully $1,000 will be needed to enable us to meet our current expenses up to the first of May, which is the beginning of a new financial year. Last year the Easter Offering was $700, and we have had one as high as $1,200. Let all give as liberally as each one can, in order that we may receive the $1,000 absolutely required to meet the very moderate expenses of this entirely free Church.

CONFIRMATION.—The following were confirmed in the Church by the Rt. Rev.

the Bishop of Delaware, on the evening of March 20th:

George Lawrence Knowlton
Guillermo Spottswood Machado
Joseph Watson
Andrew Lindsay
Robert Johnson Strong
Eric Christian Killgren
John Britton
John West Rulon Cooper
Arthur Challman
William McIlvaine
William Moffit
Charles Sherwood Cameron
James Jones
Mrs. Elizabeth Engle French
Mrs. Elizabeth Brown
Mrs. Mary Murray
Mrs. Guliaema Hyndman Machado
Emma Louisa Caroline Schubert
Carrie Anna Wagner
Ann Wilson Kirkpatrick
Jane Neilson Lindsay
Mary Florence Brodie

Three or four others who could not be prepared in time, or were otherwise prevented, may be presented by the Rector later in some other Church where the Bishop is Confirming.

LENTEN WORK.—The Ladies' Aid and S. Mary's Guild made during Lent over 125 garments for the Lombard Street Day Nursery and the City Mission, a very creditable showing.

ENVELOPES.—It is particularly requested that all who are behind hand in returning their envelopes for the support of the Church will make a point of settling them up in full before the end of this month, as that not only closes the quarter, but also our financial year.

THE LADIES' MISSIONARY MEETING this month will be held on the *second* Friday, after morning prayers, as the first Friday is Good Friday.

GIFTS.—We gladly acknowledge the receipt of a piece of muslin from John Wanamaker and a piece of Canton flannel from Strawbridge & Clothier for the work of the Mother's Meeting; also a quantity of gingham and some made up garments from Miss Menah for the Lenten work of the Ladies' Aid. Orders for two half tons of coal were received from a former member of the Parish. Seven volumes were presented to the Sunday School Library. Also a brass Baptismal Ewer for the Font.

THE S. JOHN GUILD SPORTS held in February afforded an agreeable evening's entertainment. Quite a large audience was present, and the receipts, including some donations, amounted to about $35. This it is proposed to use in fitting up a room beneath the Guild room in the Parish building as a gymnasium and providing it with some new apparatus.

The Guild proposes to give a Minstrel entertainment on Thursday evening, April 25th. Some special scenery is being painted for the purpose. The tickets will be 25 and 50 cents.

The Guild will also tender a reception to our Curate, the Rev. Mr. Gilpin on his return from Europe, the date to be announced.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.—A blue mark opposite to this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the Manager.

The following subscriptions have been received:

Miss Lavinia Smith
Mr. J. H. Mason
Mrs. C. L. Leiper
Mrs. Ashley Haught

THE CHOIR

The music to be rendered during the month of April will be as follows:

APRIL 7TH—EASTER DAY, 10.30 A.M.

Te Deum, in C . . . . . *Charles Gounod*
St. Cecilia Mass . . . . . *Charles Gounod*

4 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis . *Sir John Stainer*
"Break Forth Into Joy" . . *Sir Joseph Barnby*
Hallelujah Chorus, "Messiah" . . . . *Handel*

APRIL 14TH, 10.30 A.M.

Te Deum, in C . . . . . *Charles Gounod*
St. Cecilia Mass . . . . . *Charles Gounod*

4 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, in D. *J. T. Field*
"Christ, Our Passover". . . . . *J. Whitaker*

APRIL 21ST, 10.30 A.M.

Te Deum, in D . . . . . *A. E. Fisher*
Communion Service, in C . . . . *King Hall*

4 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, in B Flat, *V. C. Stanford*
"I Will Mention" . . . . *Sir Arthur Sullivan*

APRIL 28TH, 10.30 A.M.

Te Deum, in D . . . . . *J. T. Field*
Communion Service, in C . . . . . *King Hall*

4 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, in F . *Gladstone*
"Praise God in His Holiness" . *Berthold Tours*

LETTER FROM THE CURATE

"FLORENCE, ITALY, March 15th.

My Dear Mr. Knodle:

"Somehow the name of this place recalled you to my mind. I think, possibly, the reason I have the recollection is because I associate with you and Florence some very happy days with "our" boys last summer. * * * * *

"I regret that I cannot be with you all at the time of Confirmation. This thought of not taking an active personal part in the Confirmation class is the greatest trial to me, and the fact that I am enjoying myself as much as one possibly can does not alter my feelings in the least, except to make me feel it more keenly.

"I wish I had time to write about the wonderful things I have seen in Italy. Unfortunately, I have not heard any music. This is not the time; but if I am in Paris at Easter-tide I will probably hear some fine music there. I have simply been devouring all the art that the world has produced—ancient, mediæval and modern. Florence, as you know, is the mother of art; here are the great storehouses, so to speak, of all those wonderful works that have supplied the world with inspiration and enjoyment.

"We go to Venice to-morrow, and expect to be in Paris by Easter. We have the interim to give to Milan, Mentone and the Riviera, where we can get nature in all her beauty.

"I hope to be back by May 1st, and it will be just in time to start in upon the summer work. I want to do a good deal for our boys and girls and people generally this summer. I fancy you want to do something for your boys or our boys. Whatever we do for them we shall want some money. I am thinking how it is to be got. I have a plan which I am sure will work O. K. if you think it can be done. It is something that has not been tried before. It is a choir concert. The choir gives a concert, a little Cantata, with some professional pieces—or, if we can get good amateur talent, so much the better. The music will be good. If we can give it before the 15th of May we will have the people before they go off. When I was in Boston the choir got up a concert of this kind and it was a great success. It did much towards developing the voices of the boys and it made a good sum for the vacation fund. Will you think over this, and if you feel the choir could get up such an entertainment, go ahead with it.

"Please give my love to the boys, and tell them that although I have seen some Spanish boys and Arab boys and Maltese boys and Sicilian boys and Italian or Dago boys, none of them are in it with our boys—the Ascension boys. Tell them I wish they were all here with me. I should like to have had them on the top of Vesuvius with me, and, as they are fond of swimming and fishing, I wish they could be with me in Venice to-morrow where the streets are not streets, but canals, and the carriages are not carriages, but boats. We would have a good time; but, as that cannot be done, we must wait until next July.

Very sincerely your friend,
WM. BERNARD GILPIN."

The choir-master thinks the concert plan feasible and will try and carry it out.

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VOL. XIV. PHILADELPHIA, MAY, 1901 NO. 5

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Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.00 P. M.

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WARDENS

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WM. MOORE WHARTON

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

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SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, St. Mary's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Ascension Cadets . . . . . 7.30 P.M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Brotherhood of St. Andrew . Second Monday, 8.00 P.M.
Mothers' Meeting . . . . . Wednesday, 8.00 P.M.
Embroidery Class . . . . . Thursdays, 10.30 A.M.
Ladies' Aid . . . . . Thursdays, 3.00 P.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.30 P.M.

Superintendent . . . . . THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent . . . . . MR. D. L. WITMER
Secretary . . . . . MR. MARVIN LESCURE
Librarian . . . . . MR. REDMAYNE
Organist . . . . . MR. FRANK C. MORLEY

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MRS. HODGE

For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN

For Men and St. Andrew's Brotherhood . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS MARY NEILSON

For Boys and Ascension Cadets . . . . . 2.30 P.M.
MISS BRINTON and MISS HODGE

THE OPEN CHURCH

IN addition to the principle involved in maintaining the freedom of seats in the Church, which this parish stands for, there is another principle we try to carry out here, too, which we want our people to appreciate, that is, its being an open Church.

We think a Church ought to be used to its fullest extent. We consider it very poor business, in an economical point of view, to have such a plant as we have in our Churches, and only use them for two or three services during a whole week. No business man would ever think of investing so much capital in a building which was to be kept closed every day in the week but one, and only opened for two or three hours on that day. We think the Church ought to be always open so as to make the fullest use of it possible. We think that on Sundays there ought to be services at a great many different hours, continuous services if possible, not that it is necessary that everyone should attend so many different services or stay in Church all day on Sunday, but in order that the Church may reach and be of service to a great many different people. Some persons can go at one hour and not at another. Some, from the nature of their avocations or duties at home, can never go at the ordinary hours of worship, but could go at other times. And in many households it is impossible for all the adults or children to be away at one time, but if there are services at different hours, then some members can go at one service and some

THE ASCENSION NEWS

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
1416 Lombard Street

PUBLISHING COMMITTEE
ERNEST CHASE JOHN C. GAISER
WM. J. MORGAN

TERMS:
Single Copies, by Mail, 50 Cents a Year.

KALENDAR

May	1.	SS. Philip and James.
	3.	Friday—Fast.
	5.	Fourth Sunday after Easter.
	10.	Friday—Fast.
	12.	Rogation Sunday.
	13.	Rogation Day—Fast.
	14.	" " "
	15.	" " "
	16.	Ascension Day.
	17.	Friday—Fast.
	19.	Expectation Sunday.
	24.	Friday—Fast.
	26.	Whitsun-day.
	27.	Whitsun Monday.
	28.	Whitsun Tuesday.
	29.	Ember Day—Fast.
	31.	" " "

RECORD FOR APRIL

Baptisms	7
Confirmed	1
Marriages	1
Communicants received:	
New	18
By transfer	3
Removed	12
Suspended	2
Died	1
Communion of the Sick	1
Burials	3

OFFERINGS—Including Easter Offerings

For current expenses	$1,123 03
" the choir	18 98
" " poor	14 25
" General Missions	30
" Diocesan "	3 80
" Clergy Relief Fund	11 00
" the schools	15
" Flowers	7 80
Of the schools	8 95
" " for Missions	65 95
" " Ladies' Aid	18 16
" " Altar Fund	101 70
" " Mothers' Meeting	21 00
Collections of Woman's Auxiliary	138 00
" for Missionary Box	52 56
" " Tract Society	5 00
" " Prayer Book Society	12 00
Total	$1,592 63

at another, and thus make it possible for every one to fulfil the bounden obligation of going to God's House at least once of a Sunday. How many persons have become entirely forgetful of that obligation and have come to live utterly irreligious or sinful lives simply because the Church has not made provisions of services at hours when it was possible for them to attend them.

Of course it requires several clergymen and additional expenses to provide a choir, etc., for so many services, but every Church, situated as ours is, amid a dense population, should be provided with means for these purposes. And while we have as yet but little wealth in our parish, and but a modest establishment, still we try to do the best with it we can, and have really six services a Sunday in the winter, and five in the summer. Thus we try to reach and minister to more and more people.

So, too, we have services twice every day, and sometimes more, in order to teach the duty of, and give the opportunity for, the constant worship of God. Unless our religion is brought into our daily life, it will be of little advantage to us. Unless a man lifts up his heart to God every day and seeks His guidance and protection, he will not live as a Christian man should. And if the Church is to teach men to pray daily, she must do so herself and give the opportunity for it. This is the great use of the daily service. Even though few attend, it is the Church's witness to the necessity of daily prayer, the constant honoring of God, and discharge of the duty of corporate supplication and intercession, and her teaching, and provision for, the fullest and most perfect prayer.

And so, too, we keep our Church open at all hours, even when there is no service, so that the open Church door may invite in strangers and passers by; may make them familiar with their Heavenly Father's House; make them feel that it is the house and home of all; that each has a place and welcome there; that it is a place where all can and should go at any time, to bring their wants and woes, and seek for grace and help. Who can estimate how much teaching might be conveyed by our Churches being thus left open for anyone to enter and examine and think about what they mean and what they are for, and how much good might be done and comfort given to souls who may be thus permitted and invited to enter the Church's holy precincts, and lift up their hearts, even though only for a few moments, in converse with God?

A closed Church is to us a most inhospitable and wasted thing. It is like a closed house or an idle factory. It is money unused, bringing no interest. And we must always remember that it is no answer to this, as some people think it is, to say that not many people would thus use the Church, for if only one soul was reached or comforted, it would be fully worth the doing. The work before the Church, of winning all men to God and making them true sons of God, is altogether too great and too difficult for any means or instrumentality which might possibly advance that end to be neglected.

Let all appreciate and try to profit as much as they can by our open Church and frequent services.

Open the great church door,
'Till falls the night,
Wayfarer's beck'ning!
'Tis meet and right;
Should not the Father's gate
Stand open wide,
Calling the wand'rers to
The Father's side?

The Father's House! It stands
A peaceful home,
Bidding from noonday heat
Tired souls to come,
Though from its grateful shade
To go again,
And bear a manful part
In life's campaign.

PARISH NOTES

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—A valuable gift was made to the parish last month of another lot in Mt. Moriah Cemetery, in which to inter the poor of the parish. We often have those connected with the parish who have made no provision for the burial of themselves or members of their families, and few things are more expensive than burials. One or two such coming together would drain away all the funds available for the benefit of the poor. It is of great use, therefore, to have a place belonging to the Church where our poor can be buried. We have had one such lot presented to the Church some fourteen or fifteen years ago, which is now nearly full, and we were wondering what we should do in the future, when this gift came, for which we are most grateful.

A friend of the Sunday School presented each child on Palm Sunday with several small photographs of the great events of the Holy Week and Eastertide; also with an envelope containing dye for Easter eggs.

There has been presented also a number of magazines and papers for the parish library.

EASTER.—In spite of the unseasonable weather we had large congregations at the different services on Easter day. The Church looked very beautiful, and the choir rendered the beautiful S. Cecilia Mass very well.

The children enjoyed their festival in the afternoon, each child receiving a large potted flower. The Missionary offerings collected through the mite chests amounted to $65.95.

The Industrial School Festival took place on the Saturday after Easter. Seventy-five children were present. Each received an Easter egg and card and a toy from a "fish pond," and those who had been most regular during the winter a special prize. All were regaled with ice cream and cake.

The offerings of the congregation amounted to $850, part of which, however, was intended for the Church debt, and there were only *three* offerings which were over $10. We would suppose that there were more than three persons in the congregation who could give over $10 as an offering on Easter day. We know our people have many calls upon them, but we fear that there are many who do not realize that in a Church where the seats were not free they would not only have the same calls for charitable purposes, but would have to pay a large pew rent in addition.

VESTRY ELECTION.—At the annual election on Easter Monday, the following gentlemen were duly elected to serve as vestrymen for three years: Mr. J. Edward Carpenter, Mr. Wm. Moore Wharton, Mr. Harry B. French, Mr. John Hazlehurst Mason. At a meeting of the Vestry held in Easter week, Mr. J. Edward Carpenter was reappointed as Rector's Warden, Mr. Wm. Moore Wharton was elected Accounting Warden, and Mr. John D. Henderson, Secretary. Messrs. Carpenter, Keese and Tingley were elected delegates to the Diocesan Convention.

ASCENSIONTIDE.—The feast of the Ascension, our special parish festival, occurs on the sixteenth of this month. There will be early Communion at 7.30 A.M. A second Celebration with the full choir at 10.30 A.M. Evening Prayer at 5 P.M., and Special Choral Service and the Anniversary Sermon by the Rector in the evening at 8 P.M. At this service the Rector always reviews the history of the Church for the past year, and calls attention to anything noteworthy about it. We hope all our people will make a point of being present at it. The Annual Guild Service will take place on Sunday, the 19th, when a special sermon will be preached to the members of the Parish Guilds. The Annual Parish Tea, which we hope all our people will attend, will take place on Monday evening, May 20th.

AN ENTERTAINMENT consisting of a play by some members of the congregation and a few of their friends, together with music furnished by our choir master and some of his friends, will be given on the evening of May 17th in the parish building for the benefit of the fund to provide a summer outing for the members of the choir and the children of the parish. Tickets will be 50 cts. each.

THE CURATE was to sail for home from Liverpool on April 27th, so he may be with us on the first Sunday of this month, or, if not, a day or two later.

MISSIONARY COLLECTIONS. — The method adopted this year by the members of our parish branch of the Woman's Auxiliary, of dividing up the members of the congregation between them, each taking a certain number to whom they would make personal application, has been more successful than any other method we have ever tried. The amounts collected have been as follows:

For Domestic Missions	.	$44 90
" Foreign "	.	20 40
" Freedmen "	.	21 90
" Indian "	.	23 40
" Diocesan "	.	27 40

This is in addition to what was contributed for missionary boxes or through the envelopes for missions used in the Church collection.

THE LADIES' AID and S. Mary's Guild, during Lent, sent boxes containing over 200 garments to the W. U. Day Nursery and that on Lombard Street above Fifteenth Street. Warm letters of thanks were received from each. One of them says: "We were not only glad to get everything that was in the box, but it is such a pleasure to find that the Nursery has such good friends. We do try to take care of the children and do a good work for them, and it is the greatest encouragement to persevere in spite of obstacles when somebody helps us as your societies have done. The things were just what we most need, and some have gone into use already."

ENVELOPES.—With the beginning of this month the envelopes for the ensuing *six* months are sent out. As so many people are out of town in August, the beginning of the second quarter, it would not be wise to send any out then. We trust that all who are going away will fill up and return all the envelopes for the time they expect to be away before they go, that the Church may have the money to carry on its work during the summer. We are thankful to say more envelopes are now in use than ever before, but there are still a great many of the congregation who do not take them. Surely each communicant of the parish should do so, even if they can only give five cents a Sunday. The special envelopes for the six months are for the poor and the schools. We depend on these entirely to meet these necessary expenses.

PAYMENT OF DEBT.—On the third of last month the Warden was able to pay $500 on account of the mortgage debt of the parish, $235 of this being part of the receipts from the Human Calendar.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.—A blue mark opposite to this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the Manager.

The following subscriptions have been received:

Mrs. Volmer Mrs. G. H. Botwright

THE CHOIR

The music to be rendered by the choir for the month of May is as follows:

MAY 5TH, 10.30 A.M.

Te Deum, in E flat . . . . . *Dudley Buck*
Communion Service, in E flat . . . . *Alfred Eyre*

4 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, in D *Berthold Tours*
"The Lord is My Strength" . . . *Henry Smart*

MAY 12TH, 10.30 A.M.

Te Deum, in B flat . . . . . *Calkin*
Communion Service, in E flat . . . *Alfred Eyre*

4 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, in D . *J. T. Field*
Hallelujah Chorus, "Messiah" . . . . *Handel*

MAY 16TH, ASCENSION DAY, 10.30 A.M.

Te Deum, in G . . . . . *Draper*
Communion Service, in C . . . . . *King Hall*

8 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, in F . *Gladstone*
Glory to God, "Messiah" . . . . . *Handel*
Te Deum, in C . . . . . *Gounod*

MAY 19TH, 10.30 A.M.

Te Deum, in F . . . . . *Henry Smart*
Communion Service, in F . . . . *Berthold Tours*

4 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, in B flat *Villiers Stanford*
"O How Amiable are Thy Dwellings" *Sir Jos. Barnby*

MAY 26TH, 10.30 A.M.

Te Deum, in D . . . . . *A. E. Fisher*
Communion Service, in F . . . . *Berthold Tours*

4 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, in E *Sir Jos. Barnby*
"Come, Holy Ghost" . . . . . *Thomas Attwood*

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The Ascension News

VOL. XIV. PHILADELPHIA, JUNE, 1901 No. 6

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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HOLY DAYS . . . . . 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON 10.30 A.M.
WEEK DAYS—Wednesdays, Fridays and Holy Days . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (Choral, with Sermon) . 7.30 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) . . 8.00 P. M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 9.30 A. M.

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The Ascension News

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Broad Street below South

CLERGY

REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE, *Rector*
334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. WM. BERNARD GILPIN, *Curate*
1416 Lombard Street

WARDENS

J. EDWARD CARPENTER
WM. MOORE WHARTON

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WALTER ST. CLARE KNODLE

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
3022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8:00 P.M.
Brotherhood of St. Andrew . Second Monday, 8:00 P.M.
Thursdays, Ascension Cadets . . . . . 7:30 P.M.

OUR PARISH YEAR

WE print, as usual, in this number of the NEWS the annual report of the Parish as made to the Bishop, May 1st, the end of our Conventional year. We hope that especially those who were not present at the anniversary service on the evening of Ascension Day, when the report was read and commented on by the Rector, will study it for themselves, and for their benefit we call attention to the following points in regard to it. The members baptized, confirmed, etc., during the past year were just about the same as the year before. The number of communicants added to the parish roll was fifty-eight, a very good showing, but no less than fifty-two were removed, making the actual gain very small. This loss is chiefly due to so many families removing to the suburbs or newer parts of the city, though, of course, it includes some deaths and some suspensions. Our greatest loss by death during the past year was Mr. Chas. E. Bonnet, our late accounting warden.

More services have been held during the past year, and the attendance at some of them, notably the Sunday and Wednesday night service, has decidedly improved, though the church is far from being as full as it ought to be. Many of our communicants are very negligent and inappreciative of the duty and privilege of church attendance even on Sunday.

The Sunday School has increased by nearly a third, and a new parish agency has been inaugurated in the Boys' Brigade which has maintained a regular weekly drill during the winter, and went into camp for a week or so last summer.

The Mothers' Meeting has done a very effective work, bringing into the church, and benefiting a number of new families. And the Embroidery Committee of the Altar Guild has been larger and done more work.

On the whole, we can say that the Parish has continued the good, steady work which it has been doing for a number of years, in spite of many difficulties with which it has to contend.

As to our finances, the report shows that our expenditures have been some $780 in excess of our receipts. But it

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KALENDAR

June 1. Ember Day—Fast.
2. Trinity Sunday.
7. Friday—Fast.
9. First Sunday after Trinity.
11. S. Barnabas.
14. Friday—Fast.
16. Second Sunday after Trinity.
21. Friday—Fast.
23. Third Sunday after Trinity.
24. Nativity S. John Baptist.
28. Friday—Fast.
29. S. Peter.
30. Fourth Sunday after Trinity.

RECORD FOR MAY

Baptisms	5
Marriage	1
Communicants received:	
By transfer	2
Removed	8
Burial	1

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$110 65
" the Poor	9 30
" the Schools	2 00
" Diocesan Missions	6 03
" Foreign "	1 00
" Indian "	1 00
" Freedmen "	1 00
Of the Schools	7 91
Total	$138 89

must be noted that $330 of this amount was of funds collected during the previous year and on hand at the beginning of May, 1900. So the actual deficit is about $450. And against this we have about $300 due from envelope pledges, a good portion of which, at least, will be paid. And it must also be noted that we have paid during the year $500, on account of our mortgage debt. So, taking these things into consideration, we can say that we have about met our expenses for the year, and that too, without resorting, as we have had to for some years past, to a large entertainment of some kind, to meet our current expenses, which is certainly not an ideal way of supporting a church. And we have not only done this, but have given away a large proportion of our income to charitable and benevolent purposes, over $1200.

We regret that the effort inaugurated in the autumn to reduce our permanent debt was not more successful, but we rejoice that at least $500 was paid off, and we should be glad if that could be kept up every year in addition to meeting our expenses. A considerable part of this came from the Human Calendar, and we trust that the effort to carry out that scheme will continue until every space in it has been filled and the full $1,000 proposed by it realized. We are glad to note the increase of names as they are written in the spaces allotted for them.

We are glad also to say that more persons are using the envelopes for the support of the church now than ever before, 44 new ones having been taken since last October, and over 190 being in actual use. But a great many more ought to be taken. Surely all the communicant members of the church, at least, should use them.

And we are confident that this income of the church would be largely increased if they did, as the great object of the system is to insure regularity in giving. Without it, even those intending to give a regular sum will lose account of it and be forgetful and negligent in making their contributions and the church consequently suffers. We hope that every one attending the church, even though he can contribute only five or ten cents a week, will do it through the envelope system. The Verger will give any one who asks him one of the forms of pledge for it.

We wish very much that the vicinity of the church would improve so that we could have a larger and wealthier congregation, or that in some way our financial resources could be increased so that we might do a larger work. But we are thankful that we can hold our own so well, and shall look forward to, and still pray for, further progress in the future.

SUMMER OUTING

A YEAR ago we called the attention of our readers to a scheme for giving the children of the Parish outings during the hot summer days. The outing parties proved to be more successful than was anticipated. A large number of children were taken to Bartram's Garden on weekly visits, and some were sent to the country through the Country Week Association. The boys of the choir and the Cadets were given a week's experience in camp life, and some of the members of S. John's Guild were enabled to spend a week in the country.

But we believe that these outings did much more than give enjoyment and recreation to the children and their parents. The clergy were brought into closer touch with the members of the Parish and many who are not members. The church has gained much by the feeling of love and interest that the people of the neighborhood have towards it. If there is any such idea as the one often expressed, that our church does not reach the people who are poor, we have done much to change it. But this idea must be rooted out of the minds of the people altogether; they must be taught that the church in general, and our Parish church in particular, is a home as well as a temple where rich and poor can come to worship Almighty God; where they can come and bring their trials and sorrows and lay them at the feet of Jesus. Whatever keeps people away is a barrier to the spreading of Christ's Kingdom; whatever draws them is a tool in the hand of the missionary whose work is to draw people to learn to know and love the blessings of the Gospel message.

Through the efforts of some members of the Parish, a summer outing fund has been provided, and we will be able to continue the work this summer among the children. But we would like to remind those who go away for the summer and pass the hot season in the country or at the seashore, that there are many mothers whom we would like to send away for a week into the country with their babies. Let us hope that some day we will be able to have a cottage in the country where we can take the mothers, the babies and some of the hardworking daughters when they have their week's vacation.

PARISH NOTES

OUR DEDICATION FESTIVAL.—There was a goodly number at the early Communion on Ascension Day, but we think the smallest congregation we have ever

seen at the mid-day service. How is it that so many are so negligent of this great Feast, which has such glorious promises connected with it, to say nothing of its association with our parish Church? There was a fair attendance on the evening of Ascension Day, and a very good turnout at the Annual Guild Meeting, the parish guilds of young people making a very good showing in the procession. The Parish Tea was, as usual, well attended, and thoroughly enjoyed by all present. S. Mary's Guild contributed to the entertainment by some shadow pictures, and two of our choir boys, Masters Congar and Brown and Mr. Harvey Hindermeyer, one of our old guild boys, sang. We trust these annual parish feasts will contribute toward making our members more friendly towards each other and more attached to their Church.

SUMMER SERVICES.—The Sunday School and Children's Service and the 4 P. M. Choral Evensong on Sunday will be discontinued until October, and the Sunday night service will begin hereafter at 7.30 P. M. The other Sunday services will continue the same. The daily service is also stopped, but Prayers will be said every Wednesday and Friday, and on all Holy Days, at 10 A. M., with Celebrations of the Holy Communion on the latter days at 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

SUMMER OUTINGS.—In response to the suggestions of the Curate that some entertainment be given towards raising a fund to provide summer outings for the choir and boys' brigade and children of the Sunday School, some of the young ladies of the parish, with some of their friends, gave a dramatic entertainment in the parish building on the evening of May 17th, aided by the Choir Master, who provided some music. It proved very successful, the room was well filled and the net proceeds amounted to $100. In addition to this, the Rector's youngest daughter, assisted by some of her friends, got up a little sale, which was held in her father's house, by which $42.64 was realized for the same purpose.

OTHER ENTERTAINMENTS.—On the evening of May 9th, S. John's Guild gave the Curate a reception on his return from Europe, and on May 28th, S. Mary's Guild gave a reception in honor of their Superior, Miss Anable. So, altogether, this month has been very full.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.—On Trinity Sunday there will be a special Sunday School Festival in place of the ordinary Sunday night service, when prizes will be given out to those children who have been perfect in their attendance, behavior and lessons during the year.

During the rest of the summer, there will be a children's service every Sunday at 9.30 A.M., in place of the Sunday School and service in the afternoon.

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The following subscriptions have been received :

Mrs. Christian Miss Griffith

REPORT

The following is the report of the parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop :

Baptisms—adults, 3; infants, 26; total 29. *Confirmed*—males, 13; females, 10; total, 23. *Communicants* added—new, 23; by transfer, 32; died, 6; removed, 46; present number, 538; *Marriages*, 12; *Burials*, 17. *Public Services*—Sunday, 295; on other days, 610; total, 905. *Celebrations of Holy Communion*—public, 193; in private, 4; total, 197; Number of Communions made, 2,445. *Sunday Schools*—officers and teachers, 22; scholars, 110; Bible classes, 4; teachers, 4; scholars, 45. *Other Parish Agencies*—Industrial School: teachers, 14; scholars, 100; Mothers' Meeting : members, 30; Men's Guild, the male communicants; Woman's Guild, the female communicants; Young Men's Guild, S. John's: members, 26; Young Woman's Guild, S. Mary's: members, 23; Chapter Brotherhood of S. Andrew, members, 8; Ascension Cadets, members, 15.

Money Receipts—Offerings for all Parish purposes, $5,970.50; offerings for purposes outside the Parish, $397.78; investments, $475.20; other sources, entertainments, etc., $129.02; Sunday School, $165.75; Woman's Auxiliary, $225.39; total, $7,363.64.

Expenditures—Parochial, current expenses (including salaries of ministers, music, fuel and lighting, care of Church building and grounds and ordinary repairs of the same), $5,051.72; interest on mortgage, $551.67; support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools, $128.15; Summer Outings, $150; payment of debts, $500; for the poor, $301.65; miscellaneous, $573.36; total, $7,316.95.

Diocesan—Episcopal and Convention Fund, $111.91; Diocesan Missions, $187.27; Episcopal Hospital, $26.27; Sustentation Fund, $34.80; Christmas Fund, $7.50; House of the Holy Child, $14; total, $382.75.

General Missions—General, $82.33; Foreign, $26.40; Domestic, $114.79; Indian, $23.40; Colored people, $27.40; Prayer Book and Tract Societies, $17; Clergy Relief Fund, $22.50; Texas Relief Fund, $33 05; total, $346.87.

Total for all objects, $8,146.57.

Estimated value of three missionary boxes and bundles, $202.67.

Financial Condition—Aggregate value of property of the Parish, real and personal, $80,000; incumbrances : mortgage on the Church edifice, Parish building and ground, $11,500. Endowment Fund, $9,525.

THE CHOIR

The music to be rendered by the Choir for the month of June is as follows:

JUNE 2D, TRINITY SUNDAY, 10.30 A.M.

Te Deum, in G . . . . . *Berthold Tours*
Communion Service, in F . . . . *Berthold Tours*

7.30 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, in D . *J. T. Field*
Anthem—"Sweet is Thy Mercy, Lord" *Sir. Jos. Barnby*

JUNE 9TH, 10.30 A.M.

Te Deum, in F . . . . . *Henry Smart*
Communion Service, in F . . . *Berthold Tours*

7.30 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, in E flat . *West*
Anthem—"Send Out Thy Light" . . . *Gounod*

JUNE 16TH, 10.30 A.M.

Te Deum, in G . . . . . *Draper*
Communion Service, in E flat . . . *Cruikshank*

7.30 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, in B flat *Villiers Stanford*
Anthem—"I am Alpha and Omega" *Sir John Stainer*

JUNE 23D, 10.30 A.M.

Te Deum, in D . . . . . *J. T. Field*
Communion Service, in F . . *Sir John Stainer*

7.30 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, in G *J. P. Calkin*
Anthem—"Hark, Hark, My Soul" *H. Rowe Shelley*

JUNE 30TH, 10.30 A.M.

Te Deum, in D . . . . . *Sir Arthur Sullivan*
Communion Service, in A . . . . . *Dr. Garrett*

7.30 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, in F . *Gladstone*
Anthem—"Sun of My Soul, Thou Saviour Dear" . . . . . *F. F. Bullard*

During the summer months there will be full Choir at both morning and evening services. The Choir will endeavor to make the evening service attractive by special music.

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The Ascension News

VOL. XIV. PHILADELPHIA, SEPTEMBER, 1901 NO. 7

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET BELOW SOUTH ALL SEATS FREE

SERVICES DURING THE SUMMER

Holy Communion.

EVERY SUNDAY . . . 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
HOLY DAYS . . . . . 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON 10.30 A.M.
WEEK DAYS—Wednesdays, Fridays and Holy Days . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (Choral, with Sermon) . 7.30 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) . . 8.00 P. M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 9.30 A. M.

All the Seats are Free at all Services. **God's House is open to all His Children.**

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The Ascension News

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. WM. BERNARD GILPIN, *Curate*
1416 Lombard Street

WARDENS

J. EDWARD CARPENTER

WM. MOORE WHARTON

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

WALTER ST. CLARE KNODLE

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
3022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Brotherhood of St. Andrew . Second Monday, 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Ascension Cadets . . . . . 7.30 P.M.

MAJOR J. EDWARD CARPENTER

OUR parish has sustained a great loss in the death of our Senior Warden, Major J. Edward Carpenter, which took place on August 16th.

Major Carpenter was born in Maryland in 1841. His ancestors, both on his father's and his mother's side, being distinguished both in Colonial and Revolutionary times. He was educated in this city, and in 1862 enlisted as a private in the Eighth Pennsylvania Cavalry during the Civil War. He was soon made a Lieutenant, then Captain, and finally brevetted Major for gallant and meritorious conduct in several battles, in one of which his horse was shot under him and in another he was severely wounded in the arm, from which wound he suffered more or less all the rest of his life. He was honorably discharged from the service in October, 1864, and returned to the study of law, being admitted to the bar in October, 1865. He was afterwards a Lieutenant in the First City Troop, a member of the Loyal Legion, member, and for a long time Treasurer, of the Historical Society, one of the organizers of the Society of Sons of the Revolution and President of its Board of Managers from its inception.

He married a daughter of the late Dr. Dorr, for over thirty years Rector of Christ Church. This circumstance, together with his interest in historical matters, greatly attached him to that parish, of which he was an attendant and Vestryman. It was there that the Rector of this parish first became intimate with him, and he was his chief supporter in the effort to build a chapel for Christ Church in the western part of the city. He conducted all the business arrangements connected with it, and was a member of its Board of Managers and its Treasurer.

In the effort to make that chapel an independent parish, Mr. Carpenter took a leading part. And when the courts finally decided that the property belonged to Christ Church, Mr. Carpenter followed the Rector to this parish and at once became one of its Vestrymen. This was in November, 1880. In 1885 he was made Rector's Warden, which position

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EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
1416 Lombard Street

PUBLISHING COMMITTEE
ERNEST CHASE JOHN C. GAISER
WM. J. MORGAN

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KALENDAR

Sept.	1.	Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity.
	6.	Friday—Fast.
	8.	Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity.
	13.	Friday—Fast.
	15.	Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity.
	18.	Ember day—Fast.
	20.	Ember day—Fast.
	21.	S. Mathew Evangelist, Ember day—Fast.
	22.	Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity.
	27	Friday—Fast.
	29	S. Michael and All Angels

RECORD FOR JUNE, JULY AND AUGUST.

Baptisms: Adult	1
Infants	5
Marriage	4
Communicants received: New	2
By transfer	3
Removed	4
Died	3
Burials	11

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$692 55
" the Poor	6 52
" the Schools	1 50
" Diocesan Missions	25
" General "	10
Of the Schools	9.65
Total	$710 53
For summer outings, proceeds of entertainments, etc.	$194 35

he has held ever since. He conducted the very difficult legal transaction by which the property on which the church stands was purchased, giving his services. He has always been most regular in his attendance, both at services and at the meetings of the Vestry, and both Rector and Vestry relied most implicitly on his judgment.

He was a man of many most excellent qualities—a shrewd, tactful business man; a sound, well-informed lawyer; patriotic, public-spirited; interested in and taking an active part, so far as he was able, in all enterprises or efforts having a charitable or beneficent character. Personally he was most genial and amiable in his disposition, a most agreeable companion and a warm and firm friend. Above all, he was an eminently devout man. A firm believer in the verities of the Christian faith and an intelligent churchman, he not only found in his religion the unfailing guide and support of his own life, but he was ever ready to aid and further the cause of the Church in any way that he could. Such men are by no means too common among us, and he will be greatly missed in his profession, in society and in the Church.

Major Carpenter's health had been failing steadily for some years, owing to a heart trouble, the result, many think, of the shock he received in the very sudden death of his wife, to whom he was most devotedly attached, which occurred some six years ago. In June, he left the city to visit his daughter, Mrs. Frederick S. Moseley, at Newburyport, Mass. Those who saw him before he left feared that he would never return. In that beautiful home, surrounded with every comfort and luxury, he gradually grew weaker and weaker, until he gradually slept away. A fitting ending for such a gentle, beautiful character.

The Rector went on to his funeral and laid him away beside his wife in the cemetery at Salisbury Point, near Newburyport, which had been the ancestral home of the Dorr family.

We regret that he should have died away from this city, as there were so many, especially the members of the various societies to which he belonged, who would have liked to attend his funeral. It is hoped, however, that a memorial service can be held later, when an opportunity can be given to those who would wish to express their admiration and affection for him, and it is hoped also that some permanent memorial of him may be erected in the church.

May he rest in peace, and may light perpetual shine upon him.

PARISH NOTES

SUMMER OUTINGS.—THE CHOIR BOYS, in charge of Mr. Knodle, went into camp at Florence Heights, Monday, July 22d. The boys had been looking forward to this camp for some time. They had vivid recollections of the jolly time they had last year, and they were not disappointed. Mr. Neilson, on whose place they camped, again extended his kindness to the boys and made it pleasant for them. The weather was also good, only the sun gave some of the boys a rather hot time. But the beautiful Delaware rose to meet every requirement the boys desired in the way of swimming, boating and fishing. Mr. Knodle returned on the 27th with all his boys enthusiastic over their nights and days in the camp.

THE ASCENSION CADETS, 20 strong, under the command of Captain Alexander Smith, marched from the church at 6.30, August 12th. It was raining at the time, but the boys were too well disciplined to complain. They took the 7.12 train for Chadd's Ford on the Brandywine.

The camp was situated in the heart of one of the most beautiful parts of our country, far away from the village. It was a new experience for some of the boys to get out into the open country, and they soon grew to like it. They found much sport in bathing and rowing on the Brandywine.

The camp was not all play this year. Captain Smith had planned the camp after the regular militia camp, and the boys answered the demands for drills, police duty and dress parades in good form.

Several marches were made to historic places, and the boys seemed to relish the idea of tramping over the very spot where our forefathers fought and died for freedom's cause.

The weather was against the boys, but if the days were cloudy the nights were bright with the glowing logs of a large camp fire.

The Curate was with the Cadets and acted as chaplain, holding a service every night around the camp fire.

Messrs. John Gill and William Hawkins were in charge of the Commissary department, and deserve much credit for the way they did their work.

The camp was struck Saturday morning the 17th, and the boys marched to the station to return to their homes.

In many respects, this was the most successful camp we have had. In spite of the damp weather and the good discipline, the boys declare they had a good time and wanted another week of it.

CHILDRENS' OUTINGS.—These outings were given to the children of the Sunday-school and neighborhood. Mrs. Wagner was placed in charge of the girls, and it is to her interest in the children much of the success of the picnics was due. She was assisted by several young ladies of the parish. The Curate, assisted by some of the young men, took charge of the boys.

Five outings have been given the

children. They were on the order of picnics to Bartram's Garden, Chamounix, and the Wissahickon. The last three picnics were most enjoyable. The children were placed in a large "barge," the largest in Philadelphia, and driven through the park to the "log cabin" on the Wissahickon. Here they spent a happy day in the cool shade, playing games and being rowed up and down the stream by the young men.

It is estimated that about 350 children have been given a day's pleasure, and we believe that it means more than merely fun for a child to spend a day out of the hot streets of the city. We regret it was not possible to take the mothers on these picnics, as we know they would have enjoyed being with their children. We hope, another year, some arrangement can be made so as not to leave them out.

A LAWN PARTY was given by some of the children of the Sunday-school on the evening of August 17th, in the church yard. One of the larger tents was put up and tables arranged in the tent and about the yard. The Japanese lanterns gave a bright appearance to the scene, and the girls worked hard in the interest of all who came to taste of their ice cream, cake and lemonade.

The party was gotten up by Misses Jennie Lindsay, Elizabeth Diehl and Jennie Stewart, assisted by Lilly Gill, Lizzie McCracken and many other of their friends.

The party was the first of its kind that has been held in the yard, and was a great success in the way it was managed and the pleasure it gave. The children presented $12 to the Curate to be used for the Outing Fund.

A ROBBERY.—Again some miscreant has taken advantage of our ever open church to steal the handsome Litany book which is always on the desk at the head of the aisle. This is the second time in the course of fifteen years that this has been done. What disposition could be made of such a book we are at a loss to understand, as the name of the church was stamped in large letters upon it, and one would not suppose it would be stolen for anyone's private use. If it was taken for that purpose, its devout use would certainly lead to its being returned. But if that does not occur, is there anyone who will supply its place with another?

THE PARISH PICNIC.—On Saturday, July 27, 1901, the annual picnic of the Church of the Ascension was held at National Park on the Delaware. The weather was fair and over a hundred people went on the excursion. The first boat left Race Street wharf at 8.30 A. M., and the second at 10.30 A. M. A few of the parish took the 12 M. boat.

A series of contests were held during the day. The first event was a potato race for boys under fifteen. The winners of one round were Messrs. Martz, Lindsey, Stevanson. The winner of the second round was Clarence Martz. Then followed the potato race for girls under fifteen. Miss Lizzie McCracken was the winner.

Adjourning to the race track, the races were held. John Stevanson and William Wallace won the first rounds of the boys' race; William Wallace the second round. The girls' race was won by Miss Mabel Walker. Prizes were given for these potato and foot races.

Next were held the five events for the St. John's Guild Silk Pennant. The winner of each event received a medal. In the contest for the silk pennant the winner of each event received five points; the second best man three points, and the third best one point. Whoever had the highest number of points was rewarded with the pennant.

The events were as follows: 100 yards dash—1st place, Mr. Isaac Banks; 2d place, Mr. Boyd Burleigh; 3d place, Mr. William McCann.

220 yards dash—1st, Mr. Banks; 2d, Mr. McCann; 3d, Mr. Burleigh.

Running High Jump—1st, Mr. Burleigh; 2d, Mr. Atkinson; 3d, Mr. Banks.

Running Broad Jump—1st, Mr. Burleigh; 2d, Mr. Atkinson; 3d, Mr. Banks.

Shot Put—1st, Mr. Burleigh; 2d, Mr. Schall; 3d, Mr. McCann.

The contestants received the following number of points respectively: Mr. Burleigh, 19; Mr. Banks, 12; Mr. Atkinson, 6; Mr. McCann, 5; Mr. Schall, 3.

Mr. Boyd Burleigh received the St. John's Guild Silk Pennant.

Ice cream was then served to every member of the picnic. After this refreshment the boat race was held. Mr. Faught was the winner.

The officials of the contests were as follows: General Committee consisted of Rev. Mr. Gilpin, Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Schall, Mr. McCann and Mr. Martz. Field Committee, Mr. Gilpin, Mr. Burleigh and Mr. Faught. Starter, Mr. Gilpin. Judges, Mr. Newman, Mr. Hindemire and Mr. Faught. Treasurer, Mr. Morgan.

After the boat race the members of the parish picnic returned by the excursion boat to the Arch Street wharf.

We regret that more of our people did not take advantage of the pleasant time that all seemed to enjoy. It is on occasions of this kind that people get to know each other, and this is an important part of the life of a parish, and is much needed in our parish, not only among the young people, but the older members.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The following subscriptions have been received:

Mrs. Price	Mr. Cox
Mrs. R. Neilson	Mr. Kerr
Mrs. I. C. Clark	Miss McCartney
Mrs. Hawkins	Miss Gilpin

THE JUNIOR CHAPTER BROTHERHOOD OF ST. ANDREW

One of the interesting features of our parish work is the large number of boys connected with the Church. The organization known as the Ascension Cadets has been the means of helping the boys to come together and spend an evening in healthful exercise, and learning what boys often need, the importance of discipline. The boys themselves feel that this is not all they have to do. In response to a call they came forward and enlisted themselves in the cause of parish work under the name of the Junior Chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. This is a department of the Brotherhood that has become so important a part of the work in most of the parishes in the whole country. It has for its object the speeding of Christ's Kingdom among boys. And just as the Brotherhood of St. Andrew has brought to the front many earnest men who try to help their Rector in his work among men, so we expect the Junior Brotherhood to bring forward many boys who will try to help in our work among the boys. This is a work that is greatly needed in our parish. The neighborhood abounds in boys who need a helping hand before the influences that blight young lives take hold of them. A secondary object of the Chapter is to prepare youths to take up the work of the Senior Brotherhood when they are old enough to become members.

At the end of this month the Junior Chapter will hold a meeting to prepare their work for the winter. We do not doubt but that the boys will do much to bring children to the Sunday School and Bible Classes, and in many ways help the Clergy. We ask the parents of boys to do all they can to interest them in their work. This is a request not only to those who have boys in the "Cadets," but whose boys are in anyway connected with the Church. There is no reason for the feeling that there is nothing for a boy to do in the Church.

Again, we ask that some older members of the Church who are interested in the work among boys to help them. They can do this by becoming members of the Senior Chapter and attending the meetings of the Junior Chapter, and in many ways show interest in the work.

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The Ascension News

VOL. XIV. PHILADELPHIA, OCTOBER, 1901 NO. 8

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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SERVICES

Holy Communion.

EVERY SUNDAY . . . 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
HOLY DAYS . . . . . 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON 10.30 A. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (Choral) . . . . . 4.00 P. M.
" (with Sermon) . . . . 7.45 P. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 5.00 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) . . 8.00 P. M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 2.30 P. M.

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CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

WALTER ST. CLARE KNODLE

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2021 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, St. Mary's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Ascension Cadets . . . . . 7.30 P.M.
Brotherhood of St. Andrew . Second Monday, 8.00 P.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 3.00 P.M.

Superintendent . . . . . THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent . . . . . MR. JOHN N. GILL
Secretary . . . . . MR. MARVIN LESCURE
Librarian . . . . . MR. D. L. WITMER
Organist . . . . . MR. THAYER

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MRS. HODGE

For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN

For Boys and Ascension Cadets . . . . . 2.30 P.M.
MISS BRINTON and MISS HODGE

ROMAN CATHOLICS AND PROTESTANTS

THESE two names stand for two great divisions of Christians. This division has existed for three hundred and fifty years. It was occasioned, first, by the gradual usurpations of one Bishop, the Bishop of Rome, over his fellow Bishops, until finally he claimed universal jurisdiction and the autocratic government of the whole Christian Church. It was caused, secondly, by certain corruptions in doctrine and practice which had grown up in the course of the centuries. And, thirdly, and we believe chiefly, it was caused by the evil living of large numbers of the clergy and rulers of the Church at the time of the Reformation. In the course of fifteen hundred years the Church had become rich, and this tempted bad men to enter it and seek its offices simply for their emoluments and the life of ease and luxury they afforded. These men performed the sacred offices of the Church without a thought or feeling of what they meant and often without any belief even in the fundamental teachings of the faith, or, worse still, they neglected their sacred duties altogether and gave themselves up to worldly or wicked indulgences.

It was this more than anything else which led to the Reformation, made men come to hate and despise the Church and think that it was all an hypocrisy and a sham. All the doctrinal and practical differences in regard to religion could have been solved, or at least would

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TERMS:
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KALENDAR

Oct.	4.	Friday—Fast.
	6.	Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.
	11.	Friday—Fast.
	13.	Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.
	18.	St. Luke, Evangelist—Fast.
	20.	Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.
	25.	Friday—Fast.
	27.	Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity.
	28.	SS. Simon and Jude.

RECORD FOR SEPTEMBER

Baptisms: Adult	1
Infants	4
Marriages	3
Communicants received:	
By transfer	2

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$171 11
" " Poor	82
" the Schools	04
Of the Sunday-school	3 42
Total	$175 39

never have led to such a wide and lasting cleavage among Christians, if it had not been for this.

But as that cleavage has existed so long it has produced the effect of making people think that Roman Catholicism and Protestantism are two different religions. Men often speak of them as such and think that there can be no harmony or agreement between them. There are Protestants who would no more think of going into a Roman Catholic Church than they would into a heathen temple, and who look upon all the forms of worship of that Church just as if they were heathen rites in which no Christian could take part; and the Roman Catholic looks upon the Protestant as if he were a heathen and an outcast beyond the pale of mercy. And yet look how much they have in common. They worship the same God; they revere the same Scriptures; they profess the same creed; they acknowledge the necessity and the efficacy of at least the two great sacraments of Baptism and the Holy Communion, and they practice many of the same forms and ceremonies.

What divides them now is the difference of view in regard to the authority and infallibility of the Pope, as to the position of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the question as to her immaculate conception, the honor to be ascribed to the Saints and Angels, the veneration of relics, the administration of the Sacrament in one kind, the enforcement of private confession, and the celibacy of the clergy, etc. These are all very important things undoubtedly, and as long as the Church of Rome insists upon these peculiar doctrines and practices as necessary terms of communion, there can be no union between Roman Catholics and

Protestants, *i.e.*, those who protest against these things. But at the same time we ought not to think that these are two different religions, and that there is so great a difference between them that there can be no community or fellowship whatever. Nor ought we to think, as so many do, that the differences between these two bodies consist in forms and ceremonies. Those are unimportant things comparatively, matters to be regulated by taste or preference or expediency. The real differences are those we have mentioned, and while they are great enough to interefere with unity, they should not destroy charity or the feeling that after all Roman Catholics and Protestants are one in the great essentials of the Faith; members of the one body of Christ's Church. The things in which they agree are the great things; those in which they differ are of less importance. If this was always borne in mind it would not be possible that there should be the bitterness of feeling and the alienation and opposition that there often is between these two great divisions of the Christian host.

John Wesley said, a hundred years ago, when it was told him that some one who had left the Church of England and become a Roman Catholic, "had changed his religion": "No, he has changed his opinions and modes of worship, but has not changed his religion. That is quite another thing."

If Roman Catholics and Protestants would think this of one another it would do a great deal towards hastening the day when this sad division shall at length be healed and they shall all be one in the unity of the Holy Catholic Church to which they each equally claim to belong.

THE GENERAL CONVENTION

THE Great National Council of our Church, which meets every three years, assembles this month in San Francisco, California. All our church people should follow its deliberations not only with interest, but with their earnest prayers that they may be directed aright. Several very important matters come before this convention, and it to be hoped that they will be wisely dealt with. Reports of the proceedings of the Convention, will be found in the daily papers, but more fully in the weekly Church papers. All should read them.

PARISH NOTES

CHANGE OF SERVICES.—With the beginning of this month we resume our full round of winter services. The children's service is changed to the afternoon, and this winter will begin at 2.30 P. M. to be followed by the Sunday-school. There will be Choral Evensong each Sunday at 4 P. M., and Evening Service and Sermon at 7.45 P. M. Daily service at 10 A. M. and 5 P. M. Holy Communion on Thursdays at 9 A. M.

With the commencement of another season we again urge our people to avail themselves more than they have done in the past of the Daily Services. We can think of nothing which will so tend to soothe and comfort the heart and strengthen the character and give a sense of rest and refreshment amid the hurry of life than even an occasional attendance at the Daily offices. Our people are depriving themselves of a great privilege by neglecting them as they do. Surely in a parish of the size of ours there ought to be a number of persons who have enough leisure to attend these services regularly, and many more who could drop in at them from time to time.

MEMORIAL SERVICE.—Though there was no opportunity of announcing it

except through the public press, a very good congregation assembled at the time appointed by the Bishop of the Diocese for Memorial Services in our Churches for our late and deeply lamented President. The full choir was present. The form of service set forth by the Bishop, copies of which were distributed in the pews, was used, together with a Celebration of the Holy Communion, the Rector officiating and also making an address. A casket furnished by Mr. George Jones, undertaker, formerly a member of our parish, was placed at the head of the middle aisle covered by a violet pall, the vestments used also were violet.

On the Sundays succeeding both the assassination and death of the President, the Rector spoke in his sermons of those events and tried to draw out the moral lessons they should teach.

LITANY BOOK.—In response to our suggestion in our last issue we are glad to say a friend of the parish has kindly replaced our Litany book, which was stolen, with another equally handsome.

OUR GUILDS.—St. John's and St. Mary's Guilds, both the Junior and Senior branches of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, and the Ascension Cadets, all resume their meetings this month on their regular nights. The male and female Bible Classes also resume their sessions, except Miss Neilson's class, which will not begin until November.

The annual meeting of the Woman's Guild of the parish, will take place as usual on SS. Simon and Jude's day after the Church service at 10 A. M. All the women of the parish are urged to attend this meeting that they may acquaint themselves with the work that is being carried on and in which they should take an interest.

WANTED.—Helpers wanted in the Sunday-school, which meets Sunday afternoons at 2.30, and in the Industrial School, which meets Saturday mornings at 10 A.M.

ATHLETICS.—The members of St. John's Guild have always taken much interest in athletics. In addition to the regular gymnastics, basket ball is to be a feature of this winter's work. It is expected the Guild will have a good team and take a high place among the basket-ball teams of the different churches. A shuffle-board team will be organized among the older members, and a series of tournaments arranged with the teams of other churches.

A FOUNTAIN

A fountain giving forth filtered water has been placed on the side of the Church so that people passing along Broad street may stop and take a drink. The tablet suggests two ideas to the one who stops—the water is "For the public good," and he is to "Praise God from whom all blessings flow." The placing of this fountain in front of the Church is the outcome of an idea of one of our young women. She knew how much the people, who march down Broad street every evening, need something like this, especially during the hot days of summer; and what a blessing it would be to the children of the neighborhood to get a pure drink of water now and then. Although it seemed to be the right thing for the Church to do, yet it was out of the question for a poor Church barely able to meet its expenses to go to this extra expense, so an appeal was made to some persons who rejoice in an opportunity to do unto others as if they were the others, with the result that we have been able to place the fountain where it will do the most good. It is a pity that there was so much delay in getting the tablet and making the necessary connections, as the time when the water is most needed has passed for this year, but it will be in readiness for next summer. We believe it will do much to cheer the weary ones who toil all day in stores and factories and have a long walk before they get home. Many a young man, and old man, too, will not have the excuse so often urged when he steps into the saloon to satisfy his thirst.

Let us hope, as the children come to the fountain for a drink, they will learn that they should come to the church and receive that living water which the dear Lord will give to all who come to Him—"Come unto me and I will refresh you." It is our plan to have a large iron basin at the curb for horses to drink from, with a small one at the base for the dogs, but this is delayed on account of some difficulty in getting the approval of the authorities. When the asphalt was laid on Broad street all fountains were banished and we can only hope that the president of the Philadelphia Fountain Association will be able to get permission from the city to have the fountain for horses and dogs, for it is greatly needed.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

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The following subscriptions have been received:

Mrs. Darlington Mr. Barton

THE CHOIR

The music to be rendered by the Choir during the month will be as follows:

OCTOBER 6TH, 10.30 A.M.

Te Deum, in F . . . . . *Henry Smart*
Communion Service, in E flat . . . *Alfred Eyre*

4 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, in D *Berthold Tours*
Anthem—"Hear, O Lord" *Sir Frederick Ouseley*

OCTOBER 13TH, 10.30 A.M.

Te Deum, in D . . . . . *Henry Farmer*
Communion Service, in E flat . . . *Alfred Eyre*

4 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, in F . *Gladstone*
Anthem—"I Am Alpha and Omega" *Sir John Stainer*

OCTOBER 20TH, 10.30 A.M.

Te Deum, in D . . . . . *Henry Farmer*
Communion Service, in E flat . . . *Alfred Eyre*

4 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, in D *J. T. Field*
Anthem—"Now the Day is Over"
(Soprano Solo) . . . . . *Berthold Tours*

OCTOBER 27TH, 10.30 A.M.

Te Deum, in E flat . . . . . *Dudley Buck*
Communion Service, in E flat . . . *Alfred Eyre*

4 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, in F . *Glaastone*
Anthem—"I Will Mention Thy Loving Kindnesses" . . . . . *Sir Arthur Sullivan*

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The Ascension News

VOL. XIV. PHILADELPHIA, NOVEMBER, 1901 NO. 9

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Holy Communion.

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HOLY DAYS . . . . . 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON 10.30 A. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (Choral) . . . . . 4.00 P. M.
" (with Sermon) . . . . 7.45 P. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 5.00 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) . . 8.00 P. M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 2.30 P. M.

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GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Ascension Cadets . . . . . 7.30 P.M.
Fridays, St. Mary's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Brotherhood of St. Andrew . Second Monday, 8.00 P.M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Missionary Society . . . . . First Friday, 10.30 A.M.
Wednesday, Mothers' Meeting . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class . . . . . 10.30 A.M.
Thursdays, Ladies' Aid . . . . . 3.00 P.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 3.00 P.M.

Superintendent . . . . . THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent . . . . . MR. JOHN N. GILL
Secretary . . . . . MR. MARVIN LESCURE
Librarian . . . . . MR. D. L. WITMER
Organist . . . . . MR. THAYER

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MRS. HODGE

For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN

For Boys and Ascension Cadets . . . . . 2.30 P.M.
MISS BRINTON and MISS HODGE

COLORED VESTMENTS

SPECIAL vestments in performing the offices of the Christian Church have been in use from the very earliest times. As soon as the Church passed through the ages of persecution and was able to erect buildings and conduct its worship openly, the use of special vestments for the ministers of divine worship came in. That had been the use of the Jews and of ministers of other religions. We read in the Old Testament how God directed certain vestments to be made for the different orders of Priests and Levites. They were to be of the finest and richest materials and of all colors "for beauty and for glory."

This precedent was naturally followed in the Christian Church. The same instinct which led to the building of the most beautiful churches and filling them with everything that wealth and art could contribute, led to making the services conducted in them equally beautiful and effective.

This continued everywhere down to the Reformation. But then in those countries which revolted from Rome owing to the many corruptions in doctrine and practice which had grown up in the course of time, there was the natural tendency in trying to reform the Church of running to the extreme of throwing over everything which had belonged to the old Church and reducing its buildings and its worship to baldness and simplicity. Among some of the Lutherans, however, especially in Scandinavia, a great many of the modes of worship

THE ASCENSION NEWS

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
1416 Lombard Street

PUBLISHING COMMITTEE
WM. J. MORGAN JOHN C. GAISER

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KALENDAR

Nov.	1.	All Saints—Fast.
	3.	Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity.
	8.	Friday—Fast.
	10.	Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity.
	15.	Friday—Fast.
	17.	Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity.
	22.	Friday—Fast.
	24.	Sunday next before Advent.
	29.	Friday—Fast.
	30.	S. Andrew, Apostle.

RECORD FOR OCTOBER

Baptisms: Infants	2
Marriages	2
Communicants received:	
By transfer	2
Removed	4
Died	1
Communion of the Sick	1
Burials	2

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$406 99
" " Poor	4 88
" the Schools	16 10
" Debt	5 15
" Altar Society	2 00
" General Missions	1 50
" Missionary Box	2 00
" Ladies' Aid	2 00
" Mothers' Meeting	1 00
Of the Sunday-school	7 16
Total	$448 78

and the vestments were retained and are used to this day. In England the first prayer book set forth after the Reformation, prescribed that the minister in celebrating the Holy Communion should wear a linen alb and a vestment—that is, the chasuble, which had been the special Eucharistic vestment for centuries—or a cope. And at all the other offices of the Church he should wear a surplice. Owing, however, to the opposition of the Puritans, it was difficult even to retain the use of the latter, which they called "the rag of Popery." The prayer book, of the time of Queen Elizabeth (1559) and that of Charles II (1662), both prescribed the use of the ancient vestments, in what is known as the Ornaments rubric. And in one or two of the cathedrals the use of the cope was continued down to the end of the eighteenth century. They have also always been used in Westminster Abbey at coronations and on other state occasions.

During the last fifty years the use of vestments, other than the surplice, has been very largely revived in the Church of England and the other branches of the Church in communion with it. The use of different colored altar cloths and hangings came in first, then colored stoles, and lastly the Eucharistic vestments. These have all been used in this parish for twenty years, though for the Eucharistic vestment only white has been used. As long ago, however, as April, 1896, the following resolution was adopted by the Vestry:

"*Resolved*, That the Vestry thank the Rector for the changes in the ritual introduced on Easter day—which was the use of additional lights on the altar—and express the hope that he will introduce the colored vestments."

The Rector has not hitherto done this because he feared it might be offensive to some of the parishioners, but he now feels that the time has come when it should be done. He has received many requests to do so, and he believes that it would not only be acceptable to the vast majority of our people, but that consistency requires it. There is no more reason why the altar should have its different colored vestments which bring out the meaning of the different seasons in the church year, than that the clergy should. It seems incongruous to have all the hangings of the church purple, for instance in a penitential season, and the clergy robed in white.

Beginning, therefore, with the first Sunday in Advent, the use of colored vestments will be introduced, and we mention it now that the congregation may understand the reason for it. The ladies of our embroidery class have for some time been engaged in making them, and with two sets given us some time ago, we have the chief vestments of the different colors for the various festivals and fasts of the Church year. Their use will certainly add to the beauty and completeness of our services and bring out more strongly the character of the day or season of the year.

THE GENERAL CONVENTION

THOSE of our people who have not followed closely the doings of the General Convention of the Church lately held in San Francisco, may be glad to learn what was accomplished by it. The following were the chief things in regard to which action was taken: First, the extension of the Church by erecting new Bishoprics in China, Cuba, Hawaii, Porto Rico and the Philippines, beside dividing the Dioceses of Massachusetts and Kansas. A revision of the Constitution was completed, which is chiefly useful in that it opens the way for the erection of Provinces; that is, for the grouping together of our Dioceses in different sections of the country, each with its own Synod, instead of having only one General Convention as we have now for the whole Church. The use of the marginal readings, both of the old and revised versions of the Bible, was allowed in reading the Lessons in Church. Another important thing was the appointing of a commission to report at the next Convention in regard to the change of the name of the Church, the term Protestant Episcopal being so largely misleading, not bringing out the Catholic, historical character of the Church, but tending to confound it with the different Protestant sects. Again, a resolution was adopted recognizing the right of the Bishops to set forth special services for congregations not prepared for one reason or another to adopt the full use of the prayer book. The Convention also, by a large vote, refused to adopt the rigorous canon proposed, prohibiting the clergy from remarrying any divorced person, even the innocent party in case of a divorce for adultery.

The meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary in connection with the General Convention was very successful, and the offering on the occasion, the united offering of the women throughout the Church, for three years past, was over $100,000, the largest ever yet made.

PARISH NOTES

WOMAN'S GUILD.—The anniversary of the Guild took place on SS. Simon and Jude's day, when the reports of the different committees were read. These will be printed in the annual year book of the Parish, which is issued the first of Advent.

All the different departments of the Guild recommence their winter's work with this month. The Mothers' Meeting on Wednesday evenings, the Embroidery Class on Thursday mornings, the Ladies' Aid on Thursday afternoons and the Industrial School on Saturday mornings. The old and new workers will be welcomed in all of these departments. Donations of money or materials will also be very acceptable. A piece of linen is especially needed for new cottas for the choir. Any kind of second-hand clothing can be used in the missionary and benevolent work of the Parish. Such things can be sent to the church any time during the week, as it is always open.

ADDRESSES.—The Rector would like very much to have the present addresses of the following communicant members of the parish who have moved without notifying him:

Miss E. A. Davis
Mrs. Dusenburg
Mrs. Elizabeth Hobson and son
Mrs. E. A. Hendry
Mr. and Mrs. Louis Lafquist
Miss Annie Montgomery
Miss Annie M. Montgomery
Miss Margaret Terwilliger
Mrs. L. W. Webster
Miss Emma Schubert
Miss Julia E. Massey

MEMORIAL TO MAJOR CARPENTER.—The project for the erection of a memorial to our late Senior Warden in the church is taking shape. Several hundred dollars have been already subscribed for the purpose. When all the subscriptions are in, the form of the memorial will be determined on and orders given for its execution.

The Society of Sons of the Revolution, of which Major Carpenter was one of the founders, have resolved to hold a memorial service in the church when the memorial is unveiled. This will probably not be before towards the end of the winter.

Mr. Richard M. Cadwalader, whose office is in the Franklin Building, 133 South Twelfth street, is acting as treasurer for the memorial fund.

BOOKS NEEDED.—The attention of our congregation is very earnestly directed to our needs. For our Sunday-school library we require quite a number of books suitable for our little children, as well as to add to those for our older ones; also for our parish library. This is intended to replenish and enlarge the library for the benefit of those particularly who are members of our "Mothers' Meeting." Prayer books and hymnals are also needed for our church. It would also be an excellent thing to have Bibles to place, two in each pew in the middle aisle, and one in each pew in the side aisles. It would be both instructive as well as interesting for the members of our own congregation, as well as strangers, to follow our clergy in the reading of the lessons of the day.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite to this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor.

The following subscriptions have been received:

Mrs. Jensen — Miss Hopkins
Miss Holbrook — Miss Helen Weaver
Dr. T. R. Neilson

THE PURPOSE OF THE EUCHARIST

The purpose of the Eucharist is twofold:

I. To plead before God the Father the death and passion of Christ. This is called "The Oblation:"

"We, Thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before Thy divine majesty, with these Thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto Thee, the memorial Thy Son hath commanded us to make."

(*a*) As a sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, like the Jewish thank-offering:

"And we earnestly desire Thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving."

(*b*) As a sacrifice for sin, like the Jewish sin and trespass offering:

"Humbly beseeching The to grant that by the merits and death of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, and through faith in His blood, we, and all Thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins."

(*c*) As a sacrifice of worship and adoration, like the whole burnt offering giving the whole to God:

"And here we offer and present unto Thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy and living sacrifice unto Thee."

(*d*) As a sacrifice of intercession, like the peace offering:

"Humbly beseeching Thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of Thy Son Jesus Christ," etc.

(*e*) As a vicarious atonement:

"And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer Thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech Thee to accept this, our bounden duty and service; not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord."

II. To receive Christ's Body and Blood for the strengthening and refreshening of our souls. This is called the Communion.

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THE CHOIR

The music to be rendered by the Choir for the month will be as follows:

NOVEMBER 3D, 10.30 A.M.

Te Deum, in D . . . . . *Sir Arthur Sullivan*
Communion Service, in F . . . *Berthold Tours*

4 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, in F *Berthold Tours*
Anthem—"The King of Love, My Shepherd Is" (Baritone Solo) . . . . . *Gounod*

NOVEMBER 10TH, 10.30 A.M.

Te Deum, in B flat . . . . . *King Hall*
Communion Service, in F . . . *Berthold Tours*

4 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, in E flat *Caleb Simper*
Anthem—"Sweet is Thy Mercy" . *Jos. Barnby*

NOVEMBER 17TH, 10.30 A.M.

Te Deum, in D . . . . . *A. E. Fisher*
Communion Service, in F . *Berthold Tours*

4 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, in F *Berthold Tours*
Anthem—"O Taste, and See How Gracious the Lord Is" . . . . . *Sir John Goss*

NOVEMBER 24TH, 10.30 A.M.

Te Deum, in B flat . . . . . *King Hall*
Communion Service, in F . . . *Berthold Tours*

4 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, in B flat *Sir John Stainer*
Anthem—"O Lord, How Manifold" *Joseph Barnby*

THANKSGIVING DAY

NOVEMBER 28TH

Te Deum, in C . . . . . *Charles Gounod*
Kyrie Eleison, Sanctus, Benedictus Qui Venit } St. Cecilia Mass *Gounod*
Credo, Agnus Dei, Gloria in Excelsis } Service in F . . . . *Tours*

The Ascension News

VOL. XIV. PHILADELPHIA, DECEMBER, 1901 NO. 10

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET BELOW SOUTH ALL SEATS FREE

SERVICES

Holy Communion.

EVERY SUNDAY . . . 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
HOLY DAYS . . . . . 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON 10.30 A. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (Choral) . . . . . 4.00 P. M.
" (with Sermon) . . . . 7.45 P. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 5.00 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) . . 8.00 P. M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 2.30 P. M.

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WM. MOORE WHARTON

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

WALTER ST. CLARE KNODLE

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Ascension Cadets . . . . . 7.30 P.M.
Fridays, St. Mary's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Brotherhood of St. Andrew . Second Monday, 8.00 P.M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Missionary Society . . . . . First Friday, 10.30 A.M.
Wednesday, Mothers' Meeting . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class . . . . . 10.30 A.M.
Thursdays, Ladies' Aid . . . . . 3.00 P.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 3.00 P.M.

Superintendent . . . . . THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent . . . . . MR. JOHN N. GILL
Secretary . . . . . MR. MARVIN LESCURE
Librarian . . . . . MR. D. L. WITMER
Organist . . . . . MR. THAYER

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MRS. HODGE

For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN

For Boys and Ascension Cadets . . . . . 2.30 P.M.
MISS BRINTON and MISS HODGE

CATHOLIC AND ROMAN CATHOLIC

IS there any difference between these two terms? Do they refer to the same body? One would suppose so from the way in which some people always speak of Roman Catholics as Catholics, and never apply the latter word to any one else. Yet those same people, when they say their creed, say they believe in the "Holy Catholic Church." Do they mean that they believe in the Roman Catholic Church? Certainly not. Then they ought not to speak of Roman Catholics simply as Catholics, as if there were no others. They should call them always just what they call themselves, and what rightly describes them, Roman Catholics.

What, then, is the difference between these two terms? The word Catholic means universal. The Catholic Church is the universal Church. It embraces, so far as membership is concerned, all who are baptized, for baptism is the mode by which one becomes a member of the Church. Unfortunately all the members of this one universal Church are not united together as they should be, but have from time to time associated themselves together in different organizations. First, there are certain great branches of the historical organization of the Catholic Church, the Greek, the Roman and the English. The Greek Catholic Church includes all the Christians in the East, in Russia, Asia Minor, Syria and Greece. These have nothing whatever to do with the Bishop of Rome. They repudiate his authority just as much as we do, and they never were under his dominion.

THE ASCENSION NEWS

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS:
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KALENDAR

Dec. 1. First Sunday in Advent.
6. Friday—Fast.
8. Second Sunday in Advent.
13. Friday—Fast.
15. Third Sunday in Advent.
18. Ember Day—Fast.
20. Ember Day—Fast.
21. S. Thomas, Ember Day—Fast.
22. Fourth Sunday in Advent.
25. Christmas Day.
26. St. Stephen, Martyr.
27. S John, Evangelist.
28. Holy Innocents.
29 Sunday after Christmas.

RECORD FOR NOVEMBER

BAPTISMS 8
Jeannette Elizabeth Somers (Adult)
Marion Swayne Howard Swayne
Lydia Ray Withy Esther Estelle Withy
Cora Maria Dahlmer Alice Bertha Dahlmer
Mary Dick Phipps.

MARRIAGES 2
Francis DeWolf Theobald
and Edna Chatard Dulany.
Oscar Charles Sternquest
and Jeannette Elizabeth Somers.

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED:
New—Mrs. Laura May Swayne
By Transfer from St. John's Church, Lancaster—Gertrude Sweeton.
Transferred to Church of the Transfiguration, West Philadelphia—
Stevenson Hockley Walsh
Mrs. Roberta Lee Walsh.
Died—Mrs. Laura May Swayne
Mrs. Frances Cox.

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$447 49
" the Poor	32 12
" " Episcopal Hospital	20 36
" Altar Fund	5 00
" General Missions	1 30
" Diocesan "	25
" Domestic "	5 00
" Foreign "	5 00
" the Schools	10 35
" " Mothers' Meeting	5 00
" " Episcopal Convention Fund	3 00
Of the Sunday Schools	9 33
Total	$544 20

The Roman Catholic Church includes chiefly the members of the Latin race, the inhabitants of Italy, Austria, France, Spain, Portugal and some English-speaking people in Ireland and in this country. The distinctive feature of this branch of the Catholic Church is that it is in subjection to the Pope or Bishop of Rome. He is acknowledged in it as the supreme Head of the Church, that he is the Vicar of Christ, and infallible in what he teaches. But it is comparatively only of late years that this claim was advanced. The early Bishops of Rome made no such pretensions, and for a thousand years there was really no great division in the Catholic Church. So that organization now known as the Roman Catholic Church is really a modern thing, of recent growth.

The English Catholic Church includes the larger part of the members of the English-speaking race. It was the Church of England before the Reformation, so spoken of in the Magna Charta of King John. It was only for a short time subject to the Bishop of Rome. At the Reformation it threw off his usurped authority and certain other corruptions which had grown up in the course of time, but remained the same Church still. It has the same organization of Bishops, Priests and Deacons; it teaches the same great truths, and practices the same essential rites which have always been used in the Catholic Church.

Then there are some minor divisions of the Catholic Church, and beyond these what are known as the Protestant bodies. They are at one with the English Church in protesting against the claims of the Pope, but they have abandoned the historical organization of the Church and formed new bodies, some governed by Presbyters, some independent congregations. Some of these bodies arose only recently, some like the Methodists about a hundred years ago, others at the time of the Reformation. As far as their membership is concerned, they are all individually members of the Catholic Church, but the organizations themselves are not parts of that historic body.

It is very sad that Christians should be so divided, especially as many of the divisions are about comparatively small and unimportant matters, and the hope is that more and more all English-speaking people will become united in the historic English Church, and that eventually the other branches of the Catholic Church may be united as well, so that our Lord's prayer may be answered that all His disciples might be one. And only so can His kingdom come on earth.

And let every one remember that to be a Catholic is not to be necessarily a Roman Catholic. That is only one branch, and we believe a corrupt branch, of the Catholic Church. To be a Catholic is to belong to that one Church which our Lord Himself founded, of which we become members by baptism, and which, as an organization, has been handed down to us by a regular succession of Bishops, each one of whom has received his office from those who were Bishops before them, which professes the one faith contained in the great creeds which have been universally received, and which practices the essential rites which Christ Himself ordained in His Church. Because the English Church threw off the usurped authority of the Bishop of Rome it did not cease to be a part of the Catholic Church, the one Church Christ founded.

CHRISTMAS

THE blessed joyous Christmas season is coming around again. It is fitting that the world should rejoice at the annual commemoration of the birth of Christ. Oh that all men could realize what we owe to that birth, what unspeakable blessings it has brought into the world. It is right that we should be glad ourselves when we remember it and try to make others rejoice, too. No season of the year is rightly a more joyous one than the Christmas tide.

But do not let any make it simply a time of merry-making. Let us always think of its religious significance, without which its joys are meaningless. And that we may really enter into that, let each Christian make his solemn communion at that time. Let him cleanse his heart and renew his life, that as a good and loyal Christian he may renew his vow of fealty to that Divine Lord, who came down from Heaven to reveal God's love for man. Only so can we really keep this feast and enter into the joy which it brings. The heart that is clean in the sight of God and is filled with His love is the only heart that can have a really merry Christmas.

And if we have that joy ourselves we will want to do all we can to make others happy by our gifts to God's Church, to His poor and to His children.

THE COMMUNICANTS' GUILD

The spiritual work of a parish is not complete unless there is a Communicants' Guild or League in which the communicants are brought together in closer union with each other in the greatest of all privileges the Church gives to her children, the Sacrament of the Holy Communion. All confirmed persons who are communicants are members of this Guild.

The chief object of the Guild is to hold at different times devotional meetings and conferences for the purpose of helping the members to make a good preparation for the Holy Communion.

Some devout persons make their Communions as often as they can, others once a month, while many wait for the greater festivals. One thing is very important for us to remember, and that is, "to come to the heavenly feast in the marriage garment required by God in Holy Scripture, and be received as worthy partakers of that holy table."

The first devotional meeting and Conference will be held Wednesday evening, December 18th, at 8 o'clock, in the church.

We ask that all communicants will remember the Guild in their prayers, and use their personal influence to bring as many as they can to the meeting, that we may all come to the altar and receive the most precious gift, that came to us on Christmas Day, the Body and Blood of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

PARISH NOTES

CHRISTMAS.—The celebrations of the Holy Communion on Christmas Day will be at 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 and 11.30 A.M.; Morning Prayer and Sermon at 10.30 A.M., and Evening Prayer at 5 P. M. Thus everyone, no matter what his occupation, will have the chance to get to church and to make his Communion on that great festival.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS.—As usual, we ask for special and large offerings on Christmas Day. We depend on these to meet the interest of over $250 on our debt, which becomes due this month. In addition to this, we had to borrow money during the summer to carry us through that part of the year when so many are out of town. This should be paid off, too. So we need fully $1,000. Will not our people see that we have it? Let each give according to his ability. Let those whom God has blessed give largely, and the smaller offerings of those in moderate circumstances will count up too.

CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL.—We shall try to make the children of the parish glad by a festival on the evening of Holy Innocents' Day, which occurs this year on Saturday. The children will sing their carols in the church and then have their Christmas tree, a Punch and Judy show, etc., in the Parish Building. There being now so many children in the Infant School, there will be a special festival for them in the afternoon at 3 o'clock. We trust the members of the congregation will see that we have funds for the purpose. Any contributions may be handed to the Clergy or any of the teachers in the Sunday-school.

MEMORIALS.—The committee in regard to the memorial to Major Carpenter have met and decided that it shall take the form of a marble tablet to be placed in the church. The design is being prepared and we shall hope to see it in place early in the new year.

Since this was started, some members of the congregation have felt that a tablet should also be put up to Mr. Charles E. Bonnet, our late Accounting Warden. The money has been subscribed and it will be in place probably about the same time as that to Major Carpenter. These memorials to departed members and benefactors of our parish add to the sacredness and solemnity of the church and testify to the appreciation in which they were held.

THE VESTRY.—At the semi-annual meeting of the Vestry held last month, the Rector announced that he had appointed Mr. Francis S. Keese, Rector's Warden, in place of Major Carpenter, deceased. Mr. Keese is now the oldest member of the Vestry, and has been, since his first connection with the parish, one of its warmest friends and most liberal supporters.

OUR CHURCH WORK.—Our various organizations for church work are now in full operation. We are very glad to welcome back again after an absence of more than a year, Mrs. John Mason, who so long had charge of the Mothers' Meeting. She has also taken this year the headship of the girls' department of the Saturday Industrial School, and under her efficient management it bids fair to exceed in usefulness its record in any previous year. We are happy to have a number of new teachers in it, but there is need for more still, and we should be glad to hear of volunteers both in this and in the Sunday-school.

The Ladies' Aid Society, and the Embroidery Class, meet as formerly, on Thursday of each week, and will gladly welcome new workers.

And will not our ladies this year come in larger numbers to the Missionary meetings on the first Friday of each month after morning prayers? We think they would find them interesting and a means by which they might do a great deal of good. As God has blessed us, let us try to bless others, especially by carrying the Church and its ordinances to those who otherwise might never know its precious influences.

The members of our congregation are cordially invited to visit the Sunday-school services, 2.30 P. M. every Sunday, and our Mothers' Meeting, after the Wednesday evening services, in the Parish Building. Also come and see our St. John's Guild, Gymnasium and Basket Ball on Monday evenings, and our Cadets on Thursday evenings.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite to this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor.

The following subscriptions have been received:

Mrs. Roe
Miss Bryson
Mrs. G. W. Hodge
Rev. G. W. Hodge
Mr. Carroll Hodge
Mrs. Dallas
Mrs. Alexander
Miss Pitcher
Miss E. C. Hare

THE CHOIR

The music to be rendered by the Choir for the month will be as follows:

DECEMBER 1ST, 10.30 A.M.

Benedicite . . . . . *Lloyd*
Communion Service, in A . . . . . *Dr. Garrett*

4 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, in E flat *Caleb Simper*
Anthem—"Awake Thou That Sleepest" . *Allen*

DECEMBER 8TH, 10.30 A.M.

Benedicite . . . . . *Lloyd*
Communion Service, in A . . . *Dr. Garrett*

4 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, in E flat . *West*
Anthem—"Send Out Thy Light" . . . *Gounod*

DECEMBER 15TH, 10.30 A.M.

Benedicite . . . . . *Lloyd*
Communion Service, in A . . . . . *Dr. Garrett*

4 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, in B flat *Villiers Stanford*
Anthem—"The Grace of God" . . . . *Barnby*

DECEMBER 22D, 10.30 A.M.

Benedicite . . . . . *Lloyd*
Communion Service, in A . . . . . *Dr. Garrett*

4 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, in E . *Barnby*
Anthem—"Blessed Is He That Cometh" *Tours*

CHRISTMAS DAY AND SUNDAY IN OCTAVE.

DECEMBER 25TH AND 29TH, 10.30 A.M.

Te Deum, in G . . . . . *Holden*
Communion Service, in B flat . . . . *Schubert*

DECEMBER 29TH, 4 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, in D *Christopher Marks, Jr.*
Anthem—"Behold, I Bring You Good Tidings" *Sir John Goss*

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VOL. XV. PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY, 1902 NO. 1

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THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON 10.30 A. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (Choral) . . . . . 4.00 P. M.
" (with Sermon) . . . . 7.45 P. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 5.00 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) . . 8.00 P. M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 2.30 P. M.

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MISS M. J. GILPIN
For Boys and Ascension Cadets . . . . . 2.30 P.M.
MISS HODGE

WORSHIP AND PREACHING

THERE are two great purposes for which we go to church—to worship and to hear sermons. Both of these are very important. If there is an infinite and good God it is natural and proper, and necessary for the cultivation of our spiritual life, that we should worship that God. To worship is to adore, contemplate, admire, praise and pray to, and hold communion with, God. No act which the human being is capable of performing is higher or more important than that. Not to worship is simply to ignore God, to forget that He is and what He is, and to fail to derive the great benefits which flow from intercourse and communion with Him.

And while it is true that we can worship God anywhere, in our homes, in the country, on the sea, amid one's business, even, still there are certain places and surroundings and acts which are more suitable for it, and which are of immense assistance to any one in trying to perform this act. The church is for this purpose. It is made beautiful and solemn, and filled with objects calculated to impress each one who enters it with a sense of the greatness and beauty and holiness of that Being in whose presence we stand. And the services conducted there are the fullest and best expression of the worshipper's feelings, afford him the most perfect means of approach to God.

The highest and most perfect of all means of worship and communion with God is that service which our

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KALENDAR

Jan. 1. Circumcision.
3. Friday—Fast.
5. Second Sunday after Christmas.
6. Epiphany.
10. Friday—Fast.
12. First Sunday after Epiphany.
17. Friday—Fast.
19. Second Sunday after Epiphany.
24. Friday—Fast.
25. Conversion of S. Paul.
26. Septuagesima.
31. Friday—Fast.

RECORD FOR DECEMBER

BAPTISMS— Sarah Elizabeth McFadden
Kate Kelter Wilson 2

MARRIAGES— John Slater Morrison
and Rebe Ralston 1

COMMUNICANTS TRANSFERRED—
To the Church of the Holy Comforter, Philadelphia—
James Patchell
Mrs. Nellie F. Patchell
To S. Matthew's Church, Bloomington, Ill.—
Robert Boyd Burleigh 3
Died—Mrs. Catharine Stockton 1

BURIALS— Catharine Sampson
Mrs. Ellen F. Kennedy 2

OFFERINGS

For current expenses (including the Christmas offering)	$943 42
For the Poor	8 85
" " Sunday and Industrial Schools	3 25
" " Christmas decorations and festival	50 00
" General Missions	1 80
" Domestic "	3 00
Of the Sunday Schools	12 37
Total	$1022 69

Blessed Lord Himself ordained to be His memorial, by which the merits of His life and sacrifice may be pleaded before God and set forth to men. And this (except only in cases of illness) cannot be celebrated but in church. And it should be our constant act of worship. It is not something only for great and specially solemn occasions. Christ meant it for the distinctive rite of His religion. It is that which teaches what the Christian religion is better than anything else, and affords the closest possible intercourse with God. So the universal Christian habit has been to make it the great service for every Sunday and holy day, at the least. We are told in the New Testament that the first disciples celebrated it daily, and many Christians do the same still, especially in large churches where there are a number of clergymen. And the liturgies of all the branches of the historic Church provide for its daily celebration, and certainly expect it to be celebrated every Sunday and holy day, at the least. Our own prayer book provides a special Collect, Epistle and Gospel, which are parts of the service for the Holy Communion, for each of those days and for certain other occasions. And everyone who appreciates what the Holy Communion is will regard it as a great privilege to attend a church where it is celebrated so frequently and thus enjoy the fullest and most perfect means of worship.

The other great object of going to church is to hear sermons. These are needed to teach people the truths of the Christian religion and its practical duties, to keep them mindful of these things, to exhort to men to resist evil and strive after what is good, and to bring to their minds and hearts the comforts and consolations of religion. It was the means which our Lord Himself ordained for the propagation of the Faith. He commanded His disciples to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. And the apostle St. Paul speaks of God's saving men by "the foolishness" or simple means "of preaching." So our service for the baptism of infants tells the sponsors that they are to see that those for whom they stand hear sermons. It is part, therefore, of the duty of the clergy to be constantly preaching and the people should come to church and hear their sermons.

These two purposes of going to church are often combined, so that the attendants can worship and hear a sermon at the same time, though there are often services, as early communions and daily services, when there is no sermon, and, on the other hand, sometimes sermons are preached without there being any services.

But we want to bear in mind the relative importance of these two acts. We think the Protestant bodies generally have made a great mistake in making the chief object of church-going to hear preaching, and attaching too little importance to worship. We ought to regard the worship as the first purpose of going to church and the preaching as secondary. The one we can always take part profitably in, the other will depend upon the personal qualifications of the preacher. The place of the latter may be in a measure supplied by reading a sermon or good book at home, the former can only be fulfilled in church. Hence the moral obligation and great benefit of regular church attendance that one may engage in this highest, most important and most beneficial act of the lowly, devout worship of Almighty God. At the same time we should not neglect to hear sermons. There are some of our people nowadays who seem to think they do not need to hear sermons at all, and so come only for the worship. But all need to hear them to be aroused and enthused. Make worship the great object of church-going, but do not neglect to hear sermons as well.

PARISH NOTES

CHRISTMAS.—Our Christmas festival was well kept. The number of communicants was slightly larger than last year, and the amount of our offerings greater, though not all we needed to meet our accrued obligations. We must try to work them all off by Easter.

The Christmas music was very good. The choirmaster deserves the thanks of the congregation for the labor he has bestowed on the choir and the success he has attained.

Christmas is naturally a time for children to enjoy themselves. On Holy Innocents' Day the festival for the Infant Class was held at 3 o'clock. The tree was brilliant with electric lights provided by Messrs. Carroll Hodge and Richard Gilpin. Two young men gave a "Punch and Judy" show, which was enjoyed greatly by the little ones. Master William Platt Pepper, Jr., delighted the children with musical selections on a phonograph. The entertainment closed with the appearance of old Kris Kingle, who came gliding into the room in a sleigh that looked like a step ladder and drawn by reindeer that looked like ordinary two-legged boys. Old Kris handed out presents and candy to every child.

In the evening the children of the Main School met at 7.30 in the church, and after the singing of carols went to the parish rooms to enjoy the beautiful tree with its bright lights of red, white and blue. Mr. Hoy entertained the children for an hour with magic and tricks of various kinds, and a "Punch and Judy"

show. The latter was particularly enjoyable, as Punch seemed to be well acquainted with some of our boys and girls, and took them into his confidence. The children received gifts and candies, and went home to dream about the good time they had.

GIFTS.—The Rector had a very handsome new cassock presented to him at Christmas, and the church received a most needed donation of 90 new prayer books and 60 new hymnals from the Bishop White Prayer Book Society, obtained by our vestryman, Mr. Wm. Platt Pepper.

COMMUNICANTS' GUILD.—The service for preparation of the Christmas Communion, conducted by the Rev. M. Nelson, Rector of St. Peter's Church, on the Saturday before Christmas, was well attended and all present felt it was most profitable. We shall hope to have it repeated at least before the other great festivals.

CONFIRMATION.—Owing to the illness of the Bishop of the Diocese no appointment has yet been made for the annual Confirmation in our parish, but doubtless will be before our next issue, when we will announce the date, and also when the preparatory instructions will be given. In the meantime we trust that all in the parish who have not yet been confirmed and are of sufficient age will be looking forward to it and make up their minds to be confirmed this year. It is a duty and privilege no one should defer. Only those who are confirmed can receive the Church's choicest blessings.

OUR RECORD of the baptisms, etc., performed in the church month by month we have added to in this and our last issue by inserting the names of the persons baptized, married, etc. We have done this as a matter of interest to the parish at large, and also for the sake of accuracy. If any of the names are incorrect in any way the clergy will be glad to be informed, as accurate church records are of great importance, always being taken as evidence in any legal proceedings of the fact recorded. They are of importance, too, in regard to genealogical matters, questions of inheritance, pensions, etc.

THE HUMAN KALENDAR.—In sending out his report the Treasurer calls the attention of parishioners that about 6,000 hours are needed to complete the kalendar. A number of persons have answered the call for subscriptions. The names of contributors will be placed on the chart in the vestibule. A contribution of ten cents means one of the hours paid for. We would like to see the name of every member of the parish on the chart.

BASKET BALL.—Among the young men and boys of the church there is fast developing great interest for the game of basket ball. It was first introduced two months ago, when an exhibition game was given by two teams from neighboring parishes. At the last meeting of St. John's Guild it was decided to organize a team to win honors for the Guild. Mr. Zintel was elected manager.

The Cadets have three teams, two for the older boys and one for the younger.

In the short time the boys have had to practice they have produced strong teams, and have won some good victories from more experienced teams.

The "Ascension" team, which has played many games in the early part of the season, has lost a valuable member in Boyd Burleigh, who has gone West. The members of St. John's Guild who played on this team will probably play with the St. John's team in the future.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite to this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor. The following subscriptions have been received:

Miss Schell
Miss Dickerson
Dr. Pierce
Mr. Newnam
Mrs. Hiller
Miss Wurts
Mrs. Klofach
Miss Casey
Misses Harper
Mrs. Pollock

PAROCHIALISM

How do we know a selfish man? Every man must make and he must spend money. His private cash-book reveals his character. There we can read about him as in a novel. There one can mark his aims, his ambitions, his hopes and his disappointments. The diary may be full of self-deceit and ring false. The diary only tells what a man thinks of himself. But the cash-book, with its little daily detail of money earned and money spent and money given away, tells a true story. There we read his character in action.

In the same way we can tell the character of a family by means of the family cash-book. The income of the family is seen on one side and how that income is spent tells its story on the other. There we can see how the family is brought up; what sort of an example is set by the parents—and how they teach their children to use money. The family cash-book will tell the family character as well as its history.

So it is in the parish life. The income appears on one side of the cash-book. There is the story of what is given Sunday by Sunday and how much is raised outside or contributed by a few. On the other side we can read what is done with the income. There is, of course, the regular expenses of salaries, light and heat and music. But also in a well organized parish there are guild expenses and entertainments to raise money and occasional gifts to various objects which tell the character of the parish. The sin of parochialism has taken possession of a parish when it seeks its own support and entertainment and gives no effort in money to outside objects. Woe to a parish when it seeks only to pay its debts. These debts are sure to increase and the spiritual life to decrease. That is the law of ecclesiastical finance. We live and work in a parish on faith, but it is not the selfish faith which seeks its own success or support. It is rather the unselfish faith which gives away and prospers in the blessing promised to those who give generously.

THE CHOIR

The following music will be rendered by the Choir during the month of January:

JANUARY 5TH, 10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in G . . . . . *A. J. Holden*
Communion Service in E flat . . . *Alfred Eyre*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D
Christopher Marks, Jr.
Anthem, "O Zion That Bringeth Good Tidings"
Sir John Stainer

JANUARY 12TH, 10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in E flat . . . . . *King Hall*
Communion Service in E flat . . . *Alfred Eyre*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat
Villiers Stanford
Anthem, "We Have Seen His Star in the East"
Edwyn Clare

JANUARY 19TH, 10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in F . . . . . *Henry Smart*
Communion Service in E flat . . . *Alfred Eyre*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D
Christopher Marks, Jr.
Anthem, "Arise, Shine, For Thy Light is Come" . . . . . *G. J. Elvey*

JANUARY 26TH, 10.30 A. M.

Benedicite, E flat . . . . . *C. H. Lloyd*
Communion Service in E flat . . . *Alfred Eyre*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in F
S. S. Wesley
Anthem, "The Heavens Are Telling". . *Haydn*
(From the "Creation")

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VOL. XV. PHILADELPHIA, FEBRUARY, 1902 NO. 2

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SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON 10.30 A. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (Choral) . . . . . 4.00 P. M.
" (with Sermon) . . . . 7.45 P. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 5.00 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) . . 8.00 P. M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 2.30 P. M.

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GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, St. Mary's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Ascension Cadets . . . . . 7.30 P.M.
Brotherhood of St. Andrew . Second Monday, 8.00 P.M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Missionary Society . . . . . First Friday, 10.30 A.M.
Wednesday, Mothers' Meeting . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class . . . . . 10.30 A.M.
Thursdays, Ladies' Aid . . . . . 3.00 P.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 3.00 P.M.

Superintendent . . . . . THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent . . . . .
Secretary . . . . . MR. MARVIN LESCURE
Librarian . . . . . MR. D. L. WITMER
Organist . . . . . MR. THAYER

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MRS. HODGE
For Men . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS NEILSON
For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN
For Boys and Ascension Cadets . . . . . 2.30 P.M.
MISS HODGE

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

MOST men are made by their education. Of course there are exceptions. Some men who have had no educational advantages manage to educate themselves. There are occasional self-made men. And on the other hand, there are those who have had every possible advantage and opportunity for education and have not profited by them, have been unable or unwilling to use them. But the generality of men have their lives and characters determined by their education. They know and they think and they do what they were taught when they were young. This is true of religion as it is of secular knowledge. Most men believe what they were taught when they were children to believe, and they are good or bad according to the influences which were brought to bear upon them then. Hence the great importance of the religious education of the young. And we are perfectly astonished at the indifference of many professedly Christian parents to the religious teaching of their children. Parents who are most particular about the secular education of their children, making often great sacrifices in order to give them the best that can be had, will yet utterly neglect their religious education. Many argue that it may make religion distasteful and tiresome to young people if it is regularly and systematically taught them. But they have no such fear in regard to secular knowledge, forcing their children to go to school for the best part of at least five days in each week for many years of

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A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
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KALENDAR

Feb. 2. Purification B. V. M.
7. Friday—Fast.
9. Quinquagesima.
12. Ash Wednesday.
16. First Sunday in Lent.
19. Ember Day.
21. " "
22. " "
23. Second Sunday in Lent.
24. S. Matthias.
All days in Lent are fasts.

RECORD FOR JANUARY

BAPTISMS— Charles Henry Felix
Louisa Colton Boyd — 2

MARRIAGES— John Campbell
and Mary Potts Johnson — 1

COMMUNICANTS ADDED BY TRANSFER—
From the Church of the Mediator—
Mary Edith Hofmann
From Trinity Church, Alpena, Mich.—
Marion Grey
From S. Mary's Church, W. Phila.—
Alice Pearson — 3

COMMUNICANTS TRANSFERRED—
To the Church of the Holy Apostles—
Edith Bowker Whipple
To Epiphany Chapel—
Mary Strickland Willard — 2

DIED— Mrs. Jane Steffins
Samuel Wetherill — 2

BURIALS—Mrs. Jane Steffins
Alexander Taylor
Samuel Wetherill — 3

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$359 45
" the Poor	9 41
" General Missions	14 95
" Armenian "	1 00
Of the Sunday Schools	9 36
Total	$394 17

their lives, beside additional hard study, passing rigorous examinations, etc. If that does not make them hate all learning, why should a moderate amount of religious instruction make them hate all religion?

The truth is parents do not appreciate the importance of it themselves. Let them feel, and let them make their children feel, that there is a great good and advantage to be gained by acquiring religious knowledge, and the children will be quite ready to learn and be interested in learning.

Then there are some persons who think that religion is a very simple thing, that it does not require any time or attention to be paid to it. They do not believe in any dogmas or doctrines, creeds or catechisms. They think it consists simply in trying to live an upright life and in doing to others as we would have others do to us, and anyone can learn that. But the whole history of mankind has proved that religion is the most difficult of all kinds of learning, both to acquire and to put into practice. But as it is the most important and produces the most beneficial results, so is worth all the time and attention that can be bestowed upon it. It is worth far more than any secular learning we can acquire.

And education is, as we have said, the best way of acquiring religion. Some have naturally religious instincts and impulses, some gain them through emotional processes, or as the results of great trials and hard experiences, but most men are religious because they have been trained up to be so. Hence the great care and provision that the Church has made for the religious education of her children. As soon as they are born she directs that they be baptized and be thus taught from

the very opening of their intelligence that they are Christians and bound to live as such. It requires god-parents to be provided for them in addition to their natural parents, in case these should be taken away from them or fail to do their duty. And she solemnly instructs these god-parents to see that their wards "be taught so soon as they shall be able to learn . . . all things which a Christian ought to know and believe." And that they may have the means of thus instructing them she provides a religious catechism for the children to learn. Then she has her Sunday-schools and Bible classes, and Confirmation instructions and preparations, etc. And everyone who has any responsibility in regard to the bringing up of children will see that these directions and prescriptions of the Church are complied with. But beyond that they must remember that the eye must be taught as well as the ear, and that it is of the first importance that religious habits be cultivated. Hence the value of bringing children up to regular church going. The Church itself, its services, its associations, will do more to impress religious truth and affect the heart and sensibilities than any amount of oral instruction. Above all, it is essential that those having the care of children should impress upon them by their own lives and conduct their appreciation and sense of the value of religious things. If we have not that ourselves it is vain for us to try to give it to others. The whole secret of our success as religious teachers hangs upon it. Let everyone to whom God has intrusted children feel that the most important thing they have to do is to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; their whole happiness and well being for time and for eternity will hang upon it. It should, therefore, be given the first thought, concern and attention, not neglected or left to chance. Of all departments of education it is the most important, the most vital in its effects upon the character of the individual and its influence on society.

MR. SAMUEL WETHERILL.

THE parish has again been called upon to part with one of its oldest members and Vestrymen, Mr. Samuel Wetherill, who died at his residence in this city on January 22d. He had been in failing health for a long time. It is more than a year since he was in the Church, and he has been confined to his room since last July. He was in his seventy-sixth year.

Mr. Wetherill belonged to the old Quaker family of that name in this city, but entered the Church in his early manhood, and remained an interested and devoted member of it until his death. He formerly belonged to Old Christ Church, on Second street, and was at one time secretary of its Vestry. For a while he attended St. Clement's Church; but on the establishment of Christ Church Chapel at Nineteenth and Pine streets, he attached himself to it, and when the minister in charge of it became Rector of this parish he was transferred here, and continued a regular attendant as long as his health permitted. Eleven years ago he became almost totally blind, but he never allowed that to interfere with his going to church. His attendant brought him regularly to the door of the church and the Verger led him to a seat.

Mr. Wetherill was a Vestryman of the parish from April, 1881, until April,

1901, when he resigned, feeling that he could no longer discharge the duties of his position. And, though he always advocated the most conservative and cautious policy, his unfailing interest in the Church and his professional and business experience were of great service. He was a liberal contributor to the building of the church and chancel. His gift of $1,500, indeed, made the erection of the latter possible. He frequently assisted the church also by loans in times of need. We are glad also to say that he remembered the parish in his will by a gift of $1,000 towards the payment of the principal of the mortgage on the property. He left also a small personal remembrance to the Rector.

Mr. Wetherill was buried January 25th in the church yard of St. Paul's Church, Upper Providence, which is near a farm which had been in his family many years, and where he always spent his summers, our Rector, together with the Rector of that church, officiating. May he rest in peace.

PARISH NOTES

LENT begins very early this year. Ash Wednesday is the 12th of this month. We hope our people will resolve to keep it as the Church teaches us that we should. If properly kept it can be a most important influence in our lives. The way to keep it is by acts of special self-discipline and sacrifice, by extra religious exercises, reading, meditation, etc. We hope especially that our people will attend regularly our daily service. The boys of the Choir will be present each afternoon at the five o'clock service, which adds very much to its attractiveness. There will be a lecture on Friday afternoons.

A children's Lenten Service will be held Saturday afternoons at 4 o'clock. The talk to the children will be illustrated. It is hoped all the children of the parish will come to these services and bring their friends.

CONFIRMATION will be administered in this parish on the evening of March 19th, by the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Easton, in the absence of the Bishop of the Diocese. Instructions preparatory to confirmation will be given by the Rector on Mondays, beginning with Monday, February 10th, at 4 P. M. and on Saturday evenings at 8 P. M., and by the Curate at the Wednesday evening service.

All in the parish not yet confirmed are earnestly invited to attend one of these courses, beginning with the first lecture, as it is very important they should all be attended.

DIOCESAN MISSIONS.—The special benevolent envelope this quarter, sent out with those for the support of the Church, is for Diocesan Missions. This parish is asked to contribute $90 for this purpose. This is considerably less than we were asked to give last year, as it was represented to the Convocation that we could not give as much as was expected of us. We trust, therefore, that the amount now asked will be readily contributed. The envelopes marked for Diocesan Missions may be placed on the plate at any offertory.

THE MEMORIAL SERVICE for Major Carpenter will probably be held on the afternoon of the last Sunday in this month, taking the place of the usual four o'clock service, as it is expected the memorial tablet to his memory will be in place by that time.

The service will be modeled on that held in St. Mark's Church on the day of the funeral of Queen Victoria. It will follow the general order of Evening Prayer; the sentences, psalms, lesson, and collects from the Burial office being substituted for those of the day.

The service will be under the auspices of the Society of Sons of the Revolution, of which Major Carpenter was one of the founders, which will attend in a body. Invitations will also be extended to other societies and the First City Troop, of which he was a member. All the pews in the Church will be reserved for these guests, the chairs being open for the general congregation.

THE GUILD OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD branch of the Junior Auxiliary, will hold a Tea Party, Saturday afternoon, February 8th. Girls between ages of 12 and 16 are invited to attend.

The following Saturday the girls begin their usual Lenten work, making garments and things to be sent to help missionary work. We hope all who are interested in this important work will help the Guild to send a larger box than usual. Anything in the way of material to be worked into garments for children will be most welcome, and may be sent to Miss A. M. Pepper, in care of the Sexton, at the church.

SPECIAL SERMON.—On the morning of February 23d the Rt. Rev. Dr. Brown, Bishop of Arkansas, will preach in the Church, presenting the needs of his very interesting Diocese.

A PIANO is very much needed for the practicing of the Choir. It is the best instrument for the purpose, and the one now belonging to the Church was obtained many years ago in exchange for a small pipe organ we had, and is utterly worn out and beyond repair. Is there anyone in the congregation who has a piano they could loan or donate for the purpose? Or will anyone present one to the Church? It would be impossible to get even a second-hand one under $100.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite to this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor. The following subscriptions have been received:

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Mrs. Leaming
Mrs. Parrish
Mrs. Brice
Mrs. Grosholz
Miss McCauley
Mrs. Minshal
Miss Barrington
Miss C. W. Hare
Mrs. Connelly
Mrs. Waterall
Miss Stockton
Mrs. Boyd

THE CHOIR

The following music will be rendered by the Choir during the month of February:

At each morning service, except on the Feast of the Purification, February 2d:

Benedicite, in E flat . . . . . *Lloyd*
Communion Service, in F . . *Sir John Stainer*

FEBRUARY 2D, 4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in F
S. S. Wesley
Anthem—"Hark, Hark My Soul"
H. Rowe Shelley

FEBRUARY 9TH, 4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in F . *Gladstone*
Anthem—"If with All Your Hearts"
Mendelssohn
(Tenor Solo from "Elijah")

FEBRUARY 16TH, 4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in F . *Gladstone*
Anthem—"Turn Thy Face From My Sins"
Attwood

FEBRUARY 23D, 4 P. M. (Memorial Service)

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in C minor
Charles Wood
Soprano Solo—"I Know That My Redeemer Liveth" (Messiah) . . . . . *Handel*
Anthem—"Blest are the Departed" ("Last Judgment") . . . . . *Spohr*

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The Ascension News

VOL. XV. PHILADELPHIA, MARCH, 1902 NO. 3

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The Ascension News

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WM. J. MORGAN
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GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, St. Mary's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Ascension Cadets . . . . . 7.30 P.M.
Brotherhood of St. Andrew . Second Monday, 8.00 P.M.

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SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 3.00 P.M.

Superintendent . . . . . THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent . . . . .
Secretary . . . . . MR. MARVIN L. SCURE
Librarian . . . . . MR. D. L. WITMER
Organist . . . . . MR. THAYER

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Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MRS. HODGE
For Men . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS NEILSON
For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN
For Boys and Ascension Cadets . . . . . 2.30 P.M.
MISS HODGE

HIGH, LOW AND BROAD CHURCH

WE have been asked to explain what is meant by these terms, and we gladly do so.

By High Church we understand those who have high views as to the divine authority and importance of the Church, ministry and sacraments. That is, they believe that these things are of divine, not human, appointment. They are what our blessed Lord Himself saw to be necessary for the carrying on of His work on earth. And He ordained them and promised His special presence in them, and so uses them as means by which He gives His grace and blessing to His people. They are things, therefore, not to be neglected or treated as if they were of little importance. So the High Church thinks that churches should be made as beautiful and impressive as possible, and that the services conducted in them should be solemn and effective; that everything that art and music and ritual can do to teach and inspire people with devotional feelings should be employed in the worship of God.

The Low Church, on the contrary, looks upon religion as entirely a spiritual thing, and that what is outward and material has very little to do with it. So while they think, of course, there must be some church organization and church services, they do not attach so much importance to them. They think one form of church government as good as another; do not believe in Apostolical succession, or that the sacraments are anything more than mere signs and figures. And they

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EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

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KALENDAR

March 2. Third Sunday in Lent.
" 9. Fourth Sunday in Lent.
" 16. Passion Sunday.
" 23. Palm Sunday.
" 24. Monday before Easter.
" 25. Tuesday before Easter.
" 26. Wednesday before Easter.
" 27. Maundy Thursday.
" 28. Good Friday.
" 29. Easter Even.
" 30. Easter.
" 31. Monday in Easter Week.
All days in Lent are fasts.

RECORD FOR FEBRUARY

BAPTISM—George Gilmore McLaughlin 1

MARRIAGES— Clarence LaRue Bonta and Bertha Ellen Frisby
John Blake Miller and Mae Dallas Johnson 2

COMMUNICANT RECEIVED FROM THE CHURCH OF ROME—John Klofack 1

COMMUNICANTS TRANSFERRED—
To the Church of the Beloved Disciple
Mrs. Mary Fanny Perry
To S. James' Church, Lancaster
Mrs. Anna Sterritt
To S. Mary's Church, West Philadelphia
Mrs. Henrietta Maria Leiper
Catharine Stockton Leiper 4

BURIAL—Robert McClintock 1

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$309 08
" the Poor	19 92
" General Missions	2 47
" Diocesan "	23 70
" Schools	25
" Debt	01
Of the Sunday Schools	7 77
Total	$363 20

prefer as little form as possible in worship, and do not regard church buildings or anything connected with them as having any special sanctity, so they are opposed to all outward marks or signs of reverence.

The Broad Church are those who are indifferent to all these things. They look upon them simply as matters of taste. What is pretty or pleasing they will use, but they do not value outward things any more than the Low Church do, though they do not oppose their use by those who like them. With them religion is a matter of philosophy. They think they cannot believe in anything they do not understand, and so try to explain away all that is mysterious or supernatural in Christianity. They recognize its spiritual value, but find it difficult to reconcile all that has been supposed to go with it with modern views as to science, etc. So they have very loose views as to the Bible, attributing a great deal in it to myth, superstition and ignorance. They accept the creeds even in a non-natural sense, and have very hazy views as to the divinity of Christ, future punishment, and even the immortality of the soul.

These are the different schools of thought in the Church, due to the different tempers or altitudes of human minds. And, of course, there is every variety in these schools. Some carry one or the other of these tendencies to great extremes; others are more moderate, and some even combine one tendency with another. And the existence of these different schools in the Church is no reproach to the Church, but rather its glory, for it shows its true Catholicity. It is the recognition of the fact that all minds and all tastes cannot be the same, and that so long as men can agree on the essentials of the faith and practice of the Christian Church, they should dwell together in one communion and fellowship, even though they cannot all think alike or feel alike in everything. Of course, some are more loyal to the teachings of the Church than others. Still, as long as a man professes himself loyal and says he can accept what the Church requires of her members, he should be regarded as within her comprehension.

The great mistake that Protestants have made has been not only to break away from the historic church, but to divide up among themselves about every trifling matter, so that in every little village we have seven or eight churches, all weak and struggling, wasting their resources in keeping up separate establishments, differing from one another in only some small particular; whereas the claim of the Episcopal Church is that it is part of the same historic organization Christ Himself formed, and that it requires as necessary to communion only what is absolutely essential to the faith, the integrity or practice of the Church, and outside those things she allows liberty. This liberty is sometimes abused, but the kindly, fatherly government of our Bishops is generally sufficient to restrain excesses and maintain peace and loyalty among her members.

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PARISH NOTES

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER.—As heretofore, we try to offer our people everything that can assist them in the proper keeping of these most sacred seasons of the year. There will be four services every day during Holy Week: 7.30 A. M., Holy Communion; 10 A. M., Morning Prayer and Holy Communion, with short address; 5 P. M., Evening Prayer, and 8 P. M., a sermon each night, except Thursday, when an illustrated devotional lecture in the parish building on the Passion Play will be given. This is not intended for children under fourteen.

On Good Friday there will be a children's service at 9 A. M., conducted by the Curate, and at 11 A. M. Morning Prayer and Litany, followed by the singing of the Reproaches and the preaching of the Cross from 12 to 3 P. M. by the Rector.

On Easter Day there will be Celebrations at 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 and 11.30 A. M.

EASTER OFFERING.—Every year we have to depend on the Easter offering to make up the amount needed for our current expenses for the year. This year we require about $1,000 to meet all our expenses up to May 1st over and above what we shall probably receive from the general offerings. That we may receive that amount, all our people must be generous and self-sacrificing. Let each, according to his ability, give as he can. Our current expenses must be met before anything else, and before we give for other objects we must give for this. Do not let us have a deficit to carry on to another year.

THE CARPENTER MEMORIAL.—The mural tablet to the memory of our late lamented Senior Warden has at length been erected, and every one agrees that it is a very handsome monument, worthy of its purpose and an ornament to the church. As this paper is not issued until after the first Sunday in March, when the memorial service took place, we are able to say of it that it was very satisfactory. A large number of the members of the

Society of Sons of the Revolution and of other societies to which Major Carpenter belonged attended in a body, together with the First City Troop, in uniform, over fifty strong. The front seats on one side of the middle aisle were occupied by the Carpenter family, all of whom expressed much satisfaction both with the tablet and the service.

THE TABLET TO MR. BONNET has also been put in place, and is a deserved recognition of the worth of a faithful servant of the Church.

SONG RECITAL.—Through the kindness of Mrs. Spencer Ervin, a song recital was given in her house, on February 10th, for the benefit of this parish. It was very successful, the rooms being crowded to their fullest capacity, and the total proceeds amounted to something over $300—a very acceptable contribution towards meeting our expenses this year.

A NEW PIANO, which was very much needed for the practice of the choir, has been purchased and put in the Guild room, through the exertion of one of the ladies of the parish, supplemented by a portion of the proceeds of the song recital.

CONFIRMATION will be administered on the evening of the 19th instant, and we are glad to say that we have a very large class in preparation—one of the largest ever presented of late years. The instructions are given on Wednesday and Saturday evenings, and the Rector will meet any who cannot come on either of those evenings on Monday afternoons at 4 o'clock.

THE LADIES' AID are working this Lent for a poor church in the northern part of the city, and for an Indian school. They have the material cut out, but they want more hands to help in making it up. Who will volunteer and come on Thursday afternoons? Those who do not care to sit and sew there can take the work home.

DIOCESAN MISSIONS.—This parish is asked this year to contribute $90 towards the Diocesan Mission fund, a sum considerably smaller than we were asked to give last year, as the Rector represented to the Convocation that we could not contribute so much as we had been doing. We hope, therefore, it will all be raised by the envelopes marked for that purpose which were sent out this quarter. The Rev. Edgar Cope, the Rector of St. Simeon's Church in this city, who is very familiar with the missionary work of the Diocese, and who has been very successful in raising money himself, will speak to the congregation on this subject on Sunday morning, March 9th.

LENTEN PREACHERS.—Friday, March 7th, the Rev. E. L. Ogilby, Rector of St. Barnabas' Church, Kensington, will preach at the 5 o'clock service; March 14th, the Rev. A. H. Hord, Rector of St. Michael's Church, Germantown, and March 21st, the Rev. L. P. Powell, Rector of St. John's Church, Lansdowne.

In addition to his services in his own parish, the Rector is preaching this Lent in St. Michael's Church, Germantown; St. Philip's Church, West Philadelphia; St. James', Hestonville; Trinity Church, Southwark; Trinity, Collingdale; St. Barnabas', Kensington; St. John's, Lansdowne, and St. David's, Manayunk.

The Curate is to conduct the Three Hours' Service on Good Friday, in the Church of the Annunciation, Twelfth and Diamond streets.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite to this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor. The following subscriptions have been received:

Mrs. Bonsac
Miss Lloyd
Miss McKnight
Mrs. Willens
Mrs Tait
Mr. Kelly
Mrs. Bonnet
Mrs. Van Harlingen
Mrs. Carman

THE HUMAN KALENDAR

The treasurer of the Human Kalendar wishes to acknowledge the following new contributions towards the 6,000 needed to complete the Kalendar.

Miss Vodges, Mrs. Leaming Smith, Miss Lavinia Smith, Mrs. Richard Biddle, Miss Kater, Mrs. Lafourcade, Miss Casey, Mr. H. A. Kerr, Miss Bryson, Mrs. Hawkes, Miss M. W. Boyd, Mrs. G. M. Dallas, Mrs. French, Misses Epprecht, Mrs. J. Jackson, Miss A. H. Chamberlaine, Mrs. Klofach, Miss Griffith, Mrs. J. Harris, Mr. Keese, Mrs. C. Baird, Miss Carpenter, Mrs. Fenney, Miss Eliza King, Miss Bessie Beverlin, Mr. and Mrs Barton, Mrs. Boyd, Mrs. Atlee, Mrs. Gilfillen, Miss Alice Goodman, Miss Anable, Mrs. Wharton, Miss Rosa Wharton, Miss Ellen Wharton, Mr. Klofach.

The amount of new contributions	$ 46 48
The amount received up to Oct. 25th	297 82
Total to date	$ 344 30

The number of hours required to complete the Kalendar, 5,535.

In order to help those who have not contributed and may care to help to complete this work, the treasurer will send a folder that may be returned with any amount. Ten cents is the cost of one hour.

HYMN FOR CANDIDATES FOR CONFIRMATION

Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee.
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing
Always, only, for my King.
Take my lips, and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold;
Not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use
Every power as Thou shalt choose.

Take my heart, it is Thine own;
It shall be Thy royal throne.
Take my will, and make it Thine;
It shall be no longer mine.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure-store.
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee. Amen.

—Frances Ridley Havergal.

THE CHOIR

The following music will be rendered by the Choir during the month of March:

At each morning service for the four remaining Sundays in Lent:

Benedicite, in E flat . . . . *C. H. Lloyd*
Communion Service, in F . . *Berthold Tours*

MARCH 2D, 4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in C minor *Charles Wood*
Soprano Solo—"I Know That My Redeemer Liveth" (Messiah) . . . . . *Handel*
Anthem—"Blest are the Departed" ("Last Judgment") . . . . . *Spohr*
Organ Postlude—"Dead March in Saul," *Handel*

MARCH 9TH, 4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D *J. T. Field*
Anthem—"Seek Ye the Lord" . *J. V. Roberts*
(Tenor Solo and Chorus)

MARCH 16TH, 4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in C minor *Charles Wood*
Baritone Solo—"It is Enough" (Elijah) *Mendelssohn*

MARCH 23D, 4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat *Sir John Stainer*
Anthem—"Abide with Me" . . *Joseph Barnby*

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat *Villiers Stanford*
Baritone Solo—"The Palms" . . . . . *Faure*

EASTER DAY. MARCH 30TH
10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in G . . . . . *A. J. Holden*
Communion Service:
Kyrie Eleison, Crede, Agnus Dei, Gloria in Excelsis } Mozart's First Mass in C
Benedictus Qui Venit, Sanctus } "St. Cecili Mass" *Gounod*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D *J. Christopher Marks, Jr.*
Anthem—"Hallelujah Chorus" (Messiah) *Handel*

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VOL. XV. PHILADELPHIA, APRIL, 1902 NO. 4

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HOLY DAYS . . . . . 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON 10.30 A. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (Choral) . . . . . 4.00 P. M.
" (with Sermon) . . . . 7.45 P. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 5.00 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) . . 8.00 P. M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 2.30 P. M.

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Assistant Superintendent . . . . .
Secretary . . . . . MR. MARVIN L. SCURE
Librarian . . . . . MR. D. L. WITMER
Organist . . . . . MR. THAYER

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For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN
For Boys and Ascension Cadets . . . . . 2.30 P.M.
MISS HODGE

OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

WE want our people to understand something of the conditions under which the work of our parish is carried on.

Our church is situated on one of the largest streets in the city, and in the central part of the city, and it might be supposed from those circumstances that its conditions for work were very favorable. But while Broad street is handsomely improved down to South street, it is not so below. From South to Ellsworth, Broad street is taken up with vacant lots, stone yards, places of business or very small houses. And there is nothing below South street to attract persons living north of it so much as to walk down that way. There are no places of amusement, no shops, no park, nothing to make it an attractive walk. So few persons living north of the church ever see it, many do not even so much as know of its existence. And the apothecary shop between the church and South street hides it even from those who come down as far as Lombard street. We are out of the way, therefore, and out of sight and mind of the wealthier classes living in the section of the city north of the church.

And the section south of the church is not much better for work among the people living there. For South street itself is entirely a street of shops, and the people who live over the shops are almost entirely Jews, whom we cannot reach; then the small streets below are largely

(Continued on page 5)

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THE CLERGY

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MR. RICHARD GILPIN
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KALENDAR

April 1. Tuesday in Easter Week.
4. Friday—Fast.
6. Low Sunday.
11. Friday—Fast.
13. Second Sunday after Easter.
18. Friday—Fast.
20. Third Sunday after Easter.
25. St. Mark's Evan.—Fast.
27. Fourth Sunday after Easter.

RECORD FOR MARCH.

BAPTISMS—ADULTS—
Edward Henry Ahern
James William Adams
William Higgins Conger
Alatee Buckingham
Joseph Levering Maxwell

INFANTS—
Thomas Rundle Nelson, Jr.
Dorothy Elizabeth Maginnis 7

CONFIRMED—
William Higgins Conger
Albert Julius Dahlman
Edward George Davey
James William Adams
Edward Henry Ahern
Irwin Sheetz Conger
George Harold Fairchild
Christian John Hawkes
Edward Kelly
William Everett Linton
Clarence Clinton Martz
Frank Cullis Morley
Joseph Levering Maxwell
Robert James Lindsay
George Sidall Phipps
Thomas Edward Smith
Richard Blair Stevenson
Edward Forrest Ward

CONFIRMED—(Continued)—
Mrs. Laura May Anderson
" Jane Bryan Casey
" Clara Louisa Conger
" Helena Dahlman
" Rose Fairchild
" Sarah Emma Withey
Miss Mary Elizabeth Aimies
" Florence Gertrude Barnes
" Matilda Buckingham
" Maimie Boggs
" Bertha Henderson Coffey
" Elizabeth Bella Diehl
" Marion Graham
" Margaret Elizabeth Gill
" Clara May Hill
" Katie Hutz
" Mary Ella Livezey
" Rachel Smith
" Margaret Jennie Stewart
" Susan Smith
" Elizabeth Smith Simmonds
" Ida Trapp
" Mabel Walker 41

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED, NEW, BY TRANSFER—
From the Church of the Saviour, West Phila.
Joseph D. Gratz
From S. Luke's Church, Bustleton—
Joseph Donaldson Marshall
Mrs. Emma Marshall
" Elizabeth Jefferson Smith
From the Church of England—
George Fairchild 5

TRANSFERRED—
To S. Paul's Church, Norwalk, Conn.—
Herbert O. Pollard
To S. Stephen's Church, Norwood—
Charles Lynch
Mrs. Kate Lucas Lynch
To Mount Clair, Colorado—
Clement R. Troth
Mrs. Margareth S. Troth
Herbert Walter Troth
Henry Norris Troth
Mrs. Helen Walter Wood 8

BURIAL—
Mrs. Eliza Wildey Hoskinson 1

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$952 43
" the Poor	19 59
" Diocesan Missions	31 55
" Schools	5 00
" Flowers	45 69
Memorial Tablet	75 00
Of the Sunday Schools	7 04
" " for Missions	90 00
At Discretion of the Rector	5 00
Total	$1231 30

filled with colored people who have their own churches. Then we are surrounded by other churches. St. Luke's Church, with its $300,000 endowment, is three blocks north of us, All Saints' three blocks east of us, St. Mark's Chapel three blocks west, and the Church of the Messiah not much further to the south of us, to say nothing of three Presbyterian, two Methodist and two Roman Catholic Churches in the same area. Is it not evident that, as far as religious facilities are concerned, the neighborhood is overstocked, and that it must be rather difficult for a church to sustain itself there, especially one that is dependent entirely upon free-will offerings and has no endowment? And how can such a church do the missionary and eleemosynary work which every church ought to do? The way it is sustained is by persons coming to it from every quarter of the city. They are people, generally, who have lived near to it, but having moved to a distance are so attached to it that they will not give it up, and our trolley system nowadays makes it possible for persons to attend churches at great distances from their homes. Still we have not the support we ought to have to do a work which we are convinced could be done in our immediate neighborhood. There are many white people living near the church who do not go to, or are not regularly connected with, any church. But they must be sought out or attracted in some way to the church. To do this we ought to have a parish visitor, a sister or deaconess, or another assistant minister. And we ought to have a larger parish building, where more classes could be held and more attractions furnished to reach the young people of both sexes. But these things cannot be had without money. We think we are doing a good work in the neighborhood as it is (witness our large Confirmation class of 41 this year) with the resources we have. But if some one would only extend our plant, or provide us with an endowment, or even remove our debt, it would be easier for us to get on and our work could be largely extended.

We refer to these things that our people may understand the conditions which confront us, and in the hope that some may be moved, either by gifts during their lifetime, or by making provision for it in their wills, to give us the means to strengthen and extend the good work we are doing, and to put it upon a basis beyond peradventure of disaster or diminution.

PARISH NOTES

GIFTS.—We have to acknowledge with thanks the gift of a piece of muslin from John Wanamaker and a piece of flannel from Strawbridge & Clothier for the use of the Mothers' Meeting. Also some materials donated to the Ladies' Aid for their Lenten work, a number of flowers for the Easter decorations and two new silk stoles, a green and a white one, from the Embroidery Class.

THE CONFIRMATION CLASS this year is the largest but one ever confirmed in this parish, 41 in all. Once during the present rectorship we had 47 confirmed in the old church on Lombard street, the class including some of the girls of the Indian School which then attended the church. But our classes of late years have generally been between 20 and 30. This is certainly indicative of progress. And we trust that all those confirmed will become faithful and devoted members of the parish.

OUR EASTER.—We were fortunate in having a most beautiful Easter day and it was well kept in the parish. The

church looked very beautiful and the music was very good, some competent critics pronounced it most creditable. The number of communicants at the early Celebration was, we think, the largest we have ever had, there being 355 in all during the day, of whom only 46 were at the mid-day celebration. We had not as large a crowd at the latter service as we have had sometimes, but that was largely due to attractions offered in other churches and to the great exodus of people to the seashore and country on such a beautiful day. The offerings on Easter day amounted to $650; this was $350 short of the amount asked for, but the gratifying thing about it was that only $250 was in large offerings, the rest being made up of small sums.

THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—Easter day was a bright day for the Sunday-school. The Children's Vesper Service was largely attended, showing how much the school has grown in the past year. While those interested in this work have reason to be greatly encouraged, the prospect of increasing the school is not so bright, owing to the fact that our present accommodations are so limited. If the Sunday-school is to increase in size and influence, an addition to the parish building will become a necessity. The Primary Class, which is the great "feeder" to a school, is cramped up in a dingy room. Has not the time come for an annex or another story to our parish building? Under the management of Mr. Charles Walker the school has been well organized.

The Easter offering through the mite boxes was larger than it has ever been. About $90 was contributed by the children and the members of the Bible Classes to the Church's missionary work.

Each child received a large flowering plant to take with them to brighten their homes.

VESTRY ELECTION.—On Easter Monday, March 31st, the following gentlemen were duly elected to serve for the ensuing three years: Thomas R. Neilson, M.D., William Platt Pepper, David L. Witmer, William C. Lloyd. William H. King, M.D., was elected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of the late Senior Warden, Major Carpenter.

A CLERE-STORY WINDOW.—The members of Miss Neilson's Men's Bible Class propose putting in another painted window in the clere-story, which will contain the figure of St. Andrew, very appropriately, as we consider this class as the Brotherhood of St. Andrew's Bible Class.

We should be very glad if some one else would, at the same time, put in another of these windows, which would complete another of the triplets in which the clere-story windows are grouped. Is there not some one in the congregation who would like to put it in as a memorial of some loved one? The cost of each window is about $65. And there are still three windows to be put in the chancel, if some one would like a larger memorial.

THE REREDOS OF OUR ALTAR has been very much improved by a painting, which has been placed in the central panel, representing two adoring angels below and two cherubs' heads in the upper part. It is not only more beautiful and appropriate than the geometrical figures which were there before, but being light in color it throws out the altar cross in much greater relief. It was the work of our Curate.

THE BRASS ORNAMENTS in the church have been much improved of late by the constant polishing given them recently by a number of the ladies in the parish who have organized themselves for the purpose. They have expended much labor upon it.

SPRING SPORTS of St. John's Guild will be held Monday evening, April 28th, in the parish building. The sports have always been an interesting feature of the Guild's work. Mr. Hindemeyer has been in charge of the training of our athletes, and an exhibition of special interest is promised. The price of admission is 10 cents; reserved seats, 15 cents. Tickets for sale by Mr. Morgan, the Sexton, and by the members of the Guild.

THE LADIES' AID made up two very creditable boxes as the result of their Lenten work, one for an Indian school in the West, and another for St. George's Church, Kensington. In the latter they were very materially aided by a contribution of clothes made by the members of St. Mary's Guild.

THE ASCENSION CADETS.—The organization for boys of the parish has about 30 active members, 10 of whom made their first Communion on Easter day. The boys are in need of new uniforms, and an appeal is made to all who would like to see this work succeed, to meet the expense.

The Curate would be glad to receive donations of any amount to help provide the uniforms for the boys who are not able to get them. The cadets have done much to interest boys in the Church, besides giving them some training in the way of discipline, and it would be a shame to give this work up at the time when it is doing so much good.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite to this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor. The following subscriptions have been received:

Mrs. M. L. Valmer, Mr. W. H. Cope,
Miss Hoffmann, Mr. S. Miliken,
Miss Bloomer, Mr. W. M. Wharton.

A CHURCHMAN WITH A CAPITAL "C"

BY THE REV. R. W. LOWRIE

A Churchman is one who believes fully in the Church; a churchman believes in it a little. A Churchman belongs to her, out of principle; a churchman out of mere choice. A Churchman stands by his parish, no matter who the rector is; a mere churchman, if he likes the rector. The Churchman is in his place at worship, stern circumstances alone preventing; a churchman, if weather, and convenience, and inclination, or any one of a half a dozen other things be favorable. A Churchman kneels; a churchman only leans over. When we kneel, let us kneel. To shrug the shoulders and crook the spine over the pew-top in front of us, is *not* kneeling according to Webster. Kneeling is being on the knees!

We don't read that "Daniel shrugged his shoulders and crooked his spine three times a day, towards Jerusalem," but "*kneeled*," etc. Hunch-back kneeling is a compromise, mostly on one side. All Church-folk kneel; church-folk bend over.

In the name of good taste, never stare. This anywhere, particularly at church, is vulgar. To stretch the neck around and gaze back at the door to see who is coming in, is bad taste. Never mind other folk; attend to the service.

A Churchman gives of his means, as a privilege; he who is only a churchman, as a kind of tax. And in a great many other ways is there a great difference between Churchman with a capital "C," and those without.

No intelligent informed Churchman, will ever commit the historic falsehood of saying that the Church began with Henry VIII. "What agency, then, had Henry VIII in the Reformation of the Church of England?" Very little. About as much as the United States had in the placing of Maximilian on the throne of Mexico. The Government of the United States and that of the Confederate States were engaged in a bitter contest. This gave France a most excellent opportunity to carry out a favorite policy. Henry VIII and the Roman Bishop were engaged in a controversy. The Church *saw her chance;* and she—the Church; not he—the 8th Henry—began and carried grandly on, the work of Reformation. Henry lived and died a Romanist.

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The Ascension News

VOL. XV. PHILADELPHIA, MAY, 1902 NO. 5

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THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON 10.30 A. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (Choral) . . . . . 4.00 P. M.
" (with Sermon) . . . . 7.45 P. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 5.00 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) . . 8.00 P. M.

Children's Service.

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GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, St. Mary's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Ascension Cadets . . . . . 7.30 P.M.
Brotherhood of St. Andrew . Second Monday, 8.00 P.M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Missionary Society . . . . . First Friday, 10.30 A.M.
Wednesday, Mothers' Meeting . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class . . . . . 10.30 A.M.
Thursdays, Ladies' Aid . . . . . 3.00 P.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 3.00 P.M.

Superintendent . . . . . THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent . MR. CHARLES T. WALKER
Secretary . . . . . MR. MARVIN LESCURE
Librarian . . . . . MR. D. L. WITMER
Organist . . . . . MR. THAYER

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MRS. HODGE
For Men . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS NEILSON
For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN
For Boys and Ascension Cadets . . . . . 2.30 P.M.
MISS HODGE

A BAZAAR

SOME of our ladies have suggested that we should have a bazaar in the autumn, for the benefit of the church, and that we should begin now to prepare for it, so as to do something on a large scale. We would like to say a few words on this subject. In the first place, we *must* do something to meet our expenses. Our ordinary income is not sufficient to meet even the very moderate expenses of this parish. We have two clergymen and we are expected to have music that will compare favorably with that which is heard in churches in the neighborhood, and yet we do not pay for all as much as those churches spend on their music alone. This is not because our church is a free church. We believe that on the whole our people contribute more liberally than those do who go to pewed churches. It is because we have so little wealth in the parish. We have very few persons who can afford to give largely. So each year we fail to meet fully our current expenses. We have had to borrow money and those loans must be paid off. How are we to do it? It is suggested that we have a bazaar. Of course, bazaars, theatricals or entertainments of any kind are certainly not the ideal way of supporting churches. People ought to give as a free-will offering a due proportion of their income for the support of the church. And those who are really wealthy ought to endow their churches, especially those in poor districts, that they may be able to do their

THE ASCENSION NEWS

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

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KALENDAR

May 1. SS. Philip and James.
2. Friday—Fast.
4. Rogation Sunday.
5. Rogation Day—Fast.
6. Rogation Day—Fast.
7. Rogation Day—Fast.
8. Ascension Day.
9. Friday—Fast.
11. Sunday after the Ascension.
16. Friday—Fast.
18. Whitsunday.
19. Whitsun Monday.
20. Whitsun Tuesday.
21. Ember Day—Fast.
23. Ember Day—Fast.
24. Ember Day—Fast.
25. Trinity Sunday.
30. Friday—Fast.

RECORD FOR APRIL.

BAPTISMS—INFANTS—
Anna May Anderson
George William Anderson
Charles Chester McCann
Franz Albert Fest
Elizabeth Stewart (in private) 5
MARRIAGES—Arthur Heathcote Hacker and Emily Pepper 1
COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED BY TRANSFER—
From the Church of England—
Caroline Denison
From S. Martin's, Oak Lane—
Blanche Crump Jennings
Bessie Homer Jennings 3
Transferred to Church of the Resurrection—
Robert Lee Anderson
Laura May Anderson 2
Communion of the Sick 1
Died—Henry Chambers Kerr 1
BURIAL—Henry Chambers Kerr 1

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$323 39
" the Poor	4 39
" Diocesan Missions	80
" Domestic Missionary Box	51 00
" Memorial Tablet	20 00
" Prayer Book Society	13 00
" Tract Society	5 00
" Actors' Church Alliance	6 00
" the Debt	09
Of the Sunday-school	9 72
From the Human Calendar for the Mortgage Debt Fund	103 07
Total	$536 46

blessed work without being cramped and hindered by lack of means.

But in a case like ours, where we have no endowment and our people are not rich enough to support the church as it should be, what are we to do? We must meet our expenses in some way. And there is this to be said about bazaars: When people have not money to give they can do some work by which money can be made, and so they can contribute in that way when they could not in any other. That is our position. So from time to time we have to resort to these means of raising money, which are not ideal.

And we need to raise a considerable sum. First, we are between five and six hundred dollars short in meeting our current expenses this year. Then we have used up a legacy of $1,000, which we had put aside as a reserve fund to be drawn on during the summer months, when our receipts are very small. This ought to be replaced. We have also need of money to carry on the benevolent work of the parish. Two years ago one of our ladies held a fair in her parlor for the benefit of the Mothers' Meeting, and raised a considerable sum by it, which has carried on the work of the Meeting ever since. Now, that is exhausted and the fund must be replenished. Then we need money for our work among the young men. We have a cadet corps of over 20 young men, which has been the means of reaching and bringing many under the influence of the church. They need uniforms and funds for their summer camp, etc. Our plan, therefore, would be to divide pro rata between these different objects the amount that is raised.

In order to make this attempt successful, it is essential that all the ladies in the parish should interest themselves and take part in it. The Rector proposes to call a meeting of all the ladies on the first Monday of this month, the time when we arrange for the parish tea, and we trust that all who can possibly do so will attend. Let each think the matter over and come prepared to make suggestions how such a bazaar can be successfully carried out, what new and attractive features could be introduced, and map out the work for it which each is willing to undertake during the summer.

We have heard of some such bazaars lately which have been very successful, and though we are sorry to resort to such means of raising money for church support, still, as we have to do so, let us do it well and make a success of it.

SUMMER OUTING

Everyone looks forward to summer and the opportunity to enjoy God's great green earth. Some people spend the whole summer away in the country or at the seaside; but the vast majority of people must content themselves with only an occasional visit to the country or look at the sea, and of all people these need it most, because they are compelled to spend most of their time in the narrow streets, where the scorching rays of the summer sun beats down with unrelenting fierceness. The sad part of our modern city is that the children are the ones who suffer the most during the summer, especially those who live in the crowded sections of the city. As our parish stands in one of these sections we should not close our eyes to the need of the people about us during the summer.

The plan followed last summer of giving outings to the children, proved most satisfactory and was one of the most beneficent charities that has been undertaken by the church.

The true way of doing this work is to have a cottage in the country, a "mothers' rest," where mothers can go with their little ones and spend a week free from household cares, a place where the older children can go and spend a day at least.

In order to do this we must call upon the generosity of our parishioners. The church has no funds for this purpose, so we must depend upon the kind-hearted people who are not unmindful of the needs of those less fortunate than themselves to create a fund.

If we cannot have our "mothers' rest" this year, we can do as we did last year, make weekly trips to the parks, but even to do this money is required.

We urge upon all who are planning for the summer life of recreation and enjoyment, not to forget us in our work among the poor of our neighborhood. In addition to the work mentioned, it has been our custom to take the boys of the choir and Cadets to a camp for a week. The boys are eagerly looking forward to this outing, and we would not like to disappoint them.

PARISH NOTES

MR. SAMUEL WETHERILL.—At a meeting of the Vestry of the church, held on the Thursday after Easter, the first since the death of Mr. Wetherill, the following minute in reference to him was adopted and placed on record.

The Rector having announced the death of Mr. Samuel Wetherill, late a Vestryman of this parish, which had oc-

curred since the last meeting of the Vestry, and the fact that in his last will he had left the church a legacy of $1,000, on motion it was

Resolved, That this Vestry has heard with great regret of the death of Mr. Samuel Wetherill, for twenty years a Vestryman of this parish, and that the Vestry places on record its sense of its appreciation of his life and character. Although brought up in the Society of Friends he entered the church in his early manhood and remained devotedly attached to it till his death. He served many years continuously as a Vestryman, first of old Christ Church and then of this parish. He was always regular in his attendance at its services, even when after losing his eyesight he had to be led to the church and to his seat or to the altar. He was always punctual in his attendance at the meetings of the Vestry and gave its affairs his best consideration. He contributed handsomely towards the erection of the church and chancel, and the Vestry is grateful for his remembrance of the parish in his last will.

He was a man of strict integrity and high principle, kindly and affable. A gentleman of the old school, whose presence will be greatly missed by us.

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be printed in our parish paper, THE ASCENSION NEWS.

THE VESTRY.—At the meeting of the Vestry, held after Easter, the Rector reappointed Mr. Francis S. Keese as Rector's Warden, and Mr. Wm. Moore Wharton was re-elected Accounting Warden. Mr. Francis S. Keese, Mr. Wm. Platt Pepper and Mr. David L. Witmer were elected delegates to the Diocesan Convention. We regret to say that Mr. Keese has removed his residence to Bala, which we fear will make his attendance at our services very irregular. Mr. Thomas Robb, who was kept away from church for many weeks by illness, we are glad to say, is better and was able to be in church again on Easter day.

ASCENSION DAY.—Our special parish festival occurs very early this year, which we trust will enable more of our people to be present at its services. Our choir will make a special effort to give us good music, both at the morning and night services on Ascension Day. At the latter service the Rector will preach his anniversary sermon, giving a review of the past year. We hope all our people will be present. The annual Guild service will be held on the Sunday evening after Ascension Day, when the different Guilds will enter the church in procession. The preacher will be the Rev. George W. Lamb, assistant priest at St. Timothy's Church, Roxborough.

THE ANNUAL PARISH TEA will take place on Monday evening, May 12th, when we hope to see all our members and any friends they may choose to bring with them. Tickets, 25 cents each. Only adults are expected. A treat for the choir boys will be provided on the following evening.

ENTERTAINMENTS.—A very successful entertainment was given on Tuesday evening, April 15th, in the parish building, for the benefit of St. Barnabas Guild for Nurses. It consisted of a play by members of the Girls' Friendly Society of the Church of the Advocate, with some recitals and instrumental and vocal music.

THE members of St. Mary's Guild are preparing for a play they propose to give and also for some entertainment at the parish tea.

THE ENTERTAINMENT to be given by the members of St. Mary's Guild, the latter part of May, is to include a play by the boys of the Ascension Cadets—a mock trial—"A Black Breach of Promise." The boys are working hard to make their part of the entertainment a "howling success."

The younger girls of the parish who are members of the Guild of the Good Shepherd, expect to give a Strawberry Festival for the benefit of the Outing Fund. This will probably take place early in June, and will be a delightful occasion. The one given last year in tents erected on the church lot was a great success, and gave material help to the summer work among the poor of the parish.

ST. JOHN'S GUILD'S Annual Spring Sports took place Monday evening, April 28th, before a large and enthusiastic audience.

The athletic work of the Guild has been under the direction of Mr. Harvey W. Hindermeyer. Although not so many members as usual entered into this work, the entertainment was a creditable showing of the skill of our young men.

John McCracken carried off most of the prizes, and is this year's champion, which entitles him to have his name engraved on the "Spencer Ervin Championship Cup." The clown, impersonated by E. J. Adams, was an amusing feature of the occasion.

The Summer Sports will take place at the parish picnic given in July, and it is hoped all the members of the Guild will take part in them.

THE MISSIONARY BOX for Indian Missions for which money and materials were collected by the ladies representing Indian Missions in our parish, was valued at $97.71.

AN ORGAN RECITAL was given in the church on Tuesday evening, April 29th, by our Organist and Choirmaster, assisted by Mr. Harvey W. Hindermeyer, tenor soloist of S. Mark's Church, was well attended in spite of a stormy night.

WHEN consolation is taken from thee, do not immediately despair; but with humility and patience wait for the heavenly visitation, for God is able to give thee back again more ample consolation.

So also do thou learn to part even with a near and dear friend for the love of God. *Thomas a Kempis.*

THE CHOIR

The following music will be rendered by the Choir during the month of May:

MAY 4th. (Rogation Sunday)
10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in D . . . . . *J. T. Field*
Communion Service in F . . . . . *Tours*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat *Villiers Stanford*
Anthem—"Hear O Lord" *Frederick Ouseley*

MAY 8th. (Ascension Day)
10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in D . . . . . *J. T. Field*
Communion Service in F

8 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D *J. Christopher Marks, Jr.*
Anthem—"Glory to God in the Highest" *Handel*
Te Deum in C . . . . . *Gounod*

MAY 11th. (Sunday after Ascension Day)

Te Deum in E flat . . . . . *Dudley Buck*
Communion Service in F

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D . . *Tours*
Anthem—"Lift up your Heads" *Sir John Hopkins*

MAY 18th. (Whit-Sunday)

Te Deum in E flat . . . . . *Dudley Buck*
Communion Service in E flat . . . *Alfred Eyre*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in F . *Gladstone*
Anthem—"Come Holy Ghost" . . . . *Attwood*

MAY 25th. (Trinity Sunday)

Te Deum in G . . . . . *A. J. Holden*
Communion Service in E flat . . *Alfred Eyre*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in F . *Gladstone*
Anthem—"I am Alpha and Omega" *Sir John Stainer*

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The Ascension News

VOL. XV. PHILADELPHIA, JUNE, 1902 NO. 6

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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Holy Communion.

EVERY SUNDAY . . . 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
HOLY DAYS . . . . . 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON 10.30 A. M.
WEEK DAYS—Wednesdays, Fridays and Holy Days . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (Choral, with Sermon) . 7.30 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) . . 8.00 P. M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 9.30 A. M.

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FRANCIS S. KEESE
WM. MOORE WHARTON

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

WALTER ST. CLARE KNODLE

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Ascension Cadets . . . . . 7.30 P.M.

THE PARISH YEAR

AS usual on the evening of Ascension Day, the Rector preached an anniversary sermon, giving an account of the work of the parish for the past year. We give a summary of it here for the benefit of those who were not present on that occasion.

He began by pointing out that it was the twenty-first annual Dedication Festival that he had kept since he entered upon the Rectorship of the parish, and wished that it might be a real coming of age to the parish in the sense of its entering upon the maturity of its powers or coming into an inheritance which would enable it to do a large work in the field in which it is placed. In reviewing the statistics of the past year it is to be noticed that there has been a large increase in the number of baptisms and of those confirmed. The former were almost double those in the previous year, and the latter constituted the largest class (42 in all) ever confirmed in this church. There were also five more marriages and seven more burials, all showing more parochial activity. The addition to the list of communicants was 66, a very good showing, but the loss by death and removals was 61, making but a small increase in all. This is what has been going on in our parish for some time, and is a very discouraging feature of our work. It is owing to the constant migration which is going on to the newer parts of the city, and to the lack of any improvement in our immediate neighborhood. The communicants lost by death during the past year were Miss Mary H. White, for twenty years a devoted communicant, though of late unable to attend the church through physical infirmity; Mrs. Janet Love, as regular an attendant as her occupation of a nurse would allow; Mr. J. Edward Carpenter, for fifteen years the Rector's warden, for whom a special memorial service was held in March; Mr. David Martin, a member of the choir as a boy and a man, and at one time leader of the music in the Sunday-school; Mrs. Horace Swayne, who was admitted to the communion of the church on her death bed; Mrs. Frances Cox, one of the few communicants of the church prior to the present Rectorship; Mrs. Catharine Stockton,

THE ASCENSION NEWS

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

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KALENDAR

June 1. First Sunday after Trinity.
" 6. Friday—Fast.
" 8. Second Sunday after Trinity.
" 11. S. Barnabas.
" 13. Friday—Fast.
" 15. Third Sunday after Trinity.
" 20. Friday—Fast.
" 22. Fourth Sunday after Trinity.
" 24. Nativity S. John Baptist.
" 27. Friday—Fast.
" 29. S. Peter.

RECORD FOR MAY

BAPTISMS—
Mark DeForest Jones
Margaret Russell
John Russell
Walter Francis Hutchins
Florence Eleanor Rea 5

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED BY TRANSFER—
From the Church of S. Matthias—
Mrs. Martha E. Hulbrink 1
Transferred to the Church of the Covenant—
Mrs. Mary Ella Scheld
To S. Mary's Church, West Philadelphia—
Anna Rosalie Lescure 2

BURIALS—
Elizabeth Stewart
William Arthur Rowe 2

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$337 28
" the Poor	10 74
" " Mortgage	20 00
" " New Piano	22 00
" " Schools	8 25
" " Choir Outing	7 00
" " Parish Tea	10 00
Of the Sunday-schools	7 76
Total	$423 03

an aged and attached member, though lately unable to attend the services through weakness and the distance from the church to which she had removed; Mrs. Jane Steffins, formerly a member of the mothers' meeting, who died in the Widow's asylum, where she had been for some years; Mr. Samuel Wetherill, for twenty years a vestryman and a regular attendant of the Church, even after the almost total loss of his eyesight, and Mr. Henry C. Kerr, a veteran of the Civil War, who had served at Chancellorsville and Antietam, his health being permanently impaired thereby. This is an unusually long list of deaths for a year and containing the names of some who were of great use to the parish. May they rest in peace.

The Sunday-school has increased in numbers, really outgrowing the accommodation of our parish building. Several of the classes have to be held in the same room and some in the church. The Industrial school was about the same in numbers as in previous years but did better work. Some of the drawings and paintings of the boys were very creditable and the girls made two patchwork quilts, one of which was given to the Home of the Merciful Saviour for crippled children. The work of the Guilds, which was equal to the past standard, will be given in detail in the Year Book. The Ascension Cadets numbered over 20 young men, who have been drilled regularly every week and had a week's camping out in the summer. The weakest point in the parish organization during the past year has been the Senior Chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. Are there not some of the younger men of the parish who are willing to make themselves of use in this way?

The financial statistics for the year show about the same amount of receipts and expenditures. The Sunday-school raised $61 more than the year before, and there has been a slight increase in the collections of the Woman's Auxiliary. In addition, four Missionary boxes were made up for the Domestic and Diocesan fields. It is to be noted, however, that our ordinary receipts are not sufficient to meet our very modest scale of expenditures. The two previous years we were obliged to encroach upon a legacy which had been left us, and we find ourselves at the end of this year with a debt of some $550, which will have to be met in some way. During the year the church has been adorned with two mural tablets in memory of the late Accounting Warden and the Rector's Warden of the parish, who died within eight months of each other.

As we study the whole work of the year we have to note a good steady maintenance along the line and a decided increase in certain directions. The attendance at the Sunday and Wednesday night services was particularly good. But this is not the realization among all our people of the duty and privilege of church attendance that there ought to be, and we have to lament the inadequacy of our financial support. Let each attendant of the church try to realize the importance of the principle of maintaining an absolutely free church as we have in this parish, and let each do his full share towards making that church as strong and prosperous as it can be.

PARISH NOTES

OUR DEDICATION FESTIVAL was observed with a fair amount of interest on the part of our parishioners, the best turn-out being, as usual, at the Parish Tea, which is always popular. A goodly number were present at the early communion and at mid-day on the Feast itself. The Rev. Alden Welling, rector of Calvary Church, West Philadelphia, was the preacher in the morning. The attendance at night was better than in some years past when the Rector preached the anniversary sermon. The Guilds made a good showing at their service, a new feature being the appearance of the Ascension Cadets in their uniforms, their flag taking its place among the banners of the Church. At the Parish Tea, after a poem recited by Miss Louise Carmen and illustrated by tableaux by some members of S. Mary's Guild, addresses were made by the Rector, telling those present about the proposed bazaar in the autumn, and asking the aid of all in it; by Mr. Witmer, on behalf of the summer outing fund, and by Mrs. John Mason calling upon, not only the ladies, but every man, woman and child to take a part in the bazaar and make it a success. The choir boys were given a supper on Tuesday evening, after the Ascension. The choir master was present and was loudly cheered and several speeches were made.

SUMMER SERVICES.— The usual changes are made in our services for the summer, beginning with this month. The Sunday school and children's service and the 4 o'clock Evensong in the afternoon are discontinued. The children's service will be held until October at 9.30 A. M., the other services remain the same. During the week prayers will be said on Wednesdays and Fridays at 11 A.M., and Wednesday evening service at 8 P.M.

THE BAZAAR.—The ladies' committee having the bazaar in charge, have so far perfected their arrangements that they have elected Mrs. William Platt Pepper, chairman; Mrs. Ashley Faught, secretary; and Mrs. Arthur Van Harlingen, treasurer. They have secured the Natatorium Hall, on Broad street, below Walnut, for all day Thursday, Friday and Saturday, December 4th, 5th and 6th, and they propose having entertainments in the evenings. A letter has been sent to every female member of the parish, asking for contributions either of money, material or work. It is hoped that each

attendant or friend of the parish will employ himself or herself during the summer in making or collecting things which could be sold or would be of use in the bazaar. Already a goodly number have been promised. Let all work hard and success is certain. And we want to make it a big success.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL PICNIC.—Saturday morning, May 24th, Mrs. John H. Mason, who has been in charge of the girls' department of the Industrial School, took fifty girls for a picnic to the Zoo and Park. Mrs. Mason was assisted by Mrs. Gaiser, Miss Henry, Miss Jennings, Miss Johnson and Miss Paterson. Two special cars provided by the Traction Co. carried the happy, joyous children to the Zoo. This ever delightful place for children afforded many hours of amusement to the girls. The animals, too, must have enjoyed the day as they came in for their share of the lunch which the children brought with them.

After feeding themselves and the animals, Mrs. Mason gathered the children and took them to the Park, where they indulged in games on the soft green grass and beneath the shade of the trees. After the romping and swinging, the children were given a treat to ice cream and cake and then were placed on the cars that brought them back to the church. In this way ended one of the most enjoyable outings the children have ever experienced and a most suitable ending to one of the most successful season's work in the Industrial School. Mrs. Mason has also helped to provide for an outing for the boys who will soon have their treat to the Zoo and games in the Park.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.—It has been the custom of late years to close the Sunday Schools' winter session on Trinity Sunday and begin the summer session with school in the morning at 9.30, on the first Sunday after Trinity Sunday. The children gathered in good numbers at 7.30 in spite of the severe storm, and marched with banners headed by the choir, into the church. After a shortened service and an address by the Curate, the prizes were given to the children. These prizes were medals, intended for those who had received perfect marks during the year. The gold medals for those who had perfect marks for three years; silver bars for those who had received a medal for perfect marks during the two years, and a silver medal for those receiving perfect marks for one year. The prizes were awarded as follows:

3d year, gold medal: Mabel Fox, Edith Stevenson, Rachel Smith, Edith Kelly and David Rea.

2d year, silver bar: Jennie Lindsay, Richard Stevenson, Robert Lindsay, Elizabeth Diehl.

1st year, silver medal: Lydie Carpenter, Katie McClay, Wm. McIlvaine, Elmer Conger, Lillie Gill, John Stevenson, Harry Hirst, Andrew McCann, Clarence Martz, William Eddy and Charles Kille.

ENTERTAINMENT.—A dramatic entertainment was given Tuesday night, May 27th, by S. Mary's Guild and the Ascension Cadets for the benefit of the Summer Outing Fund.

The entertainment was opened by Mr. HarveyW. Hindermeyer, with two beautiful songs and Mr. Clarence Fogg, who played selections on the violin.

A three-act play was given by S. Mary's Guild, entitled "The Oxford Affair." It was an amusing farce and well acted by the young ladies who were prepared by Miss Anable and Miss Carmen

Those who took part in the play were Miss Gertrude Miller, Miss Clara Hill, Miss Essie Shelton, Miss Edith Stevenson, Miss Carrie Zimmer, Miss Jennie Lindsay and Miss Cecile Evrard.

The second part of the programme was very amusing. Mr. Marcus Meek gave a recitation in costume; then followed "The Black Breach of Promise Case," which was very amusing. The following members of the cadets took part: Robert Strong, William Linton, Robert McNeil, George Jack, John Strong, Irwin Conger, George Fairchild, George Phipps, William Moffitt, Richard Stevenson, Clarence Martz, Robert Lindsay, John Kille and George Hancock.

The proceeds of the entertainment was about $30, which will help in carrying out the plans for summer outings. In order to give the boys of the choir and the Ascension Cadets their holiday in the country where they enjoy the delights of camp life, and to take the children on occasional outings to the Park, about $150 is required. The boys and girls of the parish together with their friends, are doing all they can to help raise the amount. On the 24th of June the children will give a Strawberry Festival in the church yard, where tents will be erected for the purpose.

S. John's Guild will give an entertainment in the parish rooms the same night, making the evening an enjoyable one and we trust also a profitable one.

Contributions to the Outing Fund will be thankfully received by the Curate, the Rev. Mr. Gilpin.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite to this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor. The following subscriptions have been received:

Mrs. Butler Samuel Miliken

REPORT

The following is the report of the parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop:

Baptisms—Adults, 8; infants, 35; total, 43. *Confirmed*—Males, 18; females, 23; total, 41. *Communicants added*—New, 43; by transfer, 23; died, 10; removed, 51; present number, 543, *Marriages*, 17; *Burials*, 24. *Public Services*—Sunday, 295; on other days, 628; total, 923. *Celebrations of Holy Communion*—Public, 206; in private, 4; total, 210; number of Communions made, 2,661. *Sunday-school*—Officers and teachers, 22; scholars, 165; Bible classes, 5; teachers, 5; scholars, 60. *Other Parish Agencies*—Industrial School: teachers, 12; scholars, 100; Mothers' Meeting: members, 30; Men's Guild, the male communicants; Woman's Guild, the female communicants; Young Men's Guild, S. John's: members, 26; Young Woman's Guild, S. Mary's: members, 23; Chapter Brotherhood of S. Andrew, members, 25; Ascension Cadets, members, 25.

Money Receipts—Offerings for all parish purposes, $5,279.93; offerings for purposes outside the parish, $24 87; investments, $541.68; other sources, entertainments, etc., $571.30; Sunday-school, $226.73; Woman's Auxiliary, $229.10; total, $7,184.51.

Expenditures—Parochial, current expenses (including salaries of ministers, music, fuel and lighting, care of church building and grounds and ordinary repairs of the same), $5,175.32; interest on mortgage, $517.50; support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools, $213.51; summer outings, $199.95; for the poor, $260.38; miscellaneous, $634.47; total, $7,296.18.

Diocesan—Episcopal and Convention Fund, $103.40; Diocesan Missions, $115.65; Episcopal Hospital, $20.36; Sustentation Fund, $36.09; total, $275.50.

General Missions—General $110.52; Foreign, $28.15; Domestic, $95.00; Indian, $55.90; colored people, $24.90; Prayer Book and Tract Societies, $18; Actors' Church Alliance, $6.00; total, $338.47.

Total for all objects, $7,905.15.

Estimated value of three missionary boxes and bundles, $218.76.

Financial Condition—Aggregate value of property of the parish, real and personal, $80,000; incumbrances: mortgage on the church edifice, parish building and ground, $11,500; other indebtedness, $550. Endowment Fund, $9,525.

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VOL. XV. PHILADELPHIA, OCTOBER, 1902 No. 7

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THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON 10.30 A. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (Choral) . . . . . 4.00 P. M.
" (with Sermon) . . . . 7.45 P. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 5.00 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) . . 8.00 P. M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 2.30 P. M.

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GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Ascension Cadets . . . . . 7.30 P.M.

SUMMER WORK

THE summer has passed into history as one of the most remarkable summers for coolness, and absence of the hot days and nights that generally make it hard for the stay-at-homes. The previous summer was one of this kind, and we did all we could to relieve the distress occasioned by the heat; but this summer the necessity has not been so great, and yet we have done a great deal to help our people enjoy the summer. Through the Country Nursery many of our mothers and children have spent happy days away from the crowded streets.

The Children's Country Week has done much to help the growing boys and girls to spend a week or two in the country. But their greatest help was in contributing towards getting our boys to the camp at Sea Side Park.

This camp was very successful. The choir boys, in charge of Mr. Knodle, went to Sea Side Park July 14th, and encamped close to the edge of Barnegat Bay, with the sea beating on the shore not far away.

The place is an ideal spot for a camp, with plenty of water for the boys to play in—the only drawback being the mosquitoes that lie low in the grass for the wind to die down and then, under cover of the night, to make their attacks upon those who cannot fly away from them unless it is to seek the beach and wrap themselves in blankets. Fortunately the nights were generally cool and pleasant, so that the mosquitoes were not as bad as they might have been, and the pleasures of the day in and on the water quite made up for the nightly attacks. It was the first time many of the boys had ever been to the seashore and were not prepared for the sunburn, and the result was blistered arms, but even these did not interfere with the enjoyment they had. On Saturday, the 19th of July, the Ascension Cadets, in charge of Lieutenant George Jack, acting for Captain Smith, joined the choir boys at the camp, making a total of about 40 at the camp over Sunday.

All the boys attended a celebration of the Holy Communion in the hotel parlor, Rev. W. B. Gilpin celebrant, and in the evening attended the Episcopal service at the "Union Chapel." Beginning with

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EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

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KALENDAR.

October 3. Friday—Fast.
5. Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.
10. Friday—Fast.
12. Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.
17. Friday—Fast.
18. S. Luke, Evangelist.
19. Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity.
24. Friday—Fast.
26. Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity.
28. SS. Simon and Jude.
31. Friday—Fast.

RECORD FOR JUNE, JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER.

BAPTISMS—
Marion Ethel Hemphill
May Virginia Kater
Samuel Hutchinson
Bertha Matilda Franks
William Durbrow Hurlbrink
Edward Russell Baggott 6

MARRIAGES—James Millholland Repplier and Helen Weaver
John William McGuire and Margaret Moffit
Frederick Bissel and Hannah Quin
Samuel Ewing Wilson and Estella Anderson
Frank Thomas Von Kerm and Mrs. Sarah Ann Smythe
Gustave George Daut and Anna Elizabeth Baird 6

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED BY TRANSFER—
From the Church of England—
John William McGuire
From the Church of Ireland—
Mrs. Margaret McGuire
From the Church of England in Canada—
Alice Young 3
Transferred to Christ Church, New Brighton, N.Y.—
Mrs. Emily Hacker 1

Died—
James Patchell
Mrs. Martha E. Hurlbrink
Edward Hillyard Cox
Henrietta Margaret Hopkins
Mrs. Mary Ann Robins 5

BURIALS—
James Patchell
Henry Thompson
Albert H. Sappington
Alexander Campbell
Henry G. Diehl
Fanny Montgomery
Mrs. Martha E. Hurlbrink
Edward Hillyard Cox
Henrietta Margaret Hopkins
Mrs. Mary Ann Robins 10

Monday the Cadets' Camp was organized on strict military lines. The boys took much interest in the drills and attended to their duties in a way that won them much praise from the Captain and the Curate, who were anxious that the boys should do credit to the name they bear in the matter of behavior as well as military tactics.

The camp ended July 26th, and we feel sure that the boys returned to their homes and their work much improved in mind and body, ready to do more than they have ever done for the Church that takes so great an interest in them.

The Children's Outings were greatly interfered with by the rainy days of July—it seemed impossible to get a clear day to take the children to the Park. A large picnic, in charge of Mrs. Wagner, went to Chamounix. Mrs. Gill took a large number of mothers and children down the river to Augustine Pier, and Mrs. Stevenson took about 60 children up the Wissahickon. It may seem to the hasty reader that our idea of summer work is to give pleasure to our people. It is true that we aim to make the every-day lives of our people as happy as we can in our small way, but beyond this we feel that it is necessary to keep in touch with the people during the summer as well as the winter. The old idea of closing up churches in the summer is passing away, because as the Church gets more in touch with the people she realizes the fact that there are a great many people who remain in town during the summer and need the Church. The services during the summer have been well attended, especially Sunday and Wednesday evenings. We believe this is due to our summer work among the children, and the more of this work that is done, the greater will be the interest of those who expect of a church that which the Master taught so beautifully—a love for the children.

THE BAZAAR.

WE trust all our people have kept the coming bazaar in mind, and have been working hard for it all summer. We want just as many things for it as we can get, and it is only by each one doing all that is possible that it can be made a success.

One lady has prepared a good deal of work, and started it so that any one can take it up and finish it. She will be at the church after the Wednesday evening service during this month to give it out to any who would like to take it up.

There has also been sent to the church a quantity of silk and other materials, which can be used for fancy work. If any would like to have them, they will be given out at the same time, or any morning after the 10 o'clock service. It is still not too late to make preserves, which will certainly meet with a ready sale.

If all who have pieces of old India rubber, including old shoes, would collect them and send them to the church, they can be sold, we are told, for some $6.00 or $7.00 a barrel.

Ask all your friends to come to the bazaar, and tell them they must buy all their Christmas presents there.

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$824 01
" the Poor	51 68
" " Mortgage debt	5 00
" " New Piano	20 00
" " Outing Fund	145 54
" " Domestic Missions	3 70
" " Foreign "	2 50
" " General "	05
" " Schools	4 65
Of the Sunday-school	8 23
Total	$1065 36

PARISH NOTES.

WINTER SERVICES AND WORK.—The order of services for the winter begins this month, the 4 o'clock service on Sundays re-commencing and the daily service at 10 A. M. and 5 P. M. The other services were continued all through the summer, except two of the weekday services for three weeks in September, when the Curate was absent on his holiday.

The Sunday-School will be held in the afternoon, at 2.30 P. M., followed by the service in church. We hope all the teachers and children will be in their places, and we shall be very glad to see both new teachers and children.

The first business meeting of S. John's Guild will be held on the evening of October 6th; of S. Mary's Guild, October 7th, and of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew, October 13th.

The annual meeting of all the Chapters of the Woman's Guild of the parish will be held on S. Simon and S. Jude's Day, October 28th. All the women of the parish are asked to be present, that they may learn something of the work being done and see if they cannot take part in or aid it in some way. It will be a very good opportunity, too, for the ladies to talk over the coming bazaar.

MISSIONARY COUNCIL.—The annual Missionary Council of the whole church is to be held in this city during the third week of this month. The opening service will be held in S. James' Church on Tuesday, October 21st, at 11 A. M. The afternoon and evening sessions on that day, and those of the succeeding days, will be in the hall of the Young Men's Christian Association, at Fifteenth and Chestnut streets, and the grand closing service in the Academy of Music, on Thursday evening, the 23d. Tickets of admission to this meeting will be distributed among the various parishes, and can be had here from the Verger.

The committee having charge of the arrangements for the Council have sent a letter to each of the parochial clergy,

asking if there are any persons in their congregations who will entertain delegates during the session of the Council or who would like to take such as boarders. If there are any in this parish who would be willing to do so, will they kindly notify the Rector at once, that he may send in their names and addresses to the secretary of the committee. We should think there would be many who would esteem it a privilege to have a Bishop or other clergyman thus staying with them for a few days. As there is to be a meeting of the House of Bishops directly after the Council, a large number of the members of that House doubtless will be present. The Rector of the parish expects to have the Rt. Rev. the Bishop Quincy stopping with him, and he will preach in the church on Sunday morning, October 26th.

S. Barnabas Guild for Nurses will hold its annual convention in this city during the first week in November. Its opening service will be held in this church, on Wednesday, November 5th, and a service in the Church of the Holy Trinity the same evening, with sermon by the Bishop-Coadjutor of the diocese. If there are any who will entertain delegates to this Council, the Rector would be glad to be informed. He expects the Chaplain-General, the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Pittsburg to stay with him.

The Junior Chapter of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew held its first meeting after the vacation season Friday evening, September 26th.

A short devotional service was conducted by the Curate before the altar. Following the service, an interesting meeting was held. Mr. Charles T. Walker, the Director, presided.

Ten of the fifteen members were present. Plans for the winter's work were discussed. It was decided that the boys have charge of one Sunday evening each month, and it be made a special service for boys and young men. The first of these services to be held Sunday, September 28th. The boys agreed to deliver circulars announcing the service and in other ways use their influence to bring young people to the service.

A committee of five was appointed by the Director to make arrangements for entertaining the Junior Council of the Brotherhood, which is to meet in our church, Friday evening, October 24th. At this meeting all the Chapters of the Philadelphia Local Assembly will be represented, which will bring about 200 boys together. The meeting begins at 5.30. Reports will be read and plans discussed until 6.30, then supper will be served, and a service of song and praise, with stirring addresses, will follow.

It will be the first time that such a meeting has been held in our parish. We appeal to each member of this parish to help us make it a great success by showing their interest in the boys' work. This can be done by attending the service and by contributing towards the expenses of feeding 200 hungry boys.

The Chapter attended the Holy Communion Sunday morning, September 28th, in a body, and prayers were offered for Divine help in the work the boys propose to do during the coming winter.

In the evening a service for boys was held, and it was largely attended, and was very encouraging to the boys in their efforts to spread Christ's kingdom among boys, which is the main object of the Brotherhood.

The officers of the Junior Brotherhood are: Charles T. Walker, Director; George Fairchild, Secretary; William Moffitt, Treasurer.

The Curate has received an invitation from S. Ambrose Guild, of S. Timothy's Church, Roxborough, to attend their twenty-fourth annual meeting. The invitation is extended to the members of S. John's Guild, and they are promised a good time by the young men of S. Timothy's Church.

The Choir is greatly in need of new hymn books. Anyone desiring to contribute towards the purchase of same may hand their contribution to the Choirmaster or to the Sexton.

The News.—We did not issue a number of the News in September, as it is such a dead month; none of the work of the parish is resumed then, and so many of our people are out of town that they seldom get their papers when they are issued. We find, too, so much difficulty in making the paper pay that we were glad to save the cost of a month's issue. We now owe the printer a considerable amount, so we would be thankful if all whose subscriptions are due will pay them, and we should be most pleased to receive new ones. The paper is so useful an organ of communication with our people that we should be very sorry to give it up.

A blue mark opposite to this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the News is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor.

The following subscriptions have been received:

Mrs. Wadlow
Miss L. P. Holbrook
Mrs. Faught
Mrs. Goodrich

THE CHOIR

The list of music to be rendered by the choir during the month of October, as follows:

(Throughout the Month.)

10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in F . . . . . *Berthold Tours*
Communion Service in D . . . . . *Woodward*

October 5th.

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat
Stanford
Anthem—"Sun of My Soul, Thou Saviour Dear" . . . . . *F. F. Bullard*

October 12th.

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E
J. V. Roberts
Tenor Solo—"My Soul is Athirst for God." (From Cantata "Holy City") . . . . *Gaul*

October 19th.

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat
Stanford
Anthem—"A New Heaven and a New Earth." (Bass Recitative, Solo and Chorus from "Holy City") . . . . . *Gaul*

October 26th.

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E
J. V. Roberts
Anthem—"O, for the Wings of a Dove." (From "Hear My Prayer") . . *Mendelssohn*

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The Ascension News

VOL. XV. PHILADELPHIA, NOVEMBER, 1902 NO. 8

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HOLY DAYS . . . . . 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON, 10.30 A. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (Choral) . . . . . 4.00 P. M.
" (with Sermon) . . . . 7.45 P. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 5.00 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) . . 8.00 P. M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.00 P. M.

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The Ascension News

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334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*
1934 Chestnut Street

WARDENS

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WM. MOORE WHARTON

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

WALTER ST. CLARE KNODLE

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, Ascension Cadets . . . . . 7.30 P.M.
Thursdays, St. Mary's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesday, Ladies' Aid . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
Wednesday, Mothers' Meeting . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class . . . . . 10.30 A.M.
First Friday, Missionary Society . . . . . 10.30 A.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.30 P.M.

Superintendent . . . . . THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent . . MR. CHARLES T. WALKER
Librarian . . . . . MR. D. L. WITMER
Organist . . . . . MR. THAYER

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS S. E. GILPIN
For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN
For Boys and Ascension Cadets . . . . . 2.30 P.M.
MISS HODGE
For Men . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. A. L. NEILSON

THE BAZAAR.

AS this is the last issue of the NEWS before the Bazaar, which our ladies are getting up, takes place, we want again to call attention to it, and urge all to work with redoubled energy to make it a great success. It is to be held in the Natatorium Hall, on Broad street, below Walnut, on December 4th, 5th and 6th, all of each day and evening. In addition, entertainments will be given at night.

One or two private entertainments have been already given in order to provide a fund for the necessary expenses, and from this source, together with some subscriptions, over $350 have been raised, but at least $500 are required to pay for the hall, decorations, printing, etc. It is proposed to make the hall very attractive, and the entertainments will be well worth the money charged for admission to them. The Ladies' Committee gave a sociable at the church on Saturday evening, October 18th, to which over 200 invitations were sent out. About 50 ladies were present. The Rector and Mrs. John Mason spoke about the plans for the Bazaar, and those present subscribed a considerable amount towards the expense fund, and manifested a great deal of interest. But to make the Bazaar the success we desire, all our members must take part in it in some way. Many, we know, are working for it at home, but it will require a great many things to keep up a sale for three days, and there is only one more month

THE ASCENSION NEWS

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

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KALENDAR.

November	1.	All Saints.
	2.	Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity.
	7.	Friday—Fast.
	9.	Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity.
	14.	Friday—Fast.
	16.	Twenty-fifth Sunday after Trinity.
	21.	Friday—Fast.
	23.	Sunday next before Advent.
	28.	Friday—Fast.
	30.	First Sunday in Advent—S. Andrew.

RECORD FOR OCTOBER.

BAPTISMS—Mildred Emilie Smythe	
Henry Cordner Whitefield	
Beatrice McCauley Knight	
John Hancock Willing-Rhein, Jr.	4
MARRIAGE—Arthur Raymond Addison and Clara May Perry	1
COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED BY TRANSFER—	
From S. Luke's Church, Lebanon, Pa.— Wentworth G. Hare	
From Georgetown, South Carolina— Mrs. Emily Bowman Lloyd	
From Crosswicks, N. J. Emilie Palmgren	3
TRANSFERRED—	
To S. Martin's-in-the-Field Franklin Augustus Brunt	
To S. Martin's, Oak Lane Mrs. Bertha Ellen Bonta	2
DIED—John Medhurst	
Mrs. Jeanne Marie Joseph Willians	2
BURIAL—Mrs. Jeanne Marie Joseph Willians	1

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$399 87
" the Poor	30 58
" General Missions	15
" the Schools	2 75
" " Year Book	2 75
" " Altar Fund	4 00
Of the Sunday-school	7 94
Total	$448 04

left to work in. Fancy and useful articles of all descriptions will be acceptable. They can be sent to any of the following persons: Mr. W. P. Pepper, 1730 Chestnut street; Mr. Ashley Faught, 1430 Spruce street; Miss Anable, 1350 Pine street; Mrs. Hodge, 334 South Thirteenth street; Mrs. Gilpin, 905 Pine street; Miss Graham, 2103 Pine street, and Mrs. W. M. Wharton, 1616 Pine street.

Get all your friends interested, as well as yourselves, and beg all you know to buy all their Christmas presents at the Bazaar. Nothing but work, and hard work, will carry it through. We have a very energetic Executive Committee, but they must be backed up by every one else in the parish doing his or her share.

A meeting will be held every Saturday during this month in the parish building, to sew for this purpose. Every one who is willing to do so is invited to come and help.

All persons sending articles for the Bazaar are requested to mark the prices they think proper on each article. Donations of home-made candy and cake can be sent to the Natatorium on the days of the Bazaar, directed to Miss Hodge.

As the enterprise has been undertaken, let us make it a big affair. The ladies aim not only at wiping out the floating debt of the parish, but in making a considerable reduction, at least, in the mortgage debt, which has been a burden to us so long, and on which we have still to pay out over $500 each year in interest.

We ask, therefore, *every* one connected with or interested in the church to remember and work for the Bazaar in every way he or she possibly can.

THE CURATE.

IT is with very great regret that we announce the resignation of our Curate, the Rev. Mr. Gilpin. Having been with us for three years, and having served in a similar capacity in two other parishes, Mr. Gilpin feels that it is time that he should have an independent work of his own, and so has accepted the charge of Christ Church, Franklinville, in the northern part of this city, which has been offered him.

We are sure all our people will be sorry to have him leave, as he has been very active and zealous in his work here and endeared himself very much to those with whom he has especially come in contact. He has been particularly active in his work in the Sunday-school, which he has built up very much, and also among the young people.

He leaves permanent memorials of his stay among us in the painting he placed over the altar, and in the drinking fountains on the street, which he was instrumental in obtaining.

We wish him every prosperity and success in his future work.

We are very glad to say that the Rector has secured in Mr. Gilpin's place the services of the Rev. H. Page Dyer, whom many will remember as having been with us for a month once, during the absence of Mr. Lanpher. He was formerly assistant to the Rev. Stewart Stone, at the Church of the Holy Comforter, and more recently Rector of St. James' Church, Hestonville. We extend him a hearty welcome into this parish. He enters on his duties with us the beginning of this month.

The Creators' Hand is the creature's home.—*F. W. Faber.*

PARISH NOTES.

THE GUILDS.—The annual meeting of the Woman's Guild took place on S. Simon's and S. Jude's day, and was attended by about 20 ladies. Many more should have been present. The reports of the work of the various Chapters for the past year were read and work arranged for the coming winter. Mrs. John Mason spoke to those present about the arrangements for the coming Bazaar. The Mothers' Meeting, the Ladies' Aid, the Embroidery Class, and the Industrial School recommence their sessions this month. The Ladies' Aid will meet this winter on Wednesdays, at 3 P. M., instead of Thursdays, as formerly. The members of this Chapter have purchased a sewing machine, which was very much needed in their work. They still require some $10 to complete the payment for it, and would be glad to receive contributions towards that amount.

PRESENTATION.—The young men of S. John's Guild presented the Rev. Mr. Gilpin, on his leaving the parish, with a handsome gilt altar cross for his house or chapel. Speeches were made and an entertainment provided on the occasion.

BROTHERHOOD OF S. ANDREW.—A meeting of the local Council of the Junior Brotherhood of S. Andrew took place in our church on Friday afternoon, October 24th. About 160 young men and several clergymen were present. Evening prayer was said in the church, the boys of the Choir being present, singing the canticles and hymns. Addresses were made by Mr. McGarvey, a former member of the Brotherhood, now doing missionary work in the West, and by the Bishop of Maine, who was in the city, attending a meeting of the House of Bishops. A supper, consisting of sandwiches, fried oysters and coffee, ice cream and cake was provided for all present, in the parish building, after which the business meeting of the Council was held.

SPECIAL PREACHERS.—The Rector availed himself of the presence of the attendants at the Missionary Council, to secure several of the Bishops as preachers, viz., the Bishops of Indianapolis, Delaware and Quincy.

The sessions of the annual convention of the Guild of S. Barnabas for Nurses will be held in our church the first week in this month. They will be presided over by the chaplain-general, the Bishop of Pittsburg.

ENTERTAINMENTS.—Two entertainments, to provide money to bear the expenses of the Bazaar, were held last month, one at Miss Anable's house, and another at the Clinton, under the auspices of Mrs. John Mason. Others will be held in connection with the Bazaar itself.

S. MARY'S GUILD for young women will meet this winter on Thursday evenings, instead of Tuesdays, as heretofore. All the meetings, with the exception of the business and devotional meeting, will be devoted to working for the Bazaar until that is over.

MARRIAGE.—The eldest son of our Rector, Mr. Carroll Hodge, was married on October 30th, in S. James' Church, to Miss Natalie P. Brinton. Though a member of S. James' parish, Miss Brinton has done a good deal of work here in the Sunday and Industrial Schools, and in playing the organ during Lent and on other occasions. Mr. and Mrs. Hodge will reside for the present at Wayne, Delaware County.

DONATIONS.—Three bundles of pieces of silk and other materials for the Bazaar. Contributions towards the new hymnals, asked for by the choirmaster, $6.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite to this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor. The following subscriptions have been received:

Miss J. B. Allen
Miss Chamberlaine
Miss Goodman
Mrs. David Hawkins

THE CHOIR

The list of music to be rendered by the choir during the month of November, as follows:

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.
November 2d.

10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in E flat . . . . . *Dudley Buck*
Communion Service in E flat . . . *Alfred Eyre.*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat
Villiers Stanford
Anthem—"In the Cross of Christ, We Glory"
(Duett, Tenor and Baritone.)

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.
November 9th.

10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in E flat . . . . . *Dudley Buck*
Communion Service in E flat . . . *Alfred Eyre*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D,
J. C. Marks, Jr.
Anthem—"Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem"
W. H. Bliss

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.
November 16th.

10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in F . . . . . *Berthold Tours*
Communion Service in E flat . . . *Alfred Eyre*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D,
J. C. Marks, Jr.
Anthem—"O, Taste and See how Gracious the Lord is" . . . . . *Sir John Goss*

SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT.
November 23d

10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in D . . . . . *Sir Arthur Sullivan*
Communion Service in E flat . . . *Alfred Eyre*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat,
Villiers Stanford
Anthem—"O Lord How Manifold Are Thy Works" . . . . . *Barnby*

THANKSGIVING DAY. November 27th.

10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in E flat . . . . . *Dudley Buck*
Communion Service in E flat . . . *Alfred Eyre*

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT.
November 30th.

Benedicte in E flat . . . . . *Alfred Eyre*
Communion Service in D . . . . . *Woodward*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E flat,
Simper
Anthem—"Awake, Thou that Sleepest,"
Allen

THE REMEDY FOR SMALL CONGREGATIONS.

We shall have full churches on Sunday mornings as soon as we fulfill the conditions that relate to public worship. The principal service, at the hour which is most convenient for the majority of people, must be the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. This is the one service of divine appointment, the one service of apostolic usage, the one service of catholic tradition. Matins, as a people's service, was appointed by the English reformers as auxiliary to the Eucharist. The Eucharist is of Christ's appointment. Matins is of man's creation and ordering. As long as we cling to the novel usage of the seventeenth century we must expect the prevalent neglect of worship to continue.

There will be plenty of worshippers when people understand and believe that in the Holy Eucharist there is a memorial made in word and action of Christ crucified for humanity, and that this memorial is presented to God the Father to set forth the sacrifice of His Son for the sins of the world; that in that service we plead the merits of Christ crucified; that the pleading is efficacious for the forgiveness of sins; that by virtue of the consecration of the bread and wine those elements become the spiritual Body and Blood of Christ, and hence that Christ Himself, in His Human and Divine Natures, is actually and sacramentally, albeit invisibly, present; that by faith we are brought face to face with Him to present to Him our adoration and our prayers; that by receiving the Holy Communion we receive Christ, so that He enters into us, and cleanses and purifies and strengthens and sanctifies us. Let people once believe this doctrine, and nothing but insurmountable necessity will keep them away from the Eucharist.

H. H. O.

FRANK STEINER
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The Ascension News

VOL. XV. PHILADELPHIA, DECEMBER, 1902 NO. 9

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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Holy Communion.

EVERY SUNDAY . . . 7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
HOLY DAYS . . . . . 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON, 10.30 A. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (Choral) . . . . . 4.00 P. M.
" (with Sermon) . . . . 7.45 P. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 5.00 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) . . 8.00 P. M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.00 P. M.

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Rev. G. Woolsey Hodge, *Rector*
334 South Thirteenth Street

Rev. H. Page Dyer, *Curate*
1934 Chestnut Street

WARDENS

Francis S. Keese
Wm. Moore Wharton

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

Walter St. Clare Knodle

SEXTON

Wm. J. Morgan
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, Ascension Cadets . . . . . 7.30 P.M.
Thursdays, St. Mary's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.

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First Friday, Missionary Society . . . . . 10.30 A.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.30 P.M.

Superintendent . . . . . The Curate
Assistant Superintendent . . Mr. Charles T. Walker
Secretary . . . . . Mr. Wm. E. Linton
Librarian . . . . . Mr. D. L. Witmer
Organist . . . . . Mr. Thayer

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For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . . 3.00 P.M.
Miss M. J. Gilpin
For Boys and Ascension Cadets . . . . . 2.30 P.M.
Miss Hodge
For Men . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
Miss M. A. L. Neilson

PARISH VISITORS.

FOR years we have been wanting, in our parish, visitors, that is, persons who will go from house to house inquiring who lives in them, whether they go to church, inviting them to come to the Ascension, looking up children for the Sunday-school, etc. This, we are convinced, is the only way in which the church can do its full work. It is our Lord's method, what He told His disciples to do, to go into the highways and byways and compel men to come in. It is not sufficient to build a church or maintain beautiful services, or even to advertise them in the newspapers. There are multitudes who will never think of going to church or connecting themselves with a church unless some one goes after them and invites them personally, shows a personal interest in them and explains to them the great advantage a church can be to them and their families.

This is what is done in the old country. There all the territory of a city or the county is divided up into districts called parishes, and the Rector, or his Curates, or visitors, male or female, appointed by him, go regularly from house to house, so that every one in the parish is known, and all possible personal influence is brought to bear upon them to bring them under religious influences. But in this country generally the clergy are content to minister only to those who voluntarily come to and connect themselves with their churches. And so there has come to be a vast mass of people who are not con-

THE ASCENSION NEWS

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS:
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KALENDAR.

December 5. Friday—Fast.
7. Second Sunday in Advent.
12. Friday—Fast.
14. Third Sunday in Advent.
17. Ember Day—Fast.
19. Ember Day—Fast.
20. Ember Day—Fast.
21. Fourth Sunday in Advent—S. Thomas.
25. Christmas.
26. S. Stephen, Martyr—Fast.
27. S. John, Evangelist.
28. Holy Innocents—Sunday after Christmas.

RECORD FOR NOVEMBER.

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED BY TRANSFER—
From The Saviour, West Philadelphia—
Mrs. Florence Williams
From S. James Church, Hestonville—
Mrs. Thomasene Virginia Dyer
Mary Virginia Dyer 3

TRANSFERRED—
To Trinity Cathedral, Cleveland, Ohio—
Mrs. Alice Gihon Curtis
To the Church of the Holy Apostles—
Katharine Jordan
To Grace Church, Mt. Airy—
Richard Thomas Thompson
Harriet May Thompson
To S. James Church, Bristol, Pa.—
William Clarke Mayne
Mrs. Harriet Ella Mayne
David Coombs Mayne
To the Church of the Nativity—
Elizabeth Heany 8

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$433 62
" the Poor	8 59
" " Episcopal Hospital	19 65
" General Missions	12
" Foreign "	5 00
" Domestic "	5 00
" Sunday and Industrial Schools	2 50
" New Hymnals	8 00
" S. Barnabas Guild	8 49
At discretion of the Rector	5 00
Of the Sunday-school	8 35
Total	$494 29

nected with, or go regularly to, any church. And these people the church ought to reach, and the only way in which it can be done is by going after them and visiting them in their homes. We have come across families who have been living within a stone's throw of our church three, four and five years before we found them out and got them into the church, or their children to the Sunday-school. And we are convinced that there are many more living in our immediate neighborhood who could be brought in if we only knew them.

And we have parochial limits for which we are responsible. The Convocation to which our church belongs has assigned the district lying between Lombard street and Washington avenue, and between Broad street and Sixteenth street, as the parish of this church. Of course, that does not mean that persons living outside of those limits cannot come to the church. It would not be desirable, even if it were possible, to prevent any one from going to any church he or she may prefer. But it means that that is the district for which this church is responsible, in which it is to do this work of searching out and going after those who do not come to church of their own accord.

But how is this work to be done? Our Rector and Curate, as we shall show in another article, have as much as they can possibly do to visit those who professedly belong to the church, in addition to conducting all the services and attending the various meetings of the Guilds and Societies connected with the church. So they cannot do this work of hunting up the non-churchgoers. It needs a special person or persons to attend to it. If we could

have another assistant clergyman the work might be so divided that the two Curates, between them, might do this. But as we cannot afford that, the next best thing would be a paid parish visitor, a sister or Deaconness if possible, or a godly and discreet woman who could be especially fitted for the work, and could give her whole time to it. But as we have not the money for even that the only other thing we can think of is to get volunteers to do it. And as these could only give a limited amount of time to it, the parish might be divided up into smaller districts and each agreeing to take one of these, say one entire block, and look after it. This would involve visiting, or finding out who lives in, each house in that block, and when it was found that the occupants did not go regularly to any church, inviting and urging them to come and send their children to our church and Sunday-school, and then following them up, seeing that they did it, or noting their moving away from the district, and finding out and treating in the same way those who came in their place.

Certainly it would be possible even for our busy people to do a work like this. And are there not those in our congregation who for the love of Christ and His church will undertake it? It would be distinctly Christ-like work, and might do untold good.

There are twelve entire blocks in our parish which are inhabited. Are there not twelve persons in the congregation who would each agree to take one of these to look after in this way during the coming winter, or perhaps some might agree to take more than one block? If there are such the clergy would be very glad to hear from them and assign each one his district. And we believe that if the work is fully and earnestly done it would result in bringing many persons into our church and many young people into our schools and Guilds, and thereby be a means not only of filling up and benefiting the church, but of uplifting and helping both temporally and spiritually many who, though living in the midst, and within the reach, of church privileges, would otherwise have entirely neglected them.

If this appeal is responded to the Rector will organize a regular department of Parish Visitors.

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS.—The stained glass clere-story window, representing the figure of S. Andrew, presented by Miss M. A. L. Neilson's men's Bible class, has arrived from England and been put in position. The church is much indebted to the class for this permanent adornment. We wish very much that other windows there and in the chancel might be likewise filled.

The choirmaster received $8 in response to his appeal for new hymnals. This has provided some. He needs still more. Some fowl and other provisions for members of the Mother's Meeting were sent at Thanksgiving, and some fruit for the altar, which was given afterwards to the choir boys and to the sick. Two books were received for the Sunday-school library, and a large number of donations for the Bazaar, which will be acknowledged later.

ERROR.—In sending out the envelopes at the beginning of November an error was made in one of the numbers, 173 being sent to the wrong person. The Rector would thank whoever has received it to let him know.

MISSIONARY MEETING.—As the regular monthly missionary meeting of the ladies

would occur this month in the midst of the Bazaar, the ladies resolved at their last meeting to adjourn until the second Friday in December.

THE BOYS' BRIGADE has recommenced its drill on Tuesday evenings, the Captain of the Brigade having returned from the coal regions, where he was serving with his regiment. The business meeting of the Junior Chapter of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew, whose members constitute the Brigade, will be held regularly on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

THE BAZAAR is in full blast as this issue comes out, so we cannot give an account of it until next month. But we are sure it will be a great success, as our ladies are working very hard for it, and many very handsome donations have been received. The tickets for admission and for the evening entertainments are going off very rapidly.

CHRISTMAS.—As in other years, there will be celebrations of the Holy Communion on Christmas day at 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 and 11.30 A. M., with morning service at 10.30 A. M. and evening prayer at 5 P. M. The choir list shows the music which will be sung, and which will be repeated on the Sunday within the octave.

The Children's Christmas Festival will take place on Monday evening after Christmas, Holy Innocents' day being on Sunday. They will sing their carols in the church, and afterwards have an entertainment in the parish building.

We trust the members of the congregation will remember our children at this season. And we should also like to do something for the Mothers' Meeting, as we did not do a great deal for them at Thanksgiving, and have had no coal orders to give out this year at all, owing to the scarcity and high price of coal.

We look also for the usual Christmas offerings for the church, and hope that what our people have given towards the Bazaar will not be taken out of their ordinary Christmas offering, as we depend on that to meet the interest on our mortgage, which comes due this month.

A CHORUS CHOIR.—Our new Curate has started a singing class for the practice of hymns, etc., after the service on Wednesday evenings. He would like to have an auxiliary choir to assist in the singing at that service and on Sunday evenings and other occasions, as well as increasing the heartiness of the music generally.

A number of persons have given their names as members of this choir, to sing on Sunday and Wednesday nights in connection with the Vested Choir. They sit in the front pews of the church, and have already proved helpful in leading the congregation's singing of the familiar hymns and chants at those two services.

We would be glad to have any adults or young people join the choir, *provided* they intend to come every Wednesday and Sunday evening.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.—Mr. Wm. E. Linton has been appointed Secretary of the Sunday school and is faithfully fulfilling the duties of the office.

Miss Louisa B. Hodge very kindly accompanied upon the piano the practice of the carols on Sunday, November 23d, and greatly helped us. Mr. Thayer, our efficient Sunday-school organist, was necessarily absent on that occasion.

The Sunday-school teachers will meet on Sunday, December 7th, after the session of the school to confer as to the children's entertainment for Christmas. Of course, we should have every teacher present.

THE MEMORIAL SERMON on our late Warden, Mr. J. Edward Carpenter, preached by the Rector last March, has been printed by the Society of Sons of the Revolution, and the Rector has some copies he will give to any who would like to have one.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite to this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the treasurer.

The following subscriptions have been received:

Mrs. Larzelere (2)
Miss Bryson
Mrs. G. W. Hodge
Rev. G. W. Hodge
Mr. Carroll Hodge
Mrs. C. H. Darlington (2)
Miss Alice Young
Mr. John Barton
Miss Agnes Haynes
Mrs. W. M. Rhein (2)
Mrs. Roberts
Miss Pitcher
Mr. Thos. Neilson
Miss Clark
Mrs. Leaming
Mrs. Volmer
Miss Sinnickson (2)
Mrs. Grosholz
Mr. Richard Gilpin
Mrs. Jensen
Miss Agnes Martin

THE CHOIR

The list of music to be rendered by the choir during the month of December, as follows:

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT—December 7th.
10.30 A. M.
Benedicite in F . . . . . *Alfred J. Eyre*
Communion Service in D . . . . . *Woodward*
4 P. M.
Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in F *Caleb Simper*
Anthem—"Send Out Thy Light" . *Chas. Gounod*

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT—December 14th.
10.30 A. M.
Benedicite in F . . . . . *Alfred J. Eyre*
Communion Service in D . . . . . *Woodward*
4 P. M.
Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E. *J. V. Roberts*
Anthem—"How Lovely are the Messengers" (From Oratorio S. Paul.) . . . *Mendelssohn*

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT—December 21st.
10.30 A. M.
Benedicite in F . . . . . *Alfred J. Eyre*
Communion Service in D . . . . . *Woodward*
4 P. M.
Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in F . *Gladstone*
Anthem—"The Grace of God that Bringeth Salvation" . . . . . *Joseph Barnby*

CHRISTMAS DAY—December 25th.
10.30 A. M.
Te Deum in E flat . . . . . *Woodward*
Communion Service,
Kyrie, Agnus Dei, Sanctus } in B flat . . . . . *Schubert*
Creed, Gloria in Excelsis } . . . . *Henry Smart*
Benedictus Qui Venit . . . *J. B. Calkin*

SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS—December 28th.
10.30 A. M.
Music same as on Christmas Day.
4 P. M.
Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat . *Stainer*
Anthem—"Now when Jesus was Born" *Frederick Stevenson*

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Assistant Superintendent . . MR. CHARLES T. WALKER
Secretary . . . . . MR. WM. E. LINTON
Librarian . . . . . MR. D. L. WITMER
Organist . . . . . MR. THAYER

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For Boys and Ascension Cadets . . . . . 2.30 P.M.
MISS HODGE
For Men . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. A. L. NEILSON

THE RESULTS OF THE BAZAAR.

THE Bazaar is over, and it was a great success. Those who took part in and worked so hard to benefit the church thereby can feel that they have accomplished what they took in hand to do.

The Natatorium Hall in which it was held was beautifully decorated, the Japanese garden made it especially attractive. People seemed to like to linger there, and as a most excellent luncheon was provided at a very moderate cost, many stayed there all day, others returned again and again. The tables were abundantly supplied with articles for sale, and made a very handsome display. Many who had not attended, or were connected with our parish for many years, either sent things, or came and made purchases. Some very liberal donations were made, and the spirit manifested on all sides was excellent. The young men of S. John's Guild provided a very successful minstrel show, and one of our young men, assisted by a friend, furnished mandolin music all through the evenings and on Saturday morning. For the vaudeville and dance, enough tickets were sold to fill the hall on each occasion, and we are under great obligation to our friends who furnished the talent for the former occasion. These entertainments added very materially to our receipts.

And now for the results. The treasurer, Mrs. Van Harlingen, to whom our special thanks are due for the work her office involved, reports that the total re-

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TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS:
Single Copies, by Mail, 50 Cents a Year.

KALENDAR.

January	1.	Circumcision.
	2.	Friday—Fast.
	4.	Second Sunday after Christmas.
	6.	Epiphany.
	9.	Friday—Fast.
	11.	First Sunday after Epiphany.
	16.	Friday—Fast.
	18.	Second Sunday after Epiphany.
	23.	Friday—Fast.
	25.	Conversion of S. Paul.
	30.	Friday—Fast.

RECORD FOR DECEMBER.

BAPTISMS—
John Olden Worrell
George Rogers Worrell
William Garrett Worrell
William Peyton Perry
Mary Stokes Smith
Harry James Hemphill
Charles William Cornelius
Joseph Thomas Cornelius — 8

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED BY TRANSFER—
From S. Stephen's Church—
Frederick Tallent
Mrs. Jennie Tallent
From S. Matthew's Church, Bloomington, Ill.—
Robert Boyd Burleigh — 3

TRANSFERRED—
To S. John's Church, Passaic, N. J.—
Margaret Terwilliger — 1

DIED—
Mrs Rose Fairchild
Mrs. Matilda Montgomery — 2

BURIALS—
Louis Eck
Mrs. Rose Fairchild
Mrs. Matilda Montgomery — 3

OFFERINGS

For current expenses (including Christmas offering)	$649 75
" the Poor	39 54
" General Missions	1 95
" Christmas Decoration and Festival	41 76
Of the Sunday-school	7 46
Total	$740 46
Proceeds of the Bazaar	$2 352 28

ceipts, after paying all expenses, were $2,352.28, of this $512 were donations, made to cover the expenses, and the rest the receipts from sales of articles, tickets, etc.

Some of our ladies had fixed their hearts on raising more than this, but we are very well satisfied with the result, and think our people did nobly, and the amount received answers the purposes for which the Bazaar was held. If any have copies of the ASCENSION NEWS for May last, they will see in it an article setting forth the necessity of doing something, and the precise needs of such an effort. They were, first, to pay off the floating debt, which, by the beginning of last month had amounted to $1,300. Second, to put back the reserve fund of our capital of $1,000, which we had used up in previous years, and which is very important as a fund on which to draw during the summer months, when our receipts are small. Third, to provide some means to carry on our Mothers' Meeting and other benevolent work, which is a very important part of our work, and for which we find it very difficult to get the necessary funds. Now all those ends are covered by our receipts. The ladies voted at a general meeting of all the workers and contributors called on the evening of December 23d, to pay the floating debt of $1,300 in full, to restore the $1,000 reserve fund, and devote the remainder to the work of the Mothers' Meeting. We should like to have had a little more for this latter purpose, but in addition to the $52 on hand, there are some other small receipts still to come in, and a number of things left over from the Bazaar have been donated by the ladies to be sold as opportunity may offer for this purpose. A supplementary sale

was held in the Parish building on December 19th and 20th, at which something over $40 was realized.

All, therefore, who worked for the Bazaar, can feel that their labors have been rewarded; they have not only relieved the church of a debt which was embarrassing it, but have put back the reserve fund, which, even if it should be used up again, would keep the church out of debt for a couple of years at least. But we must make strenuous efforts to keep this fund intact in the future. And the way to do this is for every one attending the church to make *regular* contributions towards its support. Every one, old and young, should use the envelopes and give through them as largely as they can. If all our people would do this there would be no need of resorting to Bazaars or other methods for the increase of our income.

The hearty thanks of the authorities of the Parish are due to all those who in any way took part in this effort which has been so successful in meeting our present needs, and we trust it will be a long time before we shall have to call upon them again for any similar work.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE BAZAAR.

WE promised to acknowledge in this paper all contributions made towards the Bazaar, but the number of articles given was so great and their character so various that it would simply be impossible to render a list of every article. We print, however, the names of those who sent contributions either of articles or money, as far as we have been able to obtain them. Many things were sent without names, or the cards or papers on which the names were written were mislaid in the confusion, so we do not doubt that there were others to whom we were under equal obligations, whose names do not appear in the list, which we much regret. The list, as far as we could get it, is as follows:

Miss Doherty
Miss Hoover
Miss Stevenson
Miss Millholland
Miss Hoyt
Miss Clinton
Miss Gertrude Miller
Miss Everard
Miss Baum
Miss N. Horsey
Miss A. Horsey
Miss Hughes
Miss H. Mason
Miss Fuller
Miss Duncan
Miss Wölber
Miss Bergin
Miss Patterson
Miss Fairheart
Miss Sharp
Miss Pennebaker
Miss McDowell
Miss Clark
Miss Dennison
Misses Goodman
Miss Graham
Miss Schoch
Miss Bryson
Miss M. McIlhenny
Misses Anable
Misses Hodge
Misses Gilpin
Misses Chamberlain
Miss Toler
Miss Saurman
Miss Sylvester
Miss Pepper
Misses Williamson
Miss Hendry
Misses Campbell
Miss Dodson
Miss Carmen
Miss E. A. Davis
Miss Agnes Haynes
Miss Edith Brinton
Misses Fisher
Miss Carpenter
Miss Small
Miss Amy Peters
Miss Ethel Houston
Mrs. Cooper
Mrs. Bower
Mrs. A. Williams
Mrs. Jensen
Mrs. Morgan
Mrs. Barrett
Mrs. Boyd
Mrs. Carmen
Mrs. Cameron
Mrs. W. M. Wharton
Mrs. Andrews
Mrs. S. Jackson
Mrs. F. Jackson
Mrs. D. Hawkins
Mrs. Aimes
Mrs. Gilpin
Mrs. Roberts
Mrs. Hughes
Miss G. Hopple
Mrs. Belfield
Mrs. Ashby
Mrs. Faught
Mrs. W. F. Smith
Mrs. A. Williams
Mrs. S. Harris
Mrs. John Cox
Mrs. Mortimer
Mrs. Robert Brinton
Mrs. George Boker
Mrs. Wm. King
Mrs. W. H. Hodge
Mrs. C. Klofach
Mrs. Woolsey
Mrs. J. G. Johnson
Mrs. Loughlin
Mrs. T. K. Conrad
Mrs. Bonnet
Mrs. T. L. Montgomery
Miss Plunket
Miss Dobson
Miss A. Jordan
Mrs. T. L. Smith
Miss Weld
Miss Whitehouse
Miss Walshe
Miss Chase
Miss Remington
Misses Prime
Miss Hare
Miss Hutchinson
Miss Cohen
Miss M. I. Hoffman
Misses Hawkins
Misses Snyder
Miss Pomeroy
Miss Jos. Anderson
Misses Wharton
Misses Smith
Mr. Rosenwey
Mr. Robt. Crawford

Mrs. W. P. Pepper
Mrs. Newnam
Mrs. Wadlow
Mrs. Hodge
Mrs. Darlington
Mrs. Penniston
Mrs. John Mason
Mrs. Van Harlingen
Mrs. Gaiser
Mrs. Jordan
Mrs. Anable
Mrs. Walter Cox
Mrs. Harry French
Mrs. Lafourcade
Mrs. Fenton
Misses Ackroyd
Mrs. Bowman
Miss Barrington
Miss M. Virginia Dyer
Mr. Geo. Allen
Mr. R. Ashhurst
Mr. Botwright
Mrs. Loper Baird
Mrs. Bidlach
Miss Bidlach
Miss Buckingham
Miss Mary Benson
Miss Mabel Brown
Miss Baily
Miss Busch
Mrs. H. Burrell
Mrs. J. H. Burrell
Miss Bogia
Miss Brobson
Miss S. Butler
Miss Boyd
Miss Craig
Miss Casey
Miss Cresson
Miss Caldwell
Miss Cook
Miss Emma Carpenter
Miss Conover
Miss L. Cartright
Miss Dusenbury
Miss Donnell
Miss Dobson
Miss Dimond
Mrs. Butler
Mrs. T. W. Blake
Mrs. Barth
Mrs. Boyd
Mrs. S. S. Burgin
Mrs. Boutel
Mrs. Bollman
Mrs. G. S. Bains, Jr
Mrs. Bonsack
Mrs. Balderson
Mrs. F. C. Burke
Mrs. Christian
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Mrs. Ellis
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Misses Fenton
Mrs. Fields
Miss Fullmer
Mrs. Gill
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Mrs. Goodridge
Mr. Goodridge
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Mrs. Hubbler
Mrs. Hinkle
Mrs. Holden
Miss Hopkins
Miss Jordan
Mrs. Jennings
Miss Jennings
Mr. Jerecitti
Mr. Geo. Jack

Misses Patterson
Miss Palmgren
Mrs. Rowe
Mrs Roe
Misses Robertson
Miss Remington
Misses Rousseau
Miss F. Revel
Miss Sargent
Miss Severns
Miss Shreve
Miss Stocker
Miss May Subers
Misses Thompson
Miss Trimball
Miss Thomas
Miss Tunis
Miss Laura Troth
Mrs. J. Reed
Mrs. Rittenhouse
Mrs. Rasin
Mrs. W. H. Rhein
Mrs. A. Reichard
Mr. Rulon
Mr. Thomas Robb
Mrs. A. G. Roberts
Mrs. Thomson
Mrs. String
Mrs. J. R. Sullivan
Mrs. Geo. Simpson
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Mr. A. Lindsay
Mrs. Carroll Hodge

PARISH NOTES.

GIFTS, innumerable articles for the Bazaar: Five tons of coal for the poor, piece of Brazilian lace for fair linen cloth for the altar, number of articles for the missionary box and for the poor, donations for tea for Mothers' Meeting, six Christmas dinners for poor families, and a clock for the sanctuary. The choir master received a very handsome folio copy of the church hymnal with flexible binding for use on the organ.

THE REV. MR. GILPIN.—All the members of our Parish, as well as all his friends, have been much distressed to hear of the illness of our former Curate, the Rev. Wm. Bernard Gilpin. He has been ill with typhoid fever in the Pennsylvania Hospital since December 15th. Our constant and fervent prayers are offered for his complete recovery.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENTS.—On Monday afternoon and evening, December 29th, the annual Christmas service and entertainments of the Sunday School occurred. The snow and rain and hail had been falling all the afternoon, and by 3 P. M. the pavements were covered with slush.

But at that hour, about 45 little ones, with Miss Miller, the head of the Primary School, together with some other friends, met in the Parish Building and the fun began.

Mr. Charles Walker most wonderfully entertained the audience with Punch and Judy, and later on the same versatile gentleman arrived on a sled drawn by human reindeer, and Santa Claus distributed candy and cards and presents. Two carols were sung and some remarks made by the Curate of the Parish, and everybody had a happy time.

At 7.30 P. M. the main school had its meeting.

First a service in the church, preceded by a procession. Then a shortened evensong with carols and an address to the congregation by the Curate and Rector.

After this all repaired to the Parish Building, and the Christmas entertainment followed. Recitations by Mr. John McIlvaine and Miss Amelia Klofach, cornet solos by Mr. Samuel Scott, accompanied by Miss Louisa B. Hodge, sketches by Mr. Percy Remington and "Mr. Volunteer" and "Welcome to Santa Claus" by Messrs. Jos. Aimes, Clarence Martz, Christian Hawkes and Russell Eberling.

We are especially indebted to Mr. Scott and Mr. Remington for so kindly and efficiently helping us.

Then presents were distributed to the scholars with a box of candy and a Christmas card by Mr. Albert Zitele, a most welcome Santa Claus. The members of her Bible class presented Miss Maria Gilpin, who richly deserved this token of love from her "boys," with a handsome vase.

About 175 persons were present and they had to brave a trying night in order to come.

To Mr. Carroll Hodge we are greatly indebted for the electric lighting of the Christmas tree, and our efficient sexton and teachers worked hard in order to make the affair so great a success.

After an afternoon and evening of much joy, we, at a reasonable hour, departed for our homes and rest.

CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTIONS.—It is proposed to begin the instructions for Confirmation before long, and it would be a great convenience to the clergy of the parish if names of those who are at all thinking of Confirmation were given to one of the clergy as soon as possible.

The date of the first instruction will soon be announced.

Please give us names of possible candidates at once.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite to this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the treasurer. The following subscriptions have been received:

Mrs. Dickenson	Mrs. Richard Biddle (2)
Mrs. Whitehouse	Mrs. Marshall
Mrs. Lloyd	Mrs. Andrews (2)
Mrs. Schell	Mrs. Hiller
Miss Wurts (2)	Mrs. G. M. Wirgman (2)

THE CHOIR

The list of music to be rendered by the choir during the month of January, is as follows:

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
January 4th, 10 30 A. M.

Te Deum in E flat . . . . . *Woodward*
Communion Service in E flat . . *A. E. Eayre*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat, *Stanford*
Baritone Solo—"The New Born King," *L'Espor*

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
January 11th, 10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in G . . . . . *A. J. Holden*
Communion Service in E flat . . *A. E. Eayre*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat, *Stanford*
Anthem—"Arise, Shine, for Thy Light is Come" . . . . . *Sir J. Elvey*

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
January 18th, 10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in G . . . . . *A. J. Holden*
Communion Service in E flat . . *A. E. Eayre*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D, *J. C. Marks*
Anthem—"Behold, the Days Come," *Woodward*

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
January 25th, 10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in G . . . . . *A. J. Holden*
Communion Service in F . . . *Berthold Tours*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis . . . *J. E. West*
Anthem—"O, Taste and See How Gracious the Lord is" . . . . . *Sir John Goss*

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The Ascension News

VOL. XVI. PHILADELPHIA, FEBRUARY, 1903 NO. 2

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HOLY DAYS . . . . . 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON, 10.30 A. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (Choral) . . . . . 4.00 P. M.
" (with Sermon) . . . . 7.45 P. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 5.00 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) . . 8.00 P. M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.00 P. M.

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The Ascension News

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*
1934 Chestnut Street

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WM. MOORE WHARTON

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

WALTER ST. CLARE KNODLE

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, Ascension Cadets . . . . . 7.30 P.M.
Thursdays, St. Mary's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesday, Ladies' Aid . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
Wednesday, Mothers' Meeting . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class . . . . . 10.30 A.M.
First Friday, Missionary Society . . . . . 10.30 A.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.30 P.M.

Superintendent . . . . . THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent . . MR. CHARLES T. WALKER
Secretary . . . . . MR. WM. E. LINTON
Librarian . . . . . MR. D. L. WITMER
Organist . . . . . MR. THAYER

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS S. E. GILPIN
For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN
For Boys and Ascension Cadets . . . . . 2.30 P.M.
MISS HODGE
For Men . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. A. L. NEILSON

PARISH VISITING

IN a late issue we spoke of the necessity of having some person or persons who would look up those in the neighborhood of the church who were not attending any church. But there is another kind of visiting which is of equal importance; that is, the visiting of those who regularly belong to the parish. Of course, the clergy want to do this themselves, they naturally want to know personally the people attending their church. It is only so that they can be real pastors, friends and leaders and sympathizers with their people in sorrow and in joy. It is only by becoming personally acquainted with them that they can learn their characters, their capacities and their wants, and bring to bear upon them the influences and consolations of religion, and enlist their sympathy and interest in the various departments of the Church's work. For the clergy to know their parishioners therefore is an absolute necessity to any real relationship between them.

But though this is so necessary, few people imagine how difficult a thing it is to accomplish in our modern city life. Formerly people naturally and necessarily attended the churches in the immediate neighborhood of their homes. Forty-five years ago there was not a street car in the city of Philadelphia, only a few omnibus lines, and they did not run on Sundays. So that people had to go to churches near to them, unless they were willing to walk a great distance. But now when there is a trolley in every

THE ASCENSION NEWS

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS:
Single Copies, by Mail, 50 Cents a Year.

KALENDAR.

February 1. Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany.
2. Purification Blessed Virgin Mary.
6. Friday—Fast.
8. Septuagesima.
13. Friday—Fast.
15. Sexagesima.
20. Friday—Fast.
22. Quinquagesima.
24. S. Matthias.
25. Ash Wednesday.
All days in Lent are Fasts.

RECORD FOR JANUARY.

BAPTISMS—
Walter Paul Burns
Ada Terry Burns 2

MARRIAGE—
Willis Richard Upson and
Gertrude Shoemaker 1

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED BY TRANSFER—
From the Church of the Incarnation—
Mrs. Rebe Morrison
From the Church of England—
Mrs. Annie Hawkes
From the Church of Rome—
Marie Louise Reyer 3

BURIAL—
Bailey Mitchell Shumate 1

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$416 73
" the Poor	19 35
" General Missions	9 25
" Foreign Missions	1 00
" Domestic Missions	1 00
" the Christmas Festival	1 69
" the Schools	1 00
Of the Sunday-school	7 97
Total	$457 99

street and people can go for miles for five cents, there are naturally many who prefer to attend churches to which they are particularly attracted or attached. This is especially the case in this parish, situated as it is in the central portion of the city from which such a stream of emigration is going on all the time to the newer sections or the suburbs, where such pretty, attractive and cheap houses are constantly springing up. People thus removing often find it easier to go by trolley to their own church than it would be to walk to one in their more immediate neighborhood. But it makes it vastly more difficult for the clergy to visit them.

To give our readers some idea of what this visiting means, we would say that, according to the Rector's visiting list, made out last autumn, the homes of the persons belonging to the church were situated as follows:

Below Washington ave., east of Broad st.	32
" " " west " "	52
Between Washington ave. and Pine st., east of Broad st.	29
Between Washington ave. and Pine st., west of Broad st.	44
Bet. Pine and Market sts., east of Broad st.	43
" " " " west " "	54
North of Market st., east of Broad st.	12
" " " west " "	18
In West Philadelphia	25
Total	309

And of those living to the south, some were as far as 2500 south; those to the north, some as far as 3400 and 3800 north, one 4800 north. And they extended in the other direction from Second street to Fifty-sixth st. Now anyone can compute how many days would be consumed in paying 300 visits over such an area, even if all of one's time was given up to it. But it is manifest that the clergy have many other things to do, services to conduct, sermons to prepare, guild meetings and the Church work to superintend, special sick calls to answer, funerals to attend, etc. So only a part of each day can be given to visiting, and when at a distance only two or three visits can be made the same day.

In addition to this people are frequently not at home when the clergy call, and the visit must be repeated. Then many are at home only at certain hours, many only in the evenings, and as there is something going on at the church nearly every evening at which one of the clergy has to be present, to say nothing of other engagements, there are only a few evenings that can be used for visiting. Then when a visit is paid perhaps only one member of the family is present, or there is company, which makes any talk about the church or spiritual things out of place.

The consequence of all this is that it takes the Rector *the whole winter* to get around to the houses of all the people in the parish even once, and even then he does not always succeed in seeing each member of the family. This is very unsatisfactory. How can a clergyman really come to know a person whom he only sees to talk to once a year, perhaps not that often?

We say this that our people may understand some of the difficulties with which the clergy have to contend, and to explain why they do not call oftener upon each one in the parish. It is their earnest desire to see and know and become as intimate as possible with the people connected with their parishes, but under our modern conditions in large city parishes this is a physical impossibility. They can simply do the best they can, and hope their people will excuse their not being more attentive to them than they are, or being of as much use to them as otherwise they might be.

And may we add that there is another way in which the people could see more of their clergy and much more satisfactorily, and that is by *coming to see them.* The Rector can be seen every day in the week after the 10 o'clock morning prayers in the church, and on Wednesdays after the 5 o'clock prayers, and the Curate every day at 5 o'clock and on Wednesdays after the 8 o'clock service in the evening, or they will be glad to make appointments at other times, when desired.

PARISH NOTES

CONFIRMATION.—The Bishop of the Diocese has appointed the evening of Wednesday, April 1st, for the annual administration of confirmation in this parish.

The Curate has already begun a class of preparatory instruction on Thursday evenings at 8 P. M. in the Guild Room, and the Rector will have a class on Monday afternoons, beginning February 9th, at 4 P. M. The instruction given in each of these classes will be a systematic course, so it is important that they should be attended regularly. It would be well for those looking forward to confirmation to attend both of these courses. But they are arranged so as to suit those who can only attend at one or other of those times.

Any persons who have been confirmed or who want to be better instructed in Church principles are invited to attend, as well as those looking forward to confirmation.

SPECIAL PREACHERS.—The Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Pittsburg, Dr. Courtlandt Whitehead, will preach in this church on the morning of February 8th, and the Rev. Dr. Duhring, now Dean of the Southwest Convocation, will present the cause of Diocesan Missions on the morning of March 8th. There will be some other special preachers on Friday afternoons during Lent.

THE REV. MR. GILPIN.—All our people will be rejoiced to know that our former Curate, the Rev. Mr. Gilpin, has so far recovered from his recent illness to have been able to leave the hospital. It now requires only rest and care to restore him to his former health.

MISSIONARY BOX.—The following is the acknowledgment of the missionary box our ladies sent out in December. It was not as good a box as we usually send and yet it was much appreciated. This shows how much good can be done and joy given by a little exertion or self-denial on our part:

January 5, 1903.

DEAR MRS. GILPIN:—The box arrived last Saturday. It was a splendid box and needed no apologies. We were more than delighted with the contents. I personally feel richer than I ever did. So many nice things for me, and then such beautiful articles for my wife and daughter, and such a variety of good things for the family. Surely you must have taken a great interest in our welfare. I wish to thank you personally for the trouble you have taken even in the midst of the anxiety for your son's health. It was, indeed, very kind, and I most thoroughly appreciate it. I want also to thank the ladies of your church. I am sorry that owing to the loss of your first letter I do not know the name of the church whose ladies have been so kind. Please thank them most heartily for me, and tell them how much I appreciate their generosity. May they be blessed in proportion to the blessing they have bestowed on me.

The clothes that you sent fitted me nicely, and I can make good use of them. The overcoats are splendid and were a great surprise, as were the gloves. I am fitted out now for all sorts of weather. You can be sure that I appreciated them yesterday when I had to walk five and a half miles in a cold northwest wind to my mission at Jonesville. Thanking you and your ladies once more for your very great kindness, I am

Very gratefully yours.

MOTHERS' MEETING TEA.—On Wednesday, New Year's eve, a pleasant entertainment was provided for the Mothers' Meeting. The Misses Sargent and Dr. Walter F. Brown kindly sang and played several selections, which were most heartily enjoyed. The Guild Room was well filled and a charming evening spent. After the music had ceased, we found a feast awaiting us, of which we heartily partook. The evening with its enjoyments was entirely due to the efforts and thoughtfulness of Miss Thompson and her efficient assistant, Miss King, under whom the Mothers' Meeting is greatly prospering.

ST. JOHN'S GUILD RECEPTION.—On Wednesday, January 26th, a reception was tendered by the St. John's Guild to St. Mary's Guild, of this parish, and to the Guild of St. Timothy's, Roxborough. The evening was most pleasantly spent and refreshments abundantly provided.

THE CHORUS CHOIR.—We still have our meetings after the Wednesday night evensong and average between 20 and 30 weekly. It is said the heartiness of the congregational singing has increased, for which, no doubt, the Chorus Choir is in part responsible.

We would be glad to have others come and sing with us on Wednesday nights in the Parish Building after service.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite to this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the treasurer. The following subscriptions have been received:

Mrs. String (2)	Mrs. Repplier (2)
Mr. W. M. Newman	Miss Barrington
Mr. F. S. Keese (2)	Mrs. Barritt
Mrs. Dallas	Mrs. Jos. Jackson
Miss Sarah Wilson (2)	Mrs. Bonsack
Mrs. John Mason	Miss Casey
Mrs. Parrish	Miss Thompson
Mrs. Waterall (2)	Mrs. Tait
Miss C. W. Hare	Mrs. Shelton
Mr. W. H. Cope (2)	Mr. W. P. Pepper (2)

THE CHOIR

The list of music to be rendered by the choir during the month of February, is as follows:

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY, February 1st, 10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in E flat . . . . . *Dudley Buck*
Communion Service in F . . . *Berthold Tours*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E flat, *John E. West*
Anthem—"Let Them Give Thanks," *Westbrook*

SEPTUAGESIMA SUNDAY—February 8th.
10.30 A. M.

Benedicite
Communion Service in F . . . *Berthold Tours*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E, *J. Varley Roberts*
Anthem—"I Will Mention" (Tenor Solo and Chorus) . . . . *Sir Arthur Sullivan*

SEXAGESIMA SUNDAY, February 15th.
10.30 A. M.

Benedicite
Communion Service in F . . . *Berthold Tours*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E flat, *Caleb Simper*
Anthem—"Ho! Everyone that Thirsteth" (Baritone Solo and Chorus), *G. C. Martin*

QUINQUAGESIMA SUNDAY—February 22d.
10.30 A. M.

Benedicite
Communion Service in F . . . *Berthold Tours*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat, *Villiers Stanford*
Anthem—"Blessed are the Merciful," *H. Hiles*

8 P. M.

SPECIAL MUSICAL SERVICE

The following Anthems will be sung:

"Hark, Hark My Soul" . . . . *H. R. Shelley* (Baritone Solo and Chorus)
"Behold, the Days Come," *H. H. Woodward* (Tenor Solo and Chorus)
"The Love of the Father" (Tenor Solo) . . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*

ASH WEDNESDAY, February 25th.
10.30 A. M.

Benedicite
Communion Service in F . . . *Berthold Tours*
Anthem—"Turn Thy Face from My Sins," *Attwood*

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The Ascension News

VOL. XVI. PHILADELPHIA, MARCH, 1903 NO. 3

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TUESDAYS	7.00 A. M.
THURSDAYS	9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON,	10.30 A. M.
WEEK DAYS	10.00 A. M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (Choral)	4.00 P. M.
" (with Sermon)	7.45 P. M.
WEEK DAYS	5.00 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address)	8.00 P. M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS	3.00 P. M.

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The Ascension News

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334 South Thirteenth Street

REV H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*
1934 Chestnut Street

WARDENS

FRANCIS S. KEESE
WM. MOORE WHARTON

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

WALTER ST. CLARE KNODLE

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, Ascension Cadets . . . . . 7.30 P.M.
Thursdays, St. Mary's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesday, Ladies' Aid . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
Wednesday, Mothers' Meeting . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class . . . . . 10.30 A.M.
First Friday, Missionary Society . . . . . 10.30 A.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.30 P.M.

Superintendent . . . . . THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent . . MR. CHARLES T. WALKER
Secretary . . . . . MR. WM. E. LINTON
Librarian . . . . . MR. D. L. WITMER
Organist . . . . . MR. THAYER

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS S. E. GILPIN
For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN
For Boys and Ascension Cadets . . . . . 2.30 P.M.
MISS HODGE
For Men . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. A. L. NEILSON

THOMAS ROBB.

THIS parish has again met with a great loss in the death of Mr. Thomas Robb, which took place on February 11th. Mr. Robb began to attend the services of this church when the present Rector took charge in November, 1880, in the old church on Lombard street. In 1885 he became a Vestryman, and has served as such ever since, most of the time acting as chairman of the Finance and Building Committees. His experience and ability as a business man made his services of special value in these ways. He was a man of great energy and enterprise in business projects, always ready to push ahead in order to insure success. It was to his leadership, and the manifestation of these qualities, that we largely owe our present beautiful building and its equipment. Besides contributing to the original building, it was a donation of $3,000 from him that secured contributions from others of an equal amount and made possible the erection of the chancel. Later on another gift from him of $1,000 secured the sum sufficient for the purchase of our fine organ. At one time he and another of our Vestrymen paid the entire salary of the Assistant Minister. And he has always been one of our largest regular contributors. In a parish like this, in which there are so few persons of means, such a contributor was of the greatest importance. In addition to which the soundness of his judgment on all business matters and his invariable willingness to be of service to the parish and to the Rector were simply

THE ASCENSION NEWS

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
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KALENDAR.

March 1. First Sunday in Lent.
4. Ember Day.
6. Ember Day.
7. Ember Day.
8. Second Sunday in Lent.
15. Third Sunday in Lent.
22 Fourth Sunday in Lent.
25. Annunciation Blessed Virgin Mary.
29. Passion Sunday.

All days in Lent are Fasts.

RECORD FOR FEBRUARY.

BAPTISMS—
Anna Louise Niel.
Katharine Wilhelmina Rocap. 2

CHURCHING—
Mrs. Esther M. Niel. 1

COMMUNICANTS DIED—
Thomas Robb.
Julius Annibaldi. 2

BURIALS—
Henry A. de France.
Mrs. Mary Graham.
Thomas Robb.
Julius Annibaldi. 4

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$425 59
" the Poor	9 23
" General Missions	8 60
" Diocesan Missions	11 05
At discretion of the Rector	5 00
For the Schools	10
Of the Sunday-school	5 63
Church Building	2 00
Total	$467 20

invaluable. The Rector feels that he has lost in him one of his warmest friends and chief supporters. Heartily in accord with all the aims and teachings of the parish, the place of one who has so supported it for over twenty years will not be readily supplied. In addition to his work in this parish he was a member of, and much interested in, and a large contributor towards the work of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, which greatly appealed to him.

To within a year ago Mr. Robb was remarkably strong and active for a man of his years, but since then he has declined very rapidly, hardly consciously to himself. And the end came very suddenly as he was sitting in his office overlooking a building plan. His funeral took place from the church on Saturday afternoon, February 14th. May he rest in peace and may he be rewarded for the good works he has done.

Previous to the funeral the Vestry met and adopted the following minute:

Resolved, That the members of this Vestry have heard with profound regret of the death of their late fellow-member, Mr. Thomas Robb, and that they put on record their sense of the great loss this parish has sustained thereby.

For twenty-two years a regular attendant, and for eighteen years a Vestryman of this parish, he has been unswerving in his interest in it. It was due to his energy, enterprise and liberality that it was enabled to move from its old position on Lombard street and erect and furnish its present edifice. And it has been largely owing to his unfailing annual contributoins that the work of the parish has been carried on.

A man of unblemished character, and deeply interested in charitable and benevolent works, he was most regular in his attendance upon the services of the church and at the meetings of the Vestry.

And his great experience and remarkable acumen as a business man made his advice in the management of the temporal affairs of the parish of the utmost importance. We shall mourn his loss from our midst and feel that an irreparable gap has been created in our number.

Resolved, That a copy of this minute be sent to his family and printed in the parish paper, and that we attend his funeral in a body.

PARISH NOTES

LENT.—A special card has been printed this Lent and distributed to the members of the congregation, giving a list of the Lenten services. The additional services will be a celebration of the Holy Communion on Tuesdays at 7 A. M. and a lecture after prayers on Friday at 5 P. M. The boys of the choir will be present as usual during Lent at the 5 P. M. service daily.

The Ladies' Aid will sew every Wednesday at 3 P. M. for the House of the Holy Child in West Philadelphia, and will be glad to have any ladies join with them.

CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTIONS.—The Rector's instructions will be given on Saturdays at 8 P. M. during this month, instead of Monday afternoons, as announced, as that time did not seem convenient to those who were expected to attend. The Curate's instructions will continue on Thursdays at 8 P. M. We trust all thinking of being Confirmed will attend one of these courses of instruction.

SAD EVENTS.—In addition to the death of Mr. Robb the parish lost during last month another of its communicants, Mr. Julius Annibaldi, who died in the Pennsylvania Hospital after undergoing a severe surgical operation. Signor Annibaldi was of an old Roman family, a graduate of the University of Rome, a man of culture and refinement. Though brought up in the Roman Catholic Church he entered the English Church many years ago and remained a consistent and devoted member of it to his death. He has belonged to this parish since 1892, and been regular in the performance of his religious duties. Fully conscious of what was before him he came to the church and made his communion at the early service on the Sunday before his operation, perfectly prepared for whatever might be the result. He was buried from the church on February 19th. May he rest in peace.

Mrs. Barrett, our choir mother, one of our most earnest workers, was knocked down in the street by something falling from a building she was passing, and had a leg broken, her shoulder dislocated and her head cut and bruised. She was taken to the Medico-Chirurgical Hospital and was there when the boiler exploded, causing great damage to the building, a part of the ceiling of the room in which she was falling. In spite of these two terrible experiences she is progressing favorably.

In addition to the above there have been three or four cases of severe illness in the parish.

THE SUNDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE.—We regret to notice a great falling off in the attendance at this service. We do not see why this should be, as it is one of the most attractive services we have and at an hour when most persons are at leisure. It is short, entirely choral and with no sermon.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENT.—Preparations are in progress for an entertainment to be given in Easter week by the Sunday-school. It is hoped to have a large portion of the school take part, and to make the evening bright and attractive. The present intention is to charge nothing for admission, but to issue tickets, which will have to be presented at the door.

Miss Hodge has kindly consented to superintend the affair, and almost every teacher has promised her assistance.

A SPECIAL MUSICAL SERVICE.—On Quinquagesima Sunday, February 22d, at 7.45 P. M., our efficient and faithful choirmaster had provided a rich musical

service. Mr. Myers, Mr. McCarrick and Mr. Hindermyer all sang solos. The last being a beautiful setting of the words, "The Love of the Father," etc. (I St. John 3:1, 2), by Mr. Knodle himself.

The service had been somewhat advertised and a large congregation was present.

ANOTHER MUSICAL SERVICE.—Encouraged by the last of such services we hope to have another one about the middle of Lent, perhaps on Mid-Lent Sunday, March 22d, at 7.45 P. M.

ST. MARY'S GUILD RECEPTION.—St. Mary's Guild of Young Ladies kindly invited St. John's Guild of Young Men to meet them at a reception at the parish building on the evening of Monday, February 23d. About 35 persons were present, a small orchestra furnished good dance music, bounteous refreshments were provided and a really pleasant evening spent.

SOME SURPRISES IN STORE.—St. John's Guild is contemplating a surprise to the young people of the parish, and it is understood that the choirmaster has a little secret which he and the choir boys may in due time reveal.

PERRY PICTURES FOR THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—To every scholar who recites accurately a little Catechism (which is temporarily being used in the school) as far as the answers for the day, there is given a Perry picture. The pictures are copies of masterpieces and not only are a reward for learning the Catechism, but must be artistically educative to the children.

OUR DRILL MASTER.—The Boys' Brigade have unfortunately lost their drill master, Mr. Smith, who has been training them most acceptably and faithfully. His business now prevents his meeting with them on Tuesday evenings, and they greatly miss him. We give him our sincere thanks for his kind and unselfish labors. Can anyone help us to find another military leader for our hosts?

THE CONGREGATIONAL REHEARSAL.—Every Wednesday after the 8 P. M. service we have met to sing hymns with accompaniment of piano and violin. Apparently everyone present has enjoyed it, and we hope it has somewhat improved the congregational singing.

Perhaps, now that Lent has come, there may be still others, old or young, who will linger after the Wednesday night service and join us in our gathering.

DIOCESAN MISSIONS.—The special benevolent envelope sent out this quarter is for Diocesan Missions. This church is asked this year to contribute $100 for this purpose. We trust, therefore, that each one in the congregation will make an offering through the envelopes. In addition to which all the offerings, outside of the envelopes for the support of the church, put in the plates at the morning service on March 8th will be devoted to this object, on which occasion the Rev. Dr. Duhring, Dean of the Southeast Convocation, will speak to the congregation on the subject.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.—The following are the officers of the school at present: Director, the Rev. H. Page Dyer; superintendent, Mr. Charles W. Walker; secretary, Mr. William Linton; librarian, Mr. David T. Witmer; organist, Mr. Thayer; cross bearer, George Diehl; ticket distributers, John McIlvaine, George Diehl, George Morgan, Earl Partridge.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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Miss M. McIlhenny	Mrs. H. Connelly (2)
Miss Parme'ee	Mrs. Brice
Mrs. Klofach	Mrs. Eckert (2)
Mrs. Christian (2)	Miss A. H. Chamberlaine

THE CHOIR

During the month of March the choir will render the following music:

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT—March 1st,

10.30 A. M.

Benedicite . . . . . *Lloyd*
Communion Service in E flat . . *Cruickshank*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E flat, *George J. Kimmins*
Tenor Solo, "There is a Green Hill Far Away" . . . . . *Gounod*

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT—March 8th,

Benedicite . . . . . *Lloyd*
Communion Service in E flat . . . *Cruickshank*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in F . . . *Simper*
Anthem—"O For a Closer Walk With God" . . . . . *Myles B. Foster*
Soprano Solo and Chorus.

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT—March 15th,

10.30 A. M.

Benedicite . . . . . *Lloyd*
Communion Service in E flat . *Cruickshank*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E flat, *George J. Kimmins*
Anthem—"Blessed are the Merciful," *H. Hiles*

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT—March 22d,

10.30 A. M.

Benedicite . . . . . *Lloyd*
Communion Service in E flat . . . *Cruickshank*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in F . . . *Simper*
Anthem—"Abide With Me," *Sir Joseph Barnby*
Soprano, Tenor and Baritone Solos and Chorus.

FIFTH (PASSION) SUNDAY IN LENT,

March 29th, 10.30 A. M.

Benedicite . . . . . *Lloyd*
Communion Service in E flat . . . *Cruickshank*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in C minor, *Charles Wood*
Anthem—"O Come and Mourn With us a While" . . . . . *Dudley Buck*
From "Story of the Cross."

A CONFERENCE.

THE CONFERENCE OF CHURCHWOMEN will be held in Holy Trinity Parish House, Twentieth street, below Walnut, on Friday, March 6th. Sessions at 10.30 A. M. and at 3 P. M. Papers will be read and discussion invited on the topics, "How to Help and Why We Help the Daughters of the King," "Work Among Boys," "The Housing of the Poor," "The Responsibility and Influence of Sunday-school Teachers."

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The Ascension News

VOL. XVI. PHILADELPHIA, APRIL, 1903 NO. 4

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Holy Communion.

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HOLY DAYS . . . . . 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.
TUESDAYS . . . . . 7.00 A. M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON, 10.30 A. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (Choral) . . . . . 4.00 P. M.
" (with Sermon) . . . . 7.45 P. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 5.00 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) . . 8.00 P. M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.00 P. M.

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334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*
1934 Chestnut Street

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FRANCIS S. KEESE
WM. MOORE WHARTON

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

WALTER ST. CLARE KNODLE

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, Ascension Cadets . . . . . 7.30 P.M.
Thursdays, St. Mary's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesday, Ladies' Aid . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
Wednesday, Mothers' Meeting . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class . . . . . 10.30 A.M.
First Friday, Missionary Society . . . . . 10.30 A.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.30 P.M.

Superintendent . . . . . THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent . . MR. CHARLES T. WALKER
Secretary . . . . . MR. WM. E. LINTON
Librarian . . . . . MR. D. L. WITMER
Organist . . . . . MR. THAYER

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS S. E. GILPIN
For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN
For Boys and Ascension Cadets . . . . . 2.30 P.M.
MISS HODGE
For Men . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. A. L. NEILSON

EASTER.

The great feast of Easter, with the preceding solemnities of the Holy Week, occurs this month. If Lent is a solemn time, Holy Week, telling of the sufferings and death of our adorable Redeemer, is still more so. It should be strictly observed as a time most fraught with spiritual blessings. In this parish we have services four times each day in this week, so that everyone, no matter what his engagements, can attend in some part of the day. Let each parishioner resolve that he or she will be present at least at one service each day, preferably at one of the celebrations of the Holy Communion. We have in this parish a celebration on Good Friday as on the other days, because there is no church in Christendom which is without the sacramental presence on this day. In the Roman and Greek Churches they have what is called the Mass of the Presanctified, that is the oblation, and communion by the priest at least, of the elements consecrated on the preceding day. But our prayer book makes no such provision, but appoints a special collect, epistle and gospel for a celebration as on all other Holy Days. We think, therefore, the Anglican custom of a celebration on Good Friday should be followed, though we omit the more joyful sung service in the middle of the day, substituting for it the three-hours preaching of the cross. We have found this, and the sermons on the Passion on the nights of the Holy Week, very profitable in past years, and we hope they will be well attended this year. Everyone

THE ASCENSION NEWS

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

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KALENDAR.

April 5. Palm Sunday.
6. Monday before Easter.
7. Tuesday before Easter.
8. Wednesday before Easter.
9. Maunday Thursday.
10. Good Friday.
11. Easter Even.
12. Easter Sunday.
13. Easter Monday.
14. Easter Tuesday.
17. Friday—Fast.
19. Low Sunday.
24. Friday—Fast.
25. S. Mark, Evangelist.
20. Second Sunday after Easter.

All days in Lent are Fasts.

RECORD FOR MARCH.

BAPTISMS—

ADULTS

Benjamin Barrett Dooley
Mrs. Harriet Eliza Rocap
Leah Young Hill
Emily May Partridge

INFANTS

Elizabeth Agnes Thompson
Margaret Elizabeth McGuire 6

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED BY TRANSFER—

From S. Peter's Church
Mrs. Catherine Dingler
From the Church of Ireland
Mrs. Margaret Rogers 2

TRANSFERRED—

To Trinity Church. Portsmouth, Va.
Mrs. Sarah Emma Withey
To S. Jude's Church
Mrs. Minnie Robins Bonnet 2

BURIAL—Mrs. Susan Seybert Butcher 1

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$356 24
" the Poor	7 29
" General Missions	50
" Diocesan Missions	45 16
" Foreign Missions	1 00
" Benevolent Purposes	8 50
" Flowers	2 47
Of the Sunday-school	7 09
Total	$428 75

has to bear, and should voluntarily bear, a cross in his life, some have very heavy ones to bear, and the only way to learn to do it profitably is by studying the way in which Christ bore his cross.

And then comes Easter Day, telling of the greatest victory ever wrought, that over death, and bringing life and hope to humanity. We keep the day commemorating Christ's resurrection as the greatest of all festivals because that is the event upon which the whole of our religion rests. "If Christ be not raised," says S. Paul, "then your faith is vain," and they who have taught us our religion are found "false witnesses" and so unworthy of any credence. Christ's resurrection is the event which declares Him the Son of God, and gives us the promise not only of a life after death, but of a resurrection in glory and immortality of our bodies, which we find so necessary as organs of the soul. It is meet, indeed, that the world should keep festival over such a revelation and such a promise.

So the Feast of Easter has always been the day for a general Communion, the day above all others in the year when every Christian is expected to make his Communion. In that solemn way he renews, and plights again, his oath of allegiance to his Divine Lord. So it ought to be the literal beginning of a new life. If any Christian in the stress and fierceness of life's conflict with sin has at times fallen, let him now rise again. In the Holy Week, which reminds him of how Christ shed His blood to atone for him, let him seek to have that precious blood applied to his soul to wash away his guilt. And then on Easter morning coming again in purity to Communion with his loving and forgiving Lord, let him seek for the grace to strengthen him to fight more manfully, and resist more completely temptation in the time to come.

If men would only come to use these sacred times and ordinances with this earnestness and devotion we would have more strong, manly characters among us, and less vice and crime, more beautiful, saintly lives, more real happiness.

May this coming Easter be such a time of spiritual renewal and blessing to every person in this parish.

PARISH NOTES

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER.—The services during Holy Week will be as follows:

Daily, 7.30 A. M., Holy Communion; 10.30 A. M. (except Good Friday), morning prayer and Holy Communion; 5 P. M., evening prayer; 8 P. M., sermon on the Passion.

Good Friday, 9.30 A. M., children's service; 11 A. M., morning prayer and Litany; 12.00-3.00 P. M., preaching of the cross.

Easter Day, 6.30 A. M., Holy Communion, celebrant, the Curate; 7.30 A. M., Holy Communion, celebrant, the Rector; 8.30 A. M., Holy Communion, celebrant, the Rev. H. G. Meigs; 10.30 A. M., morning prayer and sermon; 11.30 A. M., Holy Communion, celebrant, the Rector; 3.30 P. M., children's Easter service; 7.45 P. M., evening prayer and sermon.

The Rector will preach on Monday, Tuesday and Friday evenings in Holy Week, and on Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday in the morning. The Curate will preach on Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday evenings, and on Monday, and Tuesday at 10 A. M., and on Good Friday take the three-hours' service.

The Rector will take the children's service at 9.30 A. M. on Good Friday. The children's festival will take the place of the ordinary 4 o'clock service on Easter Day.

EASTER OFFERINGS.—All our people will be expected as usual to make a special offering for the church on Easter. It is only by large special offerings at Christmas and Easter that we can hope to at all meet our current expenses for the year. Especially those who do not use the envelopes must remember how many rainy Sundays they have been kept away from church, especially this winter, and how they will be away many Sundays during the summer, when they are not contributing anything, and make up for it by a large special offering at Easter. The Accounting Warden estimates that we shall require at least $650 in addition to our ordinary receipts to meet all our expenses for the current financial year. Special offerings for the Easter flowers may be placed in the alms box in the vestibule of the church marked for this purpose. Let everyone in the congregation feel that he or she is putting some flowers in the church on this great day by contributing to this purpose. Those who prefer to do so can send flowers, either cut or in pots.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.—The Easter festival of this school, which closes its work for the winter, will take place on the Saturday after Easter at 10 A. M. Members of the congregation are invited to be present and see the work which has been done by the children during its sessions.

THE REV. DR. BATTERSON.—The parish has lost another good friend in the death of the Rev. H. G. Batterson, D. D., which occurred last month. Though he had been living for the last few years in New York, Dr. Batterson always attended this church when he came on to Philadelphia, which he usually did twice a year. He and his wife put in one of the handsome stained-glass windows we have in the chancel, and also placed the brass rail around the font in memory of friends who were dear to them.

FUNERAL LIGHTS.—The Rector was lately given a sum of money to use for the benefit of the church in recognition

of some services he had rendered to one lately deceased, and he has taken it to purchase six large iron candle sticks to place round the bier at funerals. There is no place in which the symbol of light is so beautiful and effective as in connection with death, and we have long felt the need of such lights in our parish, a need which is now happily supplied.

THE ITALIAN MISSION.—The Rector has received a letter from the Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese asking if there are not some persons in this congregation who would be willing to act as Sunday-school teachers in the Italian Mission on Christian street, below Eleventh. As a number of our people live not far from there it would seem as if we might supply this need, which is a very great one, as naturally the Mission cannot supply its own teachers. A knowledge of Italian is not requisite, as the teaching is in English. The clergy will be glad to receive the names of any who will volunteer for this work.

PRAYER FOR MISSIONS.—The Board of Missions of our Church has asked all our people to join with Christians of all names in praying during Holy Week this year for the success of Missions throughout the world. It has issued a little scheme for prayer for different objects to be used on each day of this week. Copies will be found in the rack near the door of the church and in the vestibule, and we will be glad if our people will use them.

DIOCESAN MISSIONS.—The response to Dr. Duhring's appeal for Diocesan Missions was about one-half of the $100 required. Those who have not yet returned their envelopes for this purpose are requested to do so this month.

CHILDREN'S EASTER SERVICE.—On Easter Day at 3.30 P. M., there will be sung in the church the Children's Easter Service. Reports by the superintendent and secretary, addresses by the Rector and Curate, a procession of the school through the church, the collection of Easter offerings of the children and the gifts to them of some Easter token, with the singing of their carols, will compose the exercises.

The school will meet in the parish building and enter the church in a body.

CHILDREN'S EASTER ENTERTAINMENT.—On Tuesday, April 21st, at 8 P. M., will be held the Children's Entertainment. Each child in the Sunday-school who asks for them, will be given tickets, without any charge; but these tickets must be presented at the door of the parish building, in order to gain admittance. Tickets can be obtained, also, from the teachers and officers of the school, and of the sexton and clergy.

Plays, dialogues, choruses, etc., etc., will fill the evening. We advise all who care to attend, to come early in order to obtain a seat. The doors will be open at 7.30 P. M.

A CORRECTION.—In our obituary last month of Mr. Thomas Robb, we stated that he had contributed $1,500 towards the building of the chancel of our church. It should have been $3,000. He at first subscribed $1,500, but afterwards doubled the amount on condition that other subscriptions to an equal amount were obtained. We had only the original subscription book before us when writing, but recalled afterwards that he had given $3,000 at one time, and so wish to correct our mistake.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite to this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor.

The following subscriptions have been received:

Miss M. G. Gilpin	Mrs. Gilfillan
Mrs. Alexander	Mrs. Wm. Drayton
Mr. Sam'l Miliken	Miss Means
Mr. Harry B. French	Miss Carpenter
Mrs. Wilkes O'Neil (3)	Miss Schubert

THE CHOIR

The choir will render the following music during the month:

PALM SUNDAY—April 5th,

10.30 A. M.

Benedicite in E flat . . . . . *Lloyd*
Communion Service in E flat . . . *Cruickshank*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D, *J. C. Marks, Jr.*
Baritone Solo, "Jerusalem" . . . . *Parker*

7.45 P. M.

Baritone Solo, "The Palms" . . . . . *Faure*

GOOD FRIDAY—April 10th,

11.00 A. M.

Benedicite in E flat . . . . . *Lloyd*
Reproaches . . . . . *Redhead*
(Baritone Solo and Chorus)

EASTER SUNDAY—April 12th,

10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in C . . . . . *Dudley Buck*
Communion Service,
Kyrie in F . . . . . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Credo, Benedictus Qui Venit, Agnus Dei, Gloria in Excelsis, } E flat *Battison Haynes*
Sanctus, "St. Cecilia" . . . . . *Ch. Gounod*

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D, *J. C. Marks, Jr.*
Anthem—"Hallelujah Chorus" . . . . *Handel*

FIRST (LOW) SUNDAY AFTER EASTER,

April 19th—10.30 A. M.

Music same as on Easter Sunday.

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D . *J. I. Field*
Anthem—"Break Forth into Joy," *Joseph Barnby*

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EASTER—April 26th,

10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in D . . . . . *A. E. Fisher*
Communion Service in E flat . *Battison Haynes*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D . *J. I Field*
Anthem—"The Lord is My Strength," *Henry Smart*

7.45 P. M.

SPECIAL MUSICAL SERVICE.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat, *Sir John Stainer*
Anthems—"Hallelujah Chorus" . . . *Handel*
Soprano Solo, "I Know that My Redeemer Liveth" . . . . . *Handel*

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Assistant Superintendent . . MR. CHARLES T. WALKER
Secretary . . . . . MR. WM. E. LINTON
Librarian . . . . . MR. D. L. WITMER
Organist . . . . . MR. THAYER

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For Boys and Ascension Cadets . . . . . 2.30 P.M.
MISS HODGE
For Men . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. A. L. NEILSON

THE RESURRECTION BODY.

There are some persons who have never grasped the fact that Jesus Christ, when He ascended into heaven, went up in the only condition in which He since the incarnation has existed, namely, with His Body of Flesh and Blood; and that He is now in heaven, not as a spirit, nor in a disembodied state, but with Flesh, Blood and all things which belong to man's nature. This, of course, must be so, otherwise the Incarnation has ceased; and probably no one believes that to be true.

And this is simply stated to us in the 4th Article of Religion, printed at the end of our prayer books. The words are these:

"Christ did truly rise again from death, and took again His Body, with Flesh, Bones and all things appertaining to the perfection of man's nature; *wherewith* He ascended into heaven, and there sitteth, until He return to judge all men, at the last day."

Now this fact of the ascended Body involves many other facts, which concern not only our Lord's mode of existence now and His methods of working with souls, but also ourselves here before we die and hereafter in heaven.

(1.) If Christ has now no Body, no Flesh, nor Blood, but is only a spirit, then, of course, there can be no Holy Communion. If there be no Body and Blood of Christ now in existence, there can be none in the Blessed Sacrament, and His words, "this is My Body, this is My Blood" are meaningless; and the cate-

THE ASCENSION NEWS

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS:
Single Copies, by Mail, 50 Cents a Year.

KALENDAR.

May 1. SS. Philip and James—Fast.
3. Third Sunday after Easter.
8. Friday—Fast.
10. Fourth Sunday after Easter.
15. Friday—Fast.
17. Rogation Sunday.
18. Rogation Day.
19. Rogation Day.
20. Rogation Day.
21. Ascension Day.
22. Friday—Fast.
24. Expectation Sunday.
29. Friday—Fast.
31. Whitsunday.

RECORD FOR APRIL.

BAPTISMS—

Ruth Korosin Schaeffer
James Whitefield — 2

CONFIRMED—

Robert James Hutchinson
John Cooke Hirst
Thomas Leaming Smith
James Graham Gill
Joseph Rex Aimes
Benjamin Barrett Dooley
Robert Moore McNeil
George Henry Morgan
Mrs. Sarah Ann Lindsay
" Margaret Wagner
" Harriet Eliza Rocap
" Esther Hermitage Smythe
Harriet Lucinda Dickers
Emily May Partridge
Katherine De Fagnier Greer
Elizabeth McCracken
Mary Stokes Smith
Beatrice McCauley Knight
Katharine Ferguson McClay
Anna Esther Worrell
Leah Young Hill
Beatrice Fenton
Jane Campbell
Margaret Thompson Campbell
Madeline Marion Hill — 25

COMMUNICANTS ADDED NEW—

Benjamin Barrett Dooley
James Graham Gill
George Henry Morgan
Joseph Rex Aimes
Robert Moore McNeil
Mrs. Sarah Ann Lindsay
" Margaret Wagner
" Harriet Eliza Rocap
Harriet Lucinda Dickers
Mary Stokes Smith
Beatrice McCauley Knight
Jane Campbell
Margaret Thompson Campbell
Emily May Partridge
Anna Esther Worrell
Katharine Ferguson McClay
Elizabeth McCracken — 17

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED BY TRANSFER—

From Christ Church Chapel
Caroline Biddle
From the Church of the Saviour, Jenkintown, Pa.
George Jones
Caroline Jones
From S. Jude's Church
Caroline Louise Thompson
From the Educational Home
Raymond Harper — 5

TRANSFERRED—

To S. James, Kingsessing
Elsie Matilda Killgren
Hilda Gabrielle Killgren
Eric Christian Killgren — 3

OFFERINGS

For current expenses (including the Easter Offering)	$973 27
" Benevolent Purposes	4 10
Of the Sunday-school	5 38
For Flowers	61 51
" the Poor	24 36
" Missions	51 82
" Rector's Discretion	105 00
" Foreign Missions	25 90
" Diocesan Missions	21 99
" Domestic Missions	54 45
" Indian Missions	23 40
" Freedmen Missions	23 15
" General Missions	25
" Outing Fund	12 38
" Ladies' Aid	8 75
" Prayer Book Society	11 00
" Tract Society	5 00
" Missionary Box	53 30
" Altar Fund for the Year	100 60
Total	$1568 67

chism untruthfully speaks of His Body and Blood being the inward part of the Blessed Sacrament; and the Communion Office vainly thanks God for vouchsafing "to feed us who have duly received these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ."

(2.) And not only could the real presence of Christ in the Holy Communion not be a fact; but we could in heaven, never, as men and women, be with Him and reign with Him. If the Captain of our Salvation, if the First Fruits of the dead, if the Pattern Man could not take

His Body to heaven with Him, neither, of course, could we; and the Article of the Creed, which declares our belief in the resurrection of the body is another vain imagination and is impossible.

(3.) But this revealed fact of the Ascended Body of Christ involves the previous fact of the resurrected Body. For, of course, if our Lord took His Body to heaven, He must previously have raised it from the tomb.

(4.) And this resurrection Body of Christ exists now under different conditions from those which He allowed to acompany it before His Resurrection. Before that Resurrection, He permitted Himself to need sleep and food, He walked and stood and moved as other men; but after His resurrection He delivered Himself from those limitations, and His Body did not need sleep nor food, His Body moved through granite blocks and walls of rooms, it became visible or invisible, was now here and in another instant there, and He even said that at the same moment the Son of Man was on earth and in heaven.

So, in thinking of the presence of our Lord, whether as to the Holy Communion or heaven, let us remember that His resurrection Body is supernatural, unfettered, unhindered by earthly laws.

(5.) As to our condition in heaven—because Christ has His real Body of Flesh and Blood there, we also shall have ours; just as it is true, that if He had not now His real Body there, we could not have ours.

(6.) And do not let us forget the identity of His Body after and before His Resurrection. It was so actually the same, that He showed His disciples the very prints of the nails in His Hands and of the spear in His Side. And it was so real that He Himself warned them that "a spirit hath not flesh and bones as ye see Me have;" as also He ate a "broiled fish and a honey-comb."

The collect for the first Sunday after Easter, therefore, rightly states that the Son of God died for our sins, and *also rose again* for our justification.

PARISH NOTES.

EASTER.—In spite of the unusual occurrence of a bad day on Easter, we had a very successful celebration of that great festival, the congregations were large, the number of communions made nearly the same as last year, when we had a fine day, and the offerings reached the full amount asked for, $700. The church was beautifully decorated and the music good. May all this prove a good start for renewed life in the parish.

VESTRY ELECTION.—On Easter Monday the following gentlemen were duly elected to serve for the ensuing three years: Mr. Francis S. Keese, Mr. John D. Henderson, Mr. J. Gibson McCall, Mr. Richard Gilpin. At the subsequent meeting of the vestry, Mr. Keese was re-appointed Rector's Warden, Mr. W. M. Wharton was re-elected Accounting Warden, Mr. John D. Henderson, secretary, and Messrs. Keese, Pepper and Witmer, delegates to the Diocesan Convention.

This being the first meeting of the vestry since the holding of the bazaar for the benefit of the church, the following minute was adopted:

WHEREAS, The Rector having announced that the ladies of the congregation had held a bazaar early in December, for the benefit of the church, which had raised some $2,300, by which the entire floating debt of the parish had been paid, and the reserved fund of

$1,000, which had been exhausted, was restored, it was

Resolved, That the hearty thanks, and warm appreciation, of this vestry be expressed to the ladies of the congregation for their efforts on behalf of the parish by which this result was attained, and the Church placed in this sound financial condition, and the vestry feels that earnest efforts should be made to avoid having any deficits in the future.

EASTER SERVICE OF THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—One of the many services on Easter Day was that of the school. Mr. Thayer, our kind and efficient organist, played a march while the school entered in silence. In the midst of the service, the procession around the church took place, the length being sufficient to encircle the building. Reports were made by the Superintendent and Secretary, and the Rector and Curate and Librarian, made addresses. The carols were sung and the contents of the mite boxes collected. The sum gathered from them, with some additions since, amounts to $51.62. A flower was given to each child, and a happy afternoon of praise was spent.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENT.—On Tuesday, April 21st, at 8 P. M., a successful entertainment was given by the children of the Sunday-school. It consisted of plays, recitations, music and drills, and without exception the young performers acquitted themselves well.

At the conclusion, ice cream and cake were served to those taking part. The whole school had been invited to participate, and it was considered that those who had undertaken and faithfully undergone the labor of preparation deserved this recognition.

Prizes were awarded to the scholars bringing the largest amounts of money in the mite boxes. The winners of these prizes were Miss Hattie Greer, Miss Helena Wilson and Harry Boggs. It was through the kindness of Mr. Walker, the Superintendent, that these prizes were awarded. The room was crowded and everyone seemed to enjoy the evening.

THE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FESTIVAL was held on the Saturday after Easter. About 100 scholars were present, all of whom were entertained with ice cream and cake, and each received an Easter egg and card, and a present from a "fish pond." Prizes were also given to those who had been regular in attendance and done good work. Specimens of work done were exhibited and a special prize awarded, by vote, for the best painting.

SCRAPS FOR INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.—The Industrial School will be grateful to any one who will send to the Parish Building, for their use, scraps of any kind of material, which can be cut into strips. Woolens, calico, muslin or any kind of stuff will do. It is preferred that the pieces should be new. During the past season 24 yards of carpeting were woven from such material, sewed together by the little girls of the school. This carpeting will be put upon the floor of one of the rooms in the Parish Building.

ASCENSION TIDE.—As in former years we shall observe the feast of the Ascension, our dedication festival, by celebrations of the Holy Communion as on Sundays at 7.30 and 10.30 A. M., and have a special choral Evensong with the Anniversary Sermon by the Rector at 8 P. M. We hope all our people will be present at one of the celebrations of the Holy Communion on this day, and at the service in the evening, when a review is made of the year's work of the parish. On the Sunday evening after the Ascension, there will be the annual Guild service, when all the Parish Guilds will enter and leave the church in procession. The sermon to the Guilds will be preached this year by the Rector. On Monday, May 25th, will be the Parish Tea, when we shall hope to see all the members of the parish brought together, socially. Tickets for this can be obtained from the verger.

ENVELOPES.—With this month begins a new quarter of our financial year, and we hope that every one attending the church who has not already got them, will send in an application for a set of envelopes, as that is the way by which the parish is supported, and that those going away for the summer will, if possible, return the envelopes for the number of Sundays they expect to be away, *before* they go.

AN ENTERTAINMENT for the benefit of the summer outing fund will be given in the Parish Building on Tuesday evening, May 12th. It will consist of musical selections by members of the choir and others, a play by members of the Boys' Brigade, and some of the best features of the Sunday-school entertainment will be repeated. Admission tickets, 25 cents; reserved seats, 35 cents; may be obtained from the verger or at the door.

GIFTS.—Large prayer-book for the sanctuary, linen baptismal napkin, flowers for Easter, quantity of cake for entertainments.

THE MEMBERS OF S. JOHN'S GUILD propose to give their annual spring sports on the evening of June 1st. Admission, 10 cents; reserved seats, 15 cents.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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The Ascension News

VOL. XVI. PHILADELPHIA, JUNE, 1903 No. 6

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TUESDAYS . . . . . 7.00 A. M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH SERMON . . . 10.30 A. M.
WEEK DAYS—Wednesdays, Fridays and Holy Days . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (Choral, with Sermon) . 7.45 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) . . 8.00 P. M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 9.30 A. M.

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The Ascension News

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE, *Rector*
334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*
1934 Chestnut Street

WARDENS

FRANCIS S. KEESE
WM. MOORE WHARTON

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WM. J. MORGAN
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GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, Ascension Cadets . . . . . 7.30 P.M.
Thursdays, St. Mary's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.30 P.M.

Superintendent . . . . . THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent . . MR. CHARLES T. WALKER
Secretary . . . . . MR. WM. E. LINTON
Librarian . . . . . MR. D. L. WITMER
Organist . . . . . MR. THAYER

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS S. E. GILPIN
For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN
For Boys and Ascension Cadets . . . . . 2.30 P.M.
MISS HODGE
For Men . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. A. L. NEILSON

ANNIVERSARY SERMON

We give a short synopsis of the Rector's Anniversary Sermon on the morning of Ascension Day, for the benefit of those who were not present.

He began by remarking that it was the twenty-second such occasion he had observed in the parish, and that there were now only about ten clergymen in the Diocese who had been longer in their parishes. He then read the report of the parish for the past conventional year, which we print in this issue, noting that the number of baptisms, etc., during the past year had not been quite as large as the year before. But these statistics must naturally vary from year to year, and the change of Curates during the year had doubtless something to do with it. Fewer new communicants had also been added, as not so many had been confirmed as the year before; but one more had been added by transfer from other parishes. The communicants lost by death during the year were James Patchell, Mrs. Martha E. Hurlbrink, Henrietta M. Hopkins, Edward Cox, Mrs. Mary A. Robbins, John Medhurst, Mrs. Willins, Mrs. Rose Fairchild, Mrs. Matilda Montgomery, Thomas Robb and Julius Annibaldi. The Rector made some personal reference to each of them, and prayed that they might rest in peace.

He noted that the Sunday-school was in numbers just the same as last year. The Industrial School had more names on the list, but not as good an attendance as the previous year. Both of these schools need teachers. The young peo-

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KALENDAR.

June	1.	Whitsun Monday
	2.	Whitsun Tuesday
	3.	Ember Day—Fast
	5.	Ember Day—Fast
	6.	Ember Day—Fast
	7.	Trinity Sunday
	11.	S. Barnabas
	12.	Friday—Fast
	14.	First Sunday after Trinity
	19.	Friday—Fast
	21.	Second Sunday after Trinity
	24.	Nativity S. John Baptist
	26.	Friday—Fast
	28.	Third Sunday after Trinity
	29.	S. Peter

RECORD FOR MAY.

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED NEW—
Thomas Leaming Smith
Beatrice Fenton

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED BY TRANSFER—
From S. Mary's, West Philadelphia
Mrs. Mary Purdon Smith
From the Church of Rome
Mrs. Marguerite Portal 4

BURIAL—
James Diverty Godfrey 1

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses		$467 07
" the Poor		15 26
" " Schools		5 50
" " Mothers' Meeting		5 00
" " Diocesan Missions		10
" " Parish Tea		9 00
" " Benevolent Purposes		3 37
Of " Sunday School		8 23
Total		$513 53

ple's guilds had kept up very well during the year, though the attendance should be larger. New members are especially wanted in the Brotherhood of S. Andrew.

The attendance at the services had been up to the average, and the number of communions had increased, owing to an additional celebration on Tuesday mornings, started by Mr. Dyer. This service, together with the Thursday service, will be kept up all summer, except for one month, when the Curate is away on his holiday.

In considering the financial report for the year, the Rector expressed his great satisfaction at the good showing it made, owing chiefly to the efforts made by the ladies in getting up the bazaar which was held in the autumn. As already reported, the receipts from this source were some $2,300, which enabled the parish to pay off all its floating debt, and to restore the reserve fund of $1,000, which was intended for use during summer months and to be replaced during the winter. This, however, was not done, and a considerable deficit had occurred. Now it is again intact, and we hope the most strenuous efforts will be made to preserve it in the future. In addition to these receipts from the ladies' work, the parish also received the legacy of $1,000 from the late Mr. Wetherill, which had been announced on Ascension Day. This was used by the Vestry at once to reduce by that amount our permanent indebtedness—the mortgage on the property. But beyond these receipts, the ordinary offerings of the people for the year had increased some $250 over the previous year. This is especially gratifying, as it is on these offerings that the church must depend for its support. So we find that the result of the past year has been to

free the church from all indebtedness whatever, except the mortgage, which has been reduced $1,000, while the endowment fund has been increased by $1,000.

It is hoped that every member of the congregation will do their utmost to keep up this good financial position in which we now find ourselves, either by using the envelopes for the support of the church, or by making a regular subscription for the purpose.

The only permanent improvement made in the church during the year was a stained glass clere-story window, representing the figure of S. Andrew, put in by the members of Miss Neilson's Bible Class. This class proposes making another present to the church, and there is a prospect of a new memorial window being placed in the sanctuary during the coming year.

In conclusion, the Rector urged each member of the congregation to take a personal interest in the parish and work for its upbuilding in every way in his power. There are many extensions and improvements that we would like to see made, and its usefulness could be largely increased if it could command greater resources.

PARISH NOTES

OUR DEDICATION FESTIVAL.—There was a goodly number at the early Communion on Ascension Day, but not as many as should have been present at the other services. One would suppose that both the teaching of this great festival and interest in their own parish would bring more out on this day.

The Rector preached the sermon this year at the Annual Guild Meeting from the text Ps. cxliv; 12.

The Parish Tea was, as usual, well attended, and thoroughly enjoyed by all present. Some of the girls of Miss Hare's class in the Sunday-school gave a short play, entitled "The Sweet Family." There was a candy sale by the members of S. Mary's Guild, and a sale of things left over from the Bazaar, for the benefit of the Mothers' Meeting. This netted some $22.

SUMMER SERVICES—The Sunday-school and the 4 P. M. Choral Evensong on Sunday will be discontinued until October, and the children's service will be transferred to 9.30 A. M. The other Sunday services will continue the same. The daily service is also stopped, but Morning Prayers will be said every Wednesday and Friday, and on all Holy Days, at 10 A. M., with Celebrations of the Holy Communion on the latter days at 7.30 and 10.30 A. M., and on Tuesdays at 7 A. M. and Thursdays at 9 A. M.

SUMMER OUTINGS—An entertainment was given towards raising a fund to provide summer outings for the choir and boys' brigade and children of the Sunday-school in the parish building, on the evening of May 12th, by the Choir Master, who provided the music. It proved very successful, the room was well filled, and the net proceeds amounted to $80.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—On Trinity Sunday there will be a special Sunday-school Festival in place of the ordinary Sunday night service, when prizes will be given out to those children who have been perfect in their attendance, behavior and lessons during the year.

During the rest of the summer, there will be a children's service every Sunday at 9.30 A. M., in place of the Sunday-school, and service in the afternoon.

THE LADIES' AID made up during Lent a box, consisting of 44 garments, 15 wash cloths, 8 cakes of soap, which was sent to the House of the Holy Child, in West Philadelphia. The following letter of acknowledgment was received:

1514 Pine street, April 26, 1903.

MY DEAR MISS CARMAN:—Will you thank the members of the Ladies' Aid Society, of the Church of the Ascension, for the box of clothing, etc., which they so kindly sent to the House of the Holy Child. The articles are all most acceptable, and we appreciate their kindness in working for the home very highly. I hope the members will visit the home some day.

Very truly yours,
EDITH WHARTON DALLAS, *Manager.*

THE MOTHERS' MEETING.—Although the meetings are held until June, the giving out of sewing is discontinued at Easter, and the yearly report made up to that time. The Easter Entertainment was held on the evening of Wednesday in Easter week. It consisted of a concert given by some most kind friends, whose programme was highly appreciated and enjoyed. Refreshments of tea, buns, ice cream, cake and oranges, followed. There are 45 names on the roll, and there has been a good average attendance through the year. Some of the members were very faithful and regular in their attendance. Sewing has been done for the Episcopal, Polyclinic, Orthopædic and Howard Hospitals, also for two "Homes," and some orders have been filled out. Gifts of money, clothing, dainties for the sick, tracts, cards and other much-needed donations have been sent, and those who have been so kind are thanked very warmly. It is hoped their interest will not only continue, but that it will be a continually-growing interest.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.—A blue mark opposite to this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the Manager.

The following subscriptions have been received:

Mrs. H. C. Pollock	Miss O'Harra
Mrs. R. W. Smith	Mr. H. C. Kelly
Miss Griffith	Mr. David Rea
Dr. T. R. Neilson	Mrs. Carmen

Miss A. J. Macartney (2)

REPORT

The following is the report of the parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop:

Baptisms—Adults, 4; infants, 31; total, 35. *Confirmed*—Males, 8; females, 17; total, 25. *Communicants* added—New, 17; by transfer, 24; died, 11; removed, 28; present number, 54. *Marriages,* 8. *Burials,* 22. *Public Services*—Sunday, 297; on other days, 632; total, 929. *Celebrations of Holy Communion*—Public, 216; in private, 5; total 221; Number of Communions made, 2,718. *Sunday-schools*—Officers and teachers, 19; scholars, 160; Bible classes, 4; teachers, 4; scholars, 63. *Other Parish Agencies*—Industrial School: Teachers, 14; scholars, 143; Mothers' Meeting: Members, 45; Men's Guild, the male communicants; Woman's Guild, the female communicants; Young Men's Guild, S. John's: members, 32; Young Woman's Guild, S. Mary's: Members, 23; Chapter Brotherhood of S. Andrew, members, 6; Ascension Cadets, members, 15.

Money Receipts—Offerings for all parish purposes, $5,440.30; offerings for purposes outside the parish, $350.58; investments, $384.00; other sources, Bazaar and sales, $2,438.81; Sunday-school, $260.54; Woman's Auxiliary, $231.35; Legacy, $1,000; total, $10,-105.58.

Expenditures—Parochial, current expenses (including salaries of ministers, music, fuel and lighting, care of church building and grounds and ordinary repairs of the same), $5,210.03; improvements, $267.37; interest on mortgage, $532.12; support of the Sunday-school and Industrial School, $160.75; Summer Outings, $181.92; payment of debts, $1,315.30; for the poor, $297.00; endowment, $1,000.-00; miscellaneous, $430.28; total, $9,394.-77.

Diocesan—Episcopal and Convention Fund, $152.55; Diocesan Missions, $132.10; Episcopal Hospital, $19.65; Sustentation Fund, $34.79; total, $339.09.

General Missions—General, $72.66; Foreign, $36.10; Domestic, $117.70; Indian, $25.10; Colored people, $24.85; Prayer Book and Tract Societies, $17; Church building, $2.00; United offering, $13.50; total, $308.91.

Total for all objects, $10,042.72.

Estimated value of five missionary boxes and bundles, $186.00.

Financial Condition—Aggregate value of property of the parish, real and personal, $80,000; incumbrances: Mortgage on the church edifice, parish building and ground, $10,500. Endowment Fund, $10,525.

THE CHOIR

The choir will render the following music during the month:

TRINITY SUNDAY AND FIRST SUNDAY AFTER June 7th and 14th

10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in F . . . . . *Henry Smart*

Communion Service in E flat . *Alfred J. Eyre*

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY AND THROUGHOUT SUMMER

Te Deum . . . . . *Chant form*

Communion Service . . . *Merbecke and others*

EVENING SERVICE AT 7.45

June 7th. Children's Service

" 14th. Anthem—
"I am Alpha and Omega," *Stainer*

" 21st. Anthem—
"Sun of My Soul," *Bullard*

" 28th. Anthem—
"In the Cross of Christ we glory,"
Duet, tenor and baritone

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis . . *Chant form*

During the summer months there will be full Choir at both morning and evening services. The Choir will endeavor to make the evening service attractive by special music.

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The Ascension News

VOL. XVI. PHILADELPHIA, OCTOBER, 1903 NO. 7

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HOLY DAYS . . . . . 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.
TUESDAYS . . . . . 7.00 A. M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON 10.30 A. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (Choral) . . . . . 4.00 P.M.
" (with Sermon) . . . . 7.45 P.M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 5.00 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) . . 8.00 P. M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.00 P. M.

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334 South Thirteenth Street

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1506 Pine Street

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WILLIAM C. LLOYD

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

WALTER ST. CLARE KNODLE

SEXTON

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GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, Ascension Cadets . . . . . 7.30 P.M.
Thursdays, St. Mary's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.30 P.M.

Superintendent . . . . . THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent . . MR. CHARLES T. WALKER
Secretary . . . . . MR. WM. E. LINTON
Librarian . . . . . MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist . . . . . MR. THAYER

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS S. E. GILPIN
For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . . . 3 00 P.M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN
For the Junior Brotherhood . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS HODGE
For Men . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. A. L. NEILSON

THE MARGINAL BIBLE.

The last General Convention of the Church, held in San Francisco, October, 1901, appointed a committee to prepare a copy of the authorized English Bible, together with marginal readings, which may be substituted for the text itself. This committee has completed its work, and the Bible as prepared by it has been printed and is now the standard Bible authorized to be read in our churches. The text is the same as that of the King James Bible, which we have always used. The marginal readings are some of those given in the King James Bible, and others those adopted in the Revised Version, which was published in England some years ago by the authority of the committee of Convocation, appointed to make a new translation of the Scriptures. This translation did not commend itself generally to the Christian world, but many of its retranslations are very valuable, making the sense clearer or removing archaic expressions. These the committee have adopted, and they can now be used as alternatives in reading the Scriptures. In order to make it easier to recognize these readings, all the words for which an alternative is provided are underscored with a black line and numbered, the word or sentence in the margin which may be substituted, having the same number. This enables the reader to substitute at a glance that which is in the margin for the text, if he chooses to do so.

While personally we should have been much opposed to the allowance of the

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A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
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KALENDAR.

October 2. Friday—Fast
4. Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity
9. Friday—Fast
11. Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity
16. Friday—Fast
18. S. Lukes' Evangelist
23. Friday—Fast
25. Twentieth Sunday after Trinity
28. S.S. Simon and Jude
30. Friday—Fast

RECORD FOR JUNE, JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

BAPTISMS—
Clarita Robb Gregg
Albert Roderick Dahlman
Franz Hermann Ludwig Dahlman
Robert William Gordon
Milo McMillan Gordon
Marion Fanny Gordon
Rebecca Fanny Chestnut
Kathleen Beates
Albert Amos Dooley 9

MARRIAGES—
Walter St. Clare Knodle and Florence Elizabeth Caldwell
Harold Charles Barker and Zoe Goldsborough Goff 2

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED
NEW—Robert James Hutchinson
By transfer from S. Stephen's Church, Beverly
Walter St. Clare Knodle 2
Transferred to the Church of the Holy Communion, New York City
Mrs Kate Gurley 1

DIED—Mrs. Rebecca McAfee 1

BURIALS—Mrs. Caroline Gibson Seiler
William Henry Parish, M.D.
Capt. William Henry Moore
Mrs. Rebecca McAfee
Amos Lyle 5

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses	$718.70
" the Poor	9 05
" " Schools	3 75
" " Diocesan Missions	57
" " General "	50
" " Benevolent Purposes	5 23
" " Outing Fund	2 71
Of " Sunday School	16 00
Total	$756 51

reading of the Revised Version in our churches, we think this course which has been adopted by our General Convention a very happy compromise. There are undoubtedly many passages in the King James version which are very obscure, some which are actual mistranslations, giving the reverse of the real meaning, and in other cases there are expressions which are so seldom used now, or whose sense has become so altered, that the majority of readers no longer understand them. It is certainly very desirous that these things should be corrected, and it can safely be said that the marginal readings now set forth do cover all the important cases referred to, yet the text, with its majestic English and familiar sound, is not materially altered.

It is surprising in looking over this Bible, and owing to the underscored words one can see it at once, how few, after all, are the alternatives which are allowed, and yet some of those few are very important in making clear the sense of the passage. In the Holy Gospels, the most important part of all the Scripture there are the fewest marginal readings. They are most numerous in the Epistles and in the Prophecies and other parts of the Old Testament where there was the greatest obscurity.

We could give illustrations of the importance of many of these changes, but we should recommend the members of our Parish to get copies of these Bibles for themselves and use them in their daily reading. Especially should the teachers of our Bible Classes and in the Sunday-school use them, as it will enable them to answer many questions which may be asked them or to understand things of which they themselves were ignorant. The small edition can be had in cloth binding for $1.75. A large lectern edition has also been issued, and we hope some one will present the Church with a copy of it that the lessons in the Church service may be read from it. This is now the standard Bible as set forth by the General Convention of the Church. It would be well if the Epistles and Gospels in the Prayer Book could be made to conform to it.

PARISH NOTES.

CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL SERVICE.—The children of the Sunday-school took part in a reverent and beautiful service on the evening of Trinity Sunday, June 7th, at 7.45 o'clock.

It marked the closing of the afternoon sessions of the school until the autumn. A floral arch, 10 feet high, had been constructed across the head of the center aisle, and beneath this was placed a floral cross, 6 feet in height.

Before the addresses the entire school and choir marched in procession around the Church, singing "Onward, Christian Soldiers." Three addresses were made. So many persons were in the procession that it almost encircled the Church.

Electric lights had been hidden among the flowers on the inner side of the floral arch, and made a pretty sight as they shone out among the leaves and blossoms.

A violin and cornet added to the beauty and richness of the music, and the hearty singing of over 250 people in the congregation was pleasing to one who is fond of congregational music.

As to prizes, honorable mention was made of 11 members of the Sunday-school, who had only been absent three times during the school year; third prizes were awarded to 12 persons who had been absent only twice; second prizes to 17 who had been absent once; and first prizes to 17 who had been absent not at all.

THE GUILD OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD had its annual spring picnic on Decoration Day. Owing to the kindness of a friend, a large covered wagon was secured in which 21 children were driven up the Wissahickon to Valley Green, where they spent the day. A lunch of sandwiches and ice cream and cake was prepared by Miss Pepper, and all had a very jolly day in spite of the showers.

A box was sent on June 11th, by the Guild of the Good Shepherd to a missionary in North Carolina. It was valued at $15, and contained 32 children's garments of all kinds, 24 scrap-books and 8 pounds of candy.

The garments and scrap-books were made by the children of the Guild, and the candy was bought with their pennies from the mite box.

The attendance of the Guild has not been as regular as is desired, but we hope for better luck next year.

CLASS PICNICS.—During the summer some of the teachers took their scholars on a trip to the country or park, and many happy hours were spent.

SPRING SPORTS OF S. JOHN'S GUILD.—On Monday in Whitsun week, S. John's Guild had its annual spring sports in the parish building. An elaborate programme had been arranged and was carried through with enthusiasm.

A number of guests were present from other men's guilds, who competed earnestly; but only good will and courtesy prevailed, and a pleasant evening was spent.

After the sports the S. John's Guild invited their guests to another room in the parish building, where bountiful refreshments were served. Altogether the evening passed off pleasantly, greatly to the credit of our Guild.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL PICNIC.—Many happy children and some grown people gathered at the parish building early on Saturday morning, July 11th, with lunch baskets well filled and expectations high for a good day in the park. At the appointed time we boarded various South street cars, and after a merry ride were soon at Belmont avenue, Fairmount Park.

Before long we had found a suitable spot in Belmont Glen, and there we took

up our abode. What a busy day it was—games, romps, lunch, swings, etc., until about 3 P. M., and then, alas! an interruption. Black clouds gathered, thunder began to peal and we precipitately broke camp and ingloriously stampeded to the nearest shelter, which was Memorial Hall. But Providence was kind to us and just as we had reached the hall the rain began to pour in torrents. The lightning flashed, strange snapping sounds came from the telephone in the building, but we were all too happy and too thankful for our good shelter to be easily disturbed.

After an hour or more of the storm it ceased, the sun shone beautifully, all nature seemed refreshed and we returned to our picnic. But it was too late and too wet for our contests, for which we had provided various prizes, so we decided to postpone them until the following Monday night.

But our ice-cream friend, Mr. Detwiler, did not disappoint us, and so we feasted upon cream and cake, which was systematically distributed by means of tickets; the children in regimental line as though in dress parade.

After doing justice to these good things, we reluctantly gathered up our baggage and carward wended our way. A merry party we were and songs sung with vigor proved to the continuous audience along our route that we had had a happy, refreshing day.

Sunday-school Sports.—True to our arrangements a goodly number of the members of the Sunday-school met at the parish building on Monday, July 13th, at 8 P. M., for our various contests which the rain had prevented at the picnic. Peanut hunt, running race, three-legged race, potato race, peanut race, donkey party and one-legged race comprised the events of the evening; and when it is stated that this programme was carried through in large part, once for the boys and once for the girls, it can be understood that we lingered long, and the excitement ran high.

We did really spend a pleasant evening, and lemonade and cake at its close completed our happiness. Sixteen prizes were provided and fairly won.

The Camp.—On Saturday, August 1st, an advance guard moved upon the peaceful region of Perkiomen, followed on Monday by the main body of our Ascension Army, our Choir and Brigade Boys.

It must not be supposed that we suffered in any way during our campaign, for numerous tents, cots, commissary stores and a professional cook, either preceded or accompanied us.

At quite an elevation above a beautiful creek our tents were pitched, and the days passed as is only possible "in camp." Boating, fishing, ball-playing, athletics and (not least) the feasting of hungry men and boys upon really good food filled the time. Various neighbors were good to us, and when the camp broke there were yet kind plans of theirs, for us, unfulfilled. Our stay was about a week, reaching home on Saturday August 8th.

Winter Services.—With this month we recommence the 4 P. M. Choral Evensong on Sundays, the 2.30 P. M. Sunday-school followed by the Children's Service, and the 10 A. M. and 5 P. M. daily service. We trust our people will avail themselves of these privileges. As we have two evening services on Sunday all have the opportunity of going to church at least twice on the Lord's Day. And we are sure that if the daily services were better attended it would bring a blessing to those who used them. All the children of the Sunday-school have been notified of its recommencement on the first Sunday of this month.

The Bible Class called heretofore that of the Boys and Ascension Cadets, will be known hereafter as the Junior Brotherhood Class, and will be held on Sundays at 3 P. M., instead of 2.30 P. M., as formerly.

Anniversary of Women's Guild.—We want to remind all the female members of the congregation of the annual meeting of the General Women's Guild on SS. Simon and Jude's day, the 28th, after the morning service. Every woman in the parish who can possibly do so, ought to be present on this occasion to learn what has been done and what can and ought to be done by the women. Let each one see if she cannot in some way aid in the work the parish is trying to do, both among its own members and in its neighborhood and by missionary efforts abroad.

THE CHOIR

The choir will render the following music during the month:

17th Sunday after Trinity—October 4th, 10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in G . . . . . *J. T. Draper*
Communion Service in E flat . . . . . *Haynes*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis . . . *Kimmens*
Soprano Solo, "O that Thou hadst hearkened" (From Oratorio "Prodigal Son") *Sullivan*

18th Sunday after Trinity—October 11th, 10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in B flat . . . . . *King Hall*
Communion Service in E flat . . . . . *Haynes*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E *J. V. Roberts*
Anthem—"The Lord is my Shepherd" *Shaw*

St. Luke's Day, Sunday, October 18th, 10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in D . . . . . *Field*
Communion Service in E flat . . . . . *Haynes*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E flat *Simper*
Anthem—"Send out Thy Light" . . *Gounod*

20th Sunday after Trinity—October 25th 10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in C . . . . . *Dudley Buck*
Communion Service in E flat . . . . . *Haynes*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat *Stanford*
Anthem—"A New Heaven and a New Earth" (Cantata "Holy City") . . . . *A. R. Gaul*

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The Ascension News

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Broad Street below South

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334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*
1506 Pine Street

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WILLIAM C. LLOYD

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

WALTER ST. CLARE KNODLE

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Second Monday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew . 8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, Ascension Cadets . . . . . 7.30 P.M.
Second Tuesday, St. Mary's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesday, Ladies' Aid . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
Wednesday, Mothers' Meeting . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class . . . . . 10.30 A.M.
First Friday, Missionary Society . . . . . 10.30 A.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.30 P.M.

Superintendent . . . . . THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent . . MR. CHARLES T. WALKER
Secretary . . . . . MR. WM. E. LINTON
Librarian . . . . . MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist . . . . . MR. THAYER

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS S. E. GILPIN
For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN
For the Junior Brotherhood . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS HODGE
For Men . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. A. L. NEILSON

CHANGE OF THE NAME OF THE CHURCH.

For the last six months there has been a great deal of discussion in the Church of the question as to whether the name Protestant Episcopal should be changed to something else. A committee was appointed at the last General Convention to ascertain and report to the next Convention, which is to be held in Boston in October, 1904, what the general feeling in the Church was in regard to it. In order to do this the committee sent a request to each of the Diocesan Conventions, to express the feeling of their respective dioceses in regard to it. Debates on the subject, therefore, generally took place, and votes were taken as to its desirability. The general result of the voting was against any change at present. So important a matter as the change of the name by which a great national Church has been known for over a century, naturally cannot be, and should not be, done hastily. It will take a great deal of consideration and preparation of the minds of our people before it can be done. We are very glad, however, that the discussion of the subject has begun, even though the decision is against it for the present.

We are sure it will be done some day, for the dissatisfaction with the present name is already wide-spread. The great reason for this dissatisfaction is that the name Protestant Episcopal is not a proper and fitting title for a national Church. It conveys the idea that the body it designates is simple, one of a large number

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EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS:
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KALENDAR.

November 1. All Saints
6. Friday—Fast
8. Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity
13. Friday—Fast
15. Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity
20. Friday—Fast
22. Next Sunday before Advent
27. Friday—Fast
29. First Sunday in Advent
30. S. Andrew, Apostle

RECORD FOR OCTOBER

BAPTISMS—
David Frederick Patchell
Margaret Diehl
Henry Shaw

COMMUNICANTS transferred to Holy Trinity Chapel,
George Fairchild
Received from St. Peters' Church, Springfield, Mass. Albert Edward Shaw

DIED—William John Jones

BURIAL—William John Jones

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses	$225 38
" the Poor	7 67
" " Schools	10 60
" " General Missions	25
" " City "	2 00
" " Mortgage Debt	5 00
" " Year Book	2 15
" " Mothers' Meeting	7 50
" " General Clergy Relief Fund	2 00
" " Benevolent Purposes	2 91
Of " Sunday School	7 12
Total	$272 58

FREE ORGAN RECITAL—On Saturday afternoon, November 28th, at 4 o'clock, a recital will be given under the auspices of the American Organ Players' Club, and played by Mr. Walter St. Clare Knodle, assisted by Mr. Chester F. Myers, baritone.

of Christian bodies, all of which may be equally Churches of God, and that the distinguishing characteristics of this particular Church are that it is Protestant, against what it regards as the errors of Rome, and that it is Episcopal in its constitution, *i. e.*, governed by Bishops. But while both these things are true, the claims and general position of the Church are of far more importance, and ought to be set forth by its name, rather than these two special characteristics which its present name denotes and which at the same time implies that it is only one of a large number of Protestant sects.

The Episcopal Church claims that is a part of the historic Catholic Church, which was formed by our Lord and His Apostles. Our Bishops have all received their consecration from those who received it from Bishops of the Church of England, and they in turn received theirs from those who had been consecrated in direct succession from the first Apostles, so that the historical continuity of the Church has never been broken. So the Church has never held or taught any other faith than that of the Catholic creeds, and its worship has always been in accord with that followed in the universal Church. It is unnecessary, therefore, to call it "Episcopal," because she does not consider any organization a Church unless it is governed by Bishops. And while it is "Protestant" against Rome, still to call it by that name conveys the impression that it is one of the differing Protestant sects. The sects, *i. e.*, bodies which have been cut off from the great body of the Church, have all arisen since the time of the Reformation. They have each had some human founder and are merely bodies of Christians associated together under some human device, holding and practicing some peculiar doctrines or rites which these founders have taught them.

Now, we hold that it is wrong for Christians to be divided in this way, that there is no greater hindrance to the general advancement of the Kingdom of God than these divisions among Christians, many of which are about most trivial matters. The Churches of the Anglican Communion have never cut themselves off from any other body of Christians. They did not separate from Rome. It was the Church of Rome that separated itself from England, because it would not acknowledge the novel doctrine of the supremacy of the Pope. And the Church of England never cut off any of the Protestant bodies. They went out of it, or arose, on account of some peculiarity they wanted to enforce on others. So this great characteristic of the Church that it is a part of the universal historic Church should be expressed by her name, rather that that it should have, as it has now, a name which conveys the impression that it is one of the many sects, which by her principles she could not be.

That name was adopted rather thoughtlessly at the time of the American Revolution, when she could no longer be known, as she had been previously, as the Church of England, as this country had ceased to be a part of the British Empire. It was thought then that it would be presumptuous to call it, as it should have been by all analogy, the Church of the United States, because, owing to the fact that no Bishops were ever sent to America before the Revolution, it was then a very small and feeble body. But that does not apply now, and the Church ought to be known as the different branches of the Catholic Church have always been known, simply by the name of the country to which it belongs. Only so can the true character of our Church be set before the people of this land, and they taught the evils and wrong of schism, and be won back to the bosom and unity of that Church from which they each have at one time or another gone out.

When our own people come to appreciate the true character of this Church, they will all be ready and anxious that it should have a name which will fitly describe her character and mission, rather than one which misrepresents it.

PARISH NOTES

WINTER WORK.—All our departments of winter work recommence with this month. The Ladies' Aid will meet every Wednesday at 3 P. M. The Mothers' Meeting, Wednesdays, after the 8 P. M. service in the church. The Embroidery Class every Thursday, after the 10 A. M. prayers. The Industrial School every Saturday at the same hour. The Ladies' Missionary Meeting on the first Friday in each month, after morning prayers. We invite workers in all these different departments, as well as in the Sunday-school and Young People's Guilds.

ANNIVERSARY.—The anniversary of the Woman's Guild took place on SS. Simon and Jude's day, some 16 ladies were present. The reports of the different branches of work for the past year were read. The heads of the various chapters made statements of their needs for the coming winter. Teachers are wanted for the Industrial School, which begins its sessions on the first Saturday of this month. The treasurer of the Altar Chapter is very anxious to get regular weekly contributions to the fund, to provide flowers for the altar, and to pay for the washing of the church linen. A piece of linen and a piece of serge are very much

needed to make new cassocks and cottas for the choir. If the material is provided the members of the Ladies' Aid will cut it out and make it up.

The lady in charge of the Mothers' Meeting is in need of contributions to pay the members of the meeting for the work which is given out to them on Wednesday evenings.

Volunteers are asked for to meet in the church every three or four weeks to polish the brass ornaments, altar rail, etc.

DEATH OF CHOIRMAN.—Last month we lost by death the oldest member of our choir, Mr. William John Jones. He entered the choir as a boy in January, 1881, and has been in the choir almost continuously ever since. His health had been failing for some months, and he has not been able to sing since last spring. The Clergy ministered to him assiduously, taking the Blessed Sacrament to him at his home. He was buried from the church, the full choir being present, on October 10th.

A CHORAL SOCIETY.—It is proposed to form a choral society in the parish, composed of both male and female voices. Any adults connected with the parish can join it, and bring with them any of their friends who would like to come. A competent teacher will be employed, and it is hoped that sufficient progress will be made to enable the society to give a cantata or concert in the near future. It will meet every Thursday evening, beginning November 12th. A small charge will be made to defray the expenses.

THE JUNIOR BROTHERHOOD OF S. ANDREW.—Mr. Charles L. Walker will again this winter be the lay director of the Junior Brotherhood. He attended the great convention in Denver, Colo., in October, and we feel that there is every prospect of new life and activity in this organization for the elevation of the spiritual life of the boys.

At the evening service on Sunday, October 25th, Mr. Walker gave an interesting account of some of the things heard and seen and done at the Denver Convention. It surely was a remarkable gathering of Church men and boys.

BOYS' BRIGADE.—Mr. Thayer will begin the meetings of the Boys' Brigade on the first Tuesday in November at 8 P. M. It is hoped to have a strong company this winter, and Mr. Thayer has some plans in his mind which will add much to the life and interest of the meetings.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—The school began its winter afternoon sessions on the first Sunday in October with 106 present, which was, for our school, an unusually large number. After diligent search we have found six additional teachers, which, after deducting some losses from the teaching force, leaves us better off in that respect than we were last year.

S. JOHN'S GUILD.—A large and enthusiastic meeting took place on October 5th, after a devotional service in the church at 8 P. M. A number of donations were made to the Guild, partly in the way of repairing gymnastic apparatus, gift of a bulletin board, etc.

MOTHERS' MEETING.—In speaking of the excursions during the summer in our last number, we should have mentioned two given to the members of the Mothers' Meeting, one consisted of a sail up the Delaware River to Burlington Park, and the other to Willow Grove. Both were thoroughly enjoyed by all who took part in them.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite to this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor.

The following subscriptions have been received:

Miss Macartney (2 yrs.)	Miss E. C. Hare
Mr. John Barton	Mrs. Walter Cox
Miss Holbrook	Mr. W. C. Lloyd (2 yrs.)
Dr. F. S. Pearce	Mrs. D. Hawkins
Mrs. Darlington (2)	Mr. Garrett C. Neagle
Mrs. C. E. Bonnet	Mrs. George Milliken

THE CHOIR

The choir will render the following music during the month:

ALL SAINTS' DAY—November 1st.
10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in C . . . . . *Dudley Buck*
Communion Service in C . . *Berthold Tours*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E
J. V. Roberts
Anthem—"What are These That are Arrayed in White Robes" . . . . . *Stainer*

22D SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY—November 8th,
10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in G . . . . . *Draper*
Communion Service in C . . . . . *Tours*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat
Stanford
Anthem—"Seek Ye the Lord" . . . . *Roberts*

23D SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY—November 15th,
10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in G . . . . . *A. J. Holden*
Communion Service in C . . . . . *Tours*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in A . *Goss*
Anthem—"Sun of My Soul" . . *F. F. Bullard*

SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT—November 22D, 10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in E flat . . . . . *Dudley Buck*
Communion Service in E flat . . . . . *Haynes*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D
J. C. Marks, Jr.
Anthem—"Behold, the Days Come"
Woodward

THANKSGIVING DAY—November 26,
10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in A . . . . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Communion Service in E flat . . . . . *Haynes*
Anthem—"O Lord how Manifold" . . *Barnby*

1ST SUNDAY IN ADVENT—November 29th,
10.30 A. M.

Benedicite . . . . . .
Communion Service in F . . . . *John Stainer*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D
J. C. Marks, Jr.
Anthem—"How Lovely are the Messengers" (Oratorio S. Paul) *Mendelssohn*

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The Ascension News

VOL. XVI. — PHILADELPHIA, DECEMBER, 1903 — NO. 9

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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SERVICES

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EVERY SUNDAY	7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
HOLY DAYS	7.30 and 10.30 A. M.
TUESDAYS	7.00 A. M.
THURSDAYS	9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON	10.30 A. M.
WEEK DAYS	10.00 A. M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (Choral)	4.00 P.M.
" (with Sermon)	7.45 P.M.
WEEK DAYS	5.00 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address)	8.00 P. M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS	3.00 P. M.

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For the Junior Brotherhood . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS HODGE
For Men . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. A. L. NEILSON

CATHOLIC AND ROMAN CATHOLIC

These are two distinct and different things. The Holy Catholic Church consists, as far as its membership is concerned, of all who are baptized, and, as to its organization, of all those national churches, which are governed by Bishops who have received their Orders in unbroken succession from the Apostles. The Roman Catholic Church is only that portion of the Catholic Church which is in subjection to the Bishop of Rome. Originally the Bishop of Rome had no more pre-eminence or authority than the Bishop of any other diocese. But, owing to political influences, little by little, that Bishop obtained recognition, first as Primate of the West, and later, by some, as the Universal Bishop, or "Rector of the World," as he is called, having supreme government of the whole Church, and infallible in what he decrees.

But this claim was never acknowledged by the whole Church. The Eastern or Greek Church, which is almost as large as the Roman Church, never did, nor does it to-day, recognize it. That Church is no more Roman Catholic than are the churches of the Anglican Communion. In the Church of England the claims of the Pope were acknowledged for only a comparatively short period—from the reign of King John to that of Henry VIII. During the latter reign the claim was repudiated and the Church purified from that and other corruptions which had grown up in the course of centuries; but no new Church was set up, as some think. The Church of England was part

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KALENDAR.

December 4. Friday—Fast
6. Second Sunday in Advent
11. Friday—Fast
13. Third Sunday in Advent
16. Ember Day—Fast
18. Ember Day—Fast
19. Ember Day—Fast
20. Fourth Sunday in Advent
21. S. Thomas, Apostle
25. Christmas Day
26. S. Stephen, Martyr
27. S. John, Evangelist
28. Holy Innocents

RECORD FOR NOVEMBER

BAPTISMS—
William Andrew Warnoch Church
John Galbraith Phipps
Elizabeth Deaken Walker
Florence Williamson 4

MARRIED—
George Washington De Camp and Mrs. Anna Mary Bickta
Henry Charles Ellis and Elizabeth Augustine 2

COMMUNICANTS—Added new
Madeline Marion Hill 1

TRANSFERRED—
To St. James Church
John Nelson Gill
James Graham Gill
To The Church of the Advocate
Joanna Goodlet Saurman 3

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses	$558 31
" the Poor	24 10
" " Schools	1 45
" " General Missions	8 95
" " Altar Society	15 00
" " Mothers' Meeting	21 00
" " Episcopal Hospital	26 80
" " Benevolent Purposes	3 89
Of " " Sunday School	9 12
Total	$698 62

of the Catholic Church after the Reformation, as she had been before. She only ceased to be Roman Catholic; that is, subject to the Bishop of Rome.

So the great differences to-day between Catholic and Roman Catholic are that the former consists of those branches of the one Church our Lord and his Apostles founded, whose historical descent can be traced as can the lineage of any dynasty of kings, which have preserved the Catholic or Universal Faith and require only what has been universally regarded as necessary in the discipline or worship of the Church. The latter consists only of that Communion which recognizes the Bishop of Rome as the Supreme Head and Governor of the Church and accepts whatsoever He decrees. In the Catholic Church nothing is required as necessary in doctrine, discipline or worship but what has universal authority: that is, has been generally received by the whole Church always and everywhere. Whereas members of the Roman Catholic Church are required to receive all that the Popes of Rome have, or may hereafter, decree and require. The Eastern and Anglican Churches reject that claim because it has not universal authority. And so they reject many other things which are taught and practiced in the Roman Church on the same ground, such as the adoration of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the worship of relics and images, the doctrine of indulgences, the compulsory celibacy of the clergy and private confession, communion in one kind, the cult of the Sacred Heart, etc. These and such like things are the distinctive characteristics of Roman Catholicism, and which separate it from the rest of the Catholic Church. The Eastern and Anglican Churches were never cut off from

the Catholic Church. It is Rome that has cut itself off from communion with the rest of Christendom by setting up un-Catholic terms of Communion. So to-day no one can be received into the Roman Catholic Church without accepting all it teaches and requires. Whereas any Roman Catholic could be received into any Eastern or Anglican Church by simply professing the universal Christian faith and acknowledging the jurisdiction of its Bishops.

Ignorant people think that Roman Catholicism consists in forms and ceremonies, the use of vestments, lights and incense in worship, the sign of the cross, any private confession, etc., but these are things which are common to the whole Church, and were used by the Jews as well as Christians, and are largely matters of taste and expediency. The Eastern and many Anglican Churches have as an elaborate a ritual as there is in the Roman Church, and yet they are not part of it nor hold to its distinctive teachings.

There is no reason why they cannot have what is beautiful and dignified and impressive in their worship, without accepting principles and practices for which they do not think there is adequate authority.

People ought to understand these things and be able to discriminate between what they mean when they say in the Creed that they believe in the Holy Catholic Church, and what is meant by Roman Catholicism. The one is the great Church founded by God, to which all should belong. The latter is a device of man, which only some Christians receive, and thereby separate themselves from the rest of Christendom.

PARISH NOTES

THE CHORAL SOCIETY, of which we spoke in our last issue, has been formed and begun its work. Mr. Knodle, our choirmaster, has been appointed director, and about 20 persons have so far joined it. The charge, to cover the expenses, is $1 for twelve lessons, which makes the charge per lesson very small. It meets every Tuesday at 8 P. M. We hope many more will join it, so that a strong chorus can be organized which can give a concert after a while.

THE ALTAR COMMITTEE of our Women's Guild thankfully acknowledges a donation of $15 towards the purchase of linen for new cottars for the choir, for which we made an appeal last month. This will provide about half a set. Will not some one else give the linen for the rest? We need an entire new set.

The Committee proposes to have an exhibition of the work they have done. It will be held in Room 20 in the Church House, Twelfth and Walnut streets, on December 14, 15, 16. We are sure many of our people will be glad to see it.

MOTHERS' MEETING.—We thankfully acknowledge several Thanksgiving dinners, which were furnished for some of our more needy members of the meeting. We are in need of donations of money to pay for the work done at this meeting. It is the best way to help those who are in need.

CHRISTMAS DAY.—There will be celebrations of the Holy Communion at 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 A. M., as well as in the middle of the day. We ask, as usual, for special offerings on that day. We depend on them to pay the half-yearly interest on our debt, due this month, and also to put back part, at least, of the amount we had to borrow during the summer from the Reserve Fund. Let all give liberally, that we may prove that a church can be supported without charging pew rents.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.—We are glad to say that, after a number of appeals from

the chancel, and also privately, the Rector has been able to secure several new teachers for our Saturday Industrial School. And several new features have been introduced into it this winter, such as basket weaving and bead-chain making. We should like very much to have a wood-carving class, if there is any one who understands that and would volunteer his or her services.

THE SUNDAY-NIGHT SERVICE.—As the attendance at this service is now larger than in the afternoon, it is proposed hereafter to have our best music at this service, there being always an anthem, and some instrumental music occasionally.

CONGREGATIONAL REHEARSALS.—On every Wednesday night since their beginning, November 12, 1902, with no exception, save during a portion of the summer and early autumn, there have met after the Wednesday evening service, a number of people, who have spent fifteen or twenty minutes singing hymns in the Parish Building, accompanied by a violin and piano.

It has certainly been a pleasant experience, and has helped to improve the congregational singing on Wednesday and Sunday nights.

We would welcome others who do not come. We stop our singing at 9.10 P. M., usually, with promptness. Will you not join us in our meeting for sacred song?

THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—We are glad to welcome as new teachers, this season, Mr. Shaw, Miss Pearson, Mrs. Klofach, Miss Elizabeth Hawkins, Miss Alice Hawkins, Miss Trice, Miss Lindsay; in addition to which Mr. Walker, our superintendent, has also taken a class of boys. Three others are considering the matter of teaching, and so our prospects for the winter are bright.

On every Sunday since the summer the Secretary has reported an increase over the previous Sunday, and so we have much for which to be thankful.

On November 22d, we began arranging for the Christmas festivities, and we hope to have a bright and joyous time. It is hoped every child in the school will take some part in the affair. The children's Christmas service will take place in the church on the Sunday after Christmas at 7.45 P. M., being the eve of Holy Innocent's day.

THE ASCENSION CADETS.—On Tuesday, November 17th, at 8 P. M., the Brigade had its first meeting this season. Mr. N. B. Thayer met 27 boys and young men, officers were elected, the times of meeting and various other matters determined. An encouraging beginning was made, and we look for enthusiastic work this winter.

THE NEW YEAR BOOK of the Parish has been printed. Copies can be had from the Verger.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor.

The following subscriptions have been received:

Miss Bryson	Miss Matilda Harper
Miss Bloomer (2 yrs.)	Mrs. Thomas Robb
Miss Alice Young	Mrs. Hiller
Miss Whitehouse	Mrs. Rhein

All seats in Church are free.

Join our system of weekly offerings. Ask for a package of envelopes. Volunteer for some Church work. Do not wait to be asked.

If you come to the Church regularly, let the clergy have your name and address. Always give the clergy prompt information of any change of residence.

Communicants leaving the Parish are requested to apply for letters dimissory.

Notify the clergy in case of sickness.

THE CHOIR

The choir will render the following music during the month:

DECEMBER 6th, 13th, 20th,
10.30 A. M.

Benedicite . . . . . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass in E flat . . . . . *Haynes*

2D SUNDAY IN ADVENT—December 6th,
4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis . . . . *Simper*
Soprano Solo—"O that Thou hadst Harkened" *Sullivan*

7.45 P. M.

Full Choir . . . . . *Bright Service*
Anthem—"Send Out Thy Light" . . *Gounod*

3D SUNDAY IN ADVENT—December 13th,
4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis . . . *Simper*
Baritone Solo—"The King of Love" . *Gounod*

7.45 P. M.

Anthem—"Awake, Thou That Sleepest," *Allen*

4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT, December 20th,
4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis . . . . *Simper*
Soprano Solo—"Now the Day is Over," *Tours*

7.45 P. M.

Anthem—"Now, When Jesus was Born," *Frederick Stevenson*

CHRISTMAS DAY, December 25th,
10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in B flat . . . . . *J. B. Calkin*
Mass of the "Sacred Heart" . . . . . *Gounod*

SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS, December 27th,
10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in B flat . . . . . *J. B. Calkin*
Mass of the "Sacred Heart" . . . . *Gounod*

4 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E . . *Roberts*
Anthem—"We Have Seen His Star," *Edwin Clare*

7.45 P. M.

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The Ascension News

VOL. XVII. PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY, 1904 NO. 1

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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SERVICES

Holy Communion.

EVERY SUNDAY	7.30 and 11.30 A. M.
HOLY DAYS	7.30 and 10.30 A. M.
TUESDAYS	7.00 A. M.
THURSDAYS	9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON	10.30 A. M.
WEEK DAYS	10.00 A. M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (Choral)	4.00 P.M.
" (with Sermon)	7.45 P.M.
WEEK DAYS	5.00 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address)	8.00 P.M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS	3.00 P.M.

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The Ascension News

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334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*
1506 Pine Street

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WILLIAM C. LLOYD

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

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SEXTON

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GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Second Monday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Ascension Cadets . . . . . 7.30 P.M.
Thursdays, St. Mary's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Tuesdays, Choral Society . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Wednesday, Ladies' Aid . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
Wednesday, Mothers' Meeting . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class . . . . . 10.30 A.M.
First Friday, Missionary Society . . . . . 10.30 A.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.30 P.M.

Superintendent . . . . . THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent . . MR. CHARLES T. WALKER
Secretary . . . . . MR. WM. E. LINTON
Assistant Secretary . . . . . MR. IRWIN CONGER
Librarian . . . . . MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist . . . . . MR. THAYER

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS S. E. GILPIN
For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN
For the Junior Brotherhood . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS HODGE
For Men . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. A. L. NEILSON

CATHOLIC AND PROTESTANT.

We explained in our last issue the difference between Catholic and Roman Catholic. Let us consider now what is the difference between Catholic and Protestant.

We said that Catholic means what is universal, the faith which has been universally held, or the form of Church government or discipline which has universally prevailed. The term Protestant meant originally and properly those who protested against the errors and usurpations of the Bishop of Rome. And in that sense the Episcopal Church is Protestant, and so it was made part of its name. But many of those who began by simply protesting against the errors of Rome went on to adopt and choose anything that seemed best to them in doctrine, discipline or worship.

Instead of holding to the Catholic faith, they selected such doctrines as they preferred, and rejected others. Instead of maintaining the Episcopal form of government, which had prevailed everywhere, and from the earliest time, they set up in some places Presbyterianism; in others Independency; in others Superintendency, etc. Instead of the universal form of worship by means of the Holy Communion and a liturgy, they substituted the preaching of sermons and extemporaneous prayers. And beyond these all sorts of differences and varieties came to prevail. Some would baptize infants; others only adults. Some would use effusion; others only immersion. Some would keep festivals; others would

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A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
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KALENDAR.

January 1. Circumcision
3. Second Sunday after Christmas
6. Epiphany
8. Friday—Fast
10. First Sunday after Epiphany
15. Friday—Fast
17. Second Sunday after Epiphany
22. Friday—Fast
24. Third Sunday after Epiphany
25. Conversion of S. Paul
29. Friday—Fast
31. Septuagesima

RECORD FOR DECEMBER

BAPTISMS—

Wallace Elliot Hill
Harriet Jane Martz 2

MARRIED—

David Harmony Biddle and Maria Lousia Miller Peters
Leslie Darwin Treadway and Sarah Frances Barrett 2

COMMUNICANTS—Added new

Katharine De Payuin Greer

By transfer from S. Stephen's Church, Norwood, Pa.
Henrietta Walsh.

From S. Andrew's Church, Wilmington, Del.
Hild Margaret Boyd 3

TRANSFERRED—

To S. Luke's Church
Mrs. Olivia Anable
Clara Williams Anable

To S. Barnabas' Church, Greensboro, N. C.
Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Ware

To Christ Church, Ridley Park, Pa.
John Gunther Borhek
Mrs. Elmira Millett Borhek 5

BURIAL—

John Watson Thompson 1

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses	$672 57
" the Poor	38 20
" " Schools	1 07
" " General Missions	1 05
" " Diocesan Missions	1 00
" " Benevolent Purposes	2 78
At Discretion of Rector	1 50
Christmas Decorations and Festival	18 16
Of the Sunday School	7 03
Total	$743 36

not. Some would have music in their worship; some would not, or some would have organs and others only psalms. some have instrumental music; others only vocal.

And so it has come to pass that there is the greatest variety both in doctrines and practice among Protestants, and that they are divided up into a large number of different denominations. And this is owing to the principle on which they have proceeded—that of each acting on his own individual judgment, instead of being guided by the authority of the whole Church.

So the difference between Catholic and Protestant is that the one holds and follows what has been taught or practiced by the whole Church, while the other acts on his own individual judgment and accepts and rejects what seems best to him. And as the Church of England and the Episcopal Church in this country proceed upon the former principle, those Churches ought not to be classed, as they often are, among the Protestant denominations, although, in common with those denominations, they protest against the errors of Rome. This is the reason for the present movement for the change of the name of the Church, because, however true it is that the Church is Protestant in this sense, it is not true in that sense that she acts on the ordinary Protestant principle of rejection of all authority in religion and acting on individual choice or opinion.

This principle, on which Protestantism as a system is founded, is manifestly suicidal, for if anyone can act as he sees best, there will be as many organizations as there are individuals who have the skill to form them, and as much variety of teaching as there are those who will

undertake the office. And it deprives the Church of all divine authority and character. It makes it practically only a human device, which may be adapted to certain classes of people for a time, for only a divine power could have constituted that which should be suited to all persons of all nations and all ages. Thus we find the different denominations, even in this country, confined to specific localities, as the Congregationalists to New England, the Dutch Reformed to New York, the Presbyterians and Quakers to Pennsylvania, the Methodists are strongest in the South and the Christians in the Middle West, etc. And none of these are much over three hundred years old; some, like the Methodists, not much more than a hundred.

The Catholic Church is something different from all these. It is that which Christ Himself formed, which has lasted ever since and extended into all lands. And we want the world to know and recognize that our Church is part of that universal Church; its organization is that which has prevailed always and everywhere among all Christians, except of late years among some Protestants; that it requires faith only in the œcumenical creeds which have been always accepted, and its worship and discipline is the same in all essentials with that always used in the Catholic Church.

Not until men come to distinguish between Catholic and Protestant will they recognize the authority and power which belongs to the Church and be delivered from the sins of heresy and schism, which have been the greatest hindrance to the influence and spread of Christianity wherever they have prevailed.

May all come to understand what they mean when they say "the Holy Catholic Church."

PARISH NOTES.

CHRISTMAS.—We had good congregations at the early celebrations on Christmas, with about the same number of communicants as last year. In the middle of the day the attendance was slight, owing to the inclement weather. The church looked very beautiful, and the music was very good. We think the choirmaster should be congratulated on the decided improvement in the singing of the choir this year.

The offerings on Christmas Day amounted to $333, and on the Sunday following to $107. Part of this was the regular weekly offering, but it included a good many special Christmas gifts. This amount will pay the interest on our mortgage, due this month, and meet our usual expenses, but it will not do anything towards making up the reserve fund we had to draw on during the summer, and which must be put back before April 30th.

THE MOTHERS' MEETING.—Donations of money, amounting to $15.70, together with contributions of potatoes, meat, rolls, buns, candy, etc., were received, which provided a dinner or some Christmas remembrance for some 21 families. In addition to this orders for 8½ tons of coal were received and given to the most needy in the congregation. Our hearty thanks are due to those who thus remembered this most important work in our parish.

CONFIRMATION.—The Bishop of the diocese has appointed the evening of March 22d for the administration of Confirmation in this parish. We trust that all adults attending the church, not yet confirmed, will consider the duty and privilege of being presented at that time.

S. MARY'S GUILD.—Miss Anable, after three years' faithful service as Superior of S. Mary's Guild, has resigned, and Miss Thompson has been appointed by the Rector in her place. As many of the members of the guild already know Miss Thompson, we have no doubt they will heartily welcome her to that position.

THE CHORAL SOCIETY continues its rehearsals on Tuesday evenings, and any desiring to learn how to sing are invited to join it.

A MISSIONARY BOX, valued at $85, was made up and sent to the South by our ladies before Christmas.

THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL CHRISTMAS SERVICE.—On the Sunday after Christmas, at 8 P. M., a festival service was sung by the children. Christmas carols, an address by the Rector and Curate, a Festal Procession (with cross and five banners) by the school and full choir and a gift of a Christmas card to everyone in the church made bright the shortened evensong.

There were present in the church and choir about 207 persons, which was about 10 more than last year, notwithstanding the fact that last year the festival, with its candy, gifts and entertainment, immediately followed the service; whereas this year there was nothing but the service to attract. The behavior was good, the singing hearty and the whole service reverent and beautiful.

CONVOCATION MEETING. — On the fourth Monday evening of this month the quarterly meeting of the Southwest Convocation, to which this parish belongs, will be held in our church. Full choir will render a shortened Evensong. The Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese is expected to be present, and an address will be delivered by some prominent clergyman. We trust the members of the congregation will show their interest by turning out in force on this occasion.

THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL FESTIVAL.—On the Tuesday after Christmas the school had its Christmas festival. The programme included a well-rendered play, called "Wanted—a Servant," six tableaux by the little folks, instrumental pieces on the zither and violin, a quartette by four choir boys, a song and three choruses and an opening address. Mr. Chas. T. Walker most kindly brought a magic lantern, with a large collection of comic slides, but, for some deep reason, the lantern positively declined to work, and so we had to defer the pleasure of seeing them until some future occasion.

We are greatly indebted to Mr. Samuel Hazard for being our Santa Claus, and the excited enthusiasm which his efforts produced was wonderful and delightful to behold. To Messrs. Richard Gilpin and Carroll Hodge we are again indebted for the beautiful illumination of the tree. At the close of the evening Santa Claus gave to each child in the school a Christmas gift and a box of candy.

About 275 persons were present, which was about 100 more than last year.

AN HONOR ROLL.—The following members of the Sunday-School have been present on the last nine successive Sundays, and their names are recorded here as a recognition of their faithfulness:

James Adams	Earl Partridge
George Anderson	David Rea
James Boggs	John Stevenson
Alexander Boggs	Richard Stevenson
Joseph Caldwell	Anna Anderson
Elmer Conger	Elizabeth Diehl
Irwin Conger	Katharine Greer
George H. Fairchild	Bella Hutchinson
Harry Hershaft	Annie Kirkpatrick
Robert Hutchinson	Emelia Klofach
Louis Klofach	Ida Klofach
Frank Kelly	Bessie Knight
Robert Lindsay	Jennie Lindsay
William E. Linton	Elizabeth McCracken
Clarence Martz	Felicia Portal
John McIlvaine	Mary Smith
Alexander McIlvaine	Tillie Smith
George Morgan	Tillie Stewart

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor.

The following subscriptions have been received:

Mrs. Jensen	Miss Dickerson
Miss Barrington	Mrs. Goodman
Miss Snyder (2)	Mr. Goodridge
Mr. M. F. Roberts (2)	Mrs. Dallas

REMOVAL OF CHURCHES.

We learn from the papers that our neighbor, the Presbyterian church on the corner of Broad and Lombard streets, is to be removed to some other part of the city. When this is done, it will leave only four Presbyterian churches for white people in the district between Arch and Catharine streets, east of Broad street. In the same district thirty years ago there were *fifteen* churches of that denomination, whereas at the same time there were eleven Episcopal churches, and only *one* of them has been removed. And of the Protestant denominations other than Presbyterians, there are now in that district only one Methodist, one Baptist church and two Quaker meeting houses. It looks as if the Episcopal Church would have some sections of the city at least all to itself after a while.

THE CHOIR

The choir will render the following music during the month:

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS—January 3, 1904, 10.30 A. M.
Te Deum in E flat . . . . . *Dudley Buck*
Mass in E . . . . . *Berthold Tours*
7.45 P. M.
Anthem—"Hark, Hark, My Soul" . . *Skelley*

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY—January 10, 10.30 A. M.
Te Deum in E flat . . . . . *Buck*
Mass in F . . . . . *Henry Smart*
7.45 P. M.
Anthem—"Hallelujah Chorus" . . . *Handel*
(From the Oratorio "Messiah")

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY—January 17th, 10.30 A. M.
Te Deum in D . . . . . *J. T. Field*
Mass in F . . . . . *Smart*
7.45 P. M.
Anthem—"Ho! Every One that Thirsteth" *Martin*

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY—January 24th, 10.30 A. M.
Te Deum in G . . . . . *A. J. Holden*
Mass in F . . . . . *Smart*
7.45 P. M.
Anthem—"Praise God in His Holiness" *Tours*

SEPTUAGESIMA SUNDAY—January 31st, 10.30 A. M.
Benedicite in D . . . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass in F . . . . . *Smart*
7.45 P. M.
Anthem—"The Heavens are Telling" *Haydn*
(From Oratorio "Creation")

The music at the 4 P. M. Service on Sundays is furnished by half of the members of the regular choir and an assistant organist.

The Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis will be sung in Anthem form and a Solo or Anthem will be rendered.

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Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.00 P.M.

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The Ascension News

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

Broad Street below South

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334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*
1506 Pine Street

WARDENS

FRANCIS S. KEESE
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CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

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SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

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SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.30 P.M.

Superintendent	THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent	MR. CHARLES T. WALKER
Secretary	MR. WM. E. LINTON
Assistant Secretary	MR. IRWIN CONGER
Librarian	MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist	MR. THAYER

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women	3.00 P.M.
MISS S. E. GILPIN	
For Young Men and St. John's Guild	3.00 P.M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN	
For the Junior Brotherhood	3.00 P.M.
MISS HODGE	
For Men	3.00 P.M.
MISS M. A. L. NEILSON	

THE PASTOR

To be a pastor to the people is one of the most important of the functions of the clergy. It is one of the names which has been applied to them from the earliest times. It is taken from that very common office prevalent among all sheep-raising people. The shepherd or pastor of the flock is absolutely necessary to take care of and protect the sheep from harm. He goes before the flock; they follow him as men follow a leader. He watches over them by day and by night to defend them from the wild beasts which would devour them or guard them from wandering away or falling into pits. He guides them to places where they will find rich pastures and good water, and he carries and cares for the young or the sick or injured. And it is because the clergy should perform such offices as these in spiritual things for Christian people that they are called pastors.

As they are persons who have been especially educated and trained for the purpose, and whose whole time and thoughts are given to spiritual things, they ought to be able to act as spiritual leaders to the people, to teach what is the true Christian doctrine and manner of life, to be able to warn them of dangers which beset them, to minister to them the rich food provided in the written Word and teachings of the Church and in the blessed Sacraments, to watch over and instruct the young, to go after and try to win back the erring, and to minister to those who are sick in body

THE ASCENSION NEWS

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

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KALENDAR.

February 2. Purification B. V. M.
5. Friday—Fast
7. Sexagesima
12. Friday—Fast
14. Quinquagesima
17. Ash Wednesday
21. First Sunday in Lent
24. S. Matthias—Ember Day
26. Ember Day
27. Ember Day
28. Second Sunday in Lent
All days during Lent are Fasts.

RECORD FOR JANUARY

BAPTISMS—

Margaret Collins Harper
Charles Valentine Austin
Mary Elizabeth Gilpin McCann
Muriel Bayard Hodge — 4

COMMUNICANTS—

Transferred to the Church of the Holy Spirit.
Frederick Jackson
Mrs. Minnie Jackson — 2

COMMUNION—Of the sick — 1

BURIALS—

Mrs. Mary L. Hess
Mrs. Elizabeth March Dean — 2

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses	$401 73
" the Poor	21 52
" " Foreign Missions	5 00
" " Domestic Missions	5 00
" " General Missions	12 52
" " Diocesan Missions	11 02
" " Benevolent Purposes	2 82
At Discretion of Rector	5 00
Chrismas Festival	26 97
Of the Sunday School	7 92
Total	$499 50

and soul. These are the very much needed and blessed offices which the Christian pastor should perform.

And every true clergyman is anxious to discharge these duties of his office; he wants to be a true pastor to his people, to be of real use and benefit to them. But there are many difficulties in the way of his doing so. First, there is the carelessness and indifference among people about religious matters, their unwillingness even to speak about them. Many do not even think about them. They are so taken up with the occupations and pursuits of life that they have no time or inclination for other things. They will not go to church. They do not care to hear sermons, or to meet or talk to a clergyman. How are such people to be approached? A clergyman cannot force himself on those who do not want to have anything to do with him. In such cases all he can do is to *wait* until sickness or sorrow or some other contingency in life forces such people to turn to him and seek, or be glad to receive, his ministrations.

But, secondly, even among those who appreciate spiritual things and feel their need of help, there is so much reticency and fear to speak openly and fully of religious things that it is very difficult for a clergyman to approach them. It is like breaking ice to do so.

Then, thirdly, it is so difficult for a pastor to see and really get to know his people, especially in a large city parish. It is so difficult to find them at home or alone, and to see each member of the family when he calls. And as he has so many people to see it is generally not more than once a year that he can call on each, and how can he really come to know people and what their characters

or their special needs are when he sees them so seldom? And this is true, above all, in regard to business or working men and young people. They are rarely at home at the times a clergyman can call, and he cannot follow them to where they are working or to school.

Fourthly, there are those who, though they go to church, the clergy never get to know at all, because they never give in their names or connect themselves with any particular church. How, then, is a clergyman really to be a pastor to his people, to be their leader, their friend and helper? The clergy do the best they can by going to see the members of their congregations as often as they can, but if those persons would only *come to the clergy*, it would be very much easier and far better. Our clergy can be seen at any time in the church after any service on Sunday or week days. There is a definite time and place when you can be sure of seeing one of the clergy, and that privately, and they will be delighted to see and talk to you there at any time. In this way a clergyman could see a great many more people and much more frequently and satisfactorily than he can by going to see them at their homes, which consumes so much time and which is often ineffectual then. Of course the clergy do this and will continue to do it. But if you really want to know a priest and be helped by him—and who does not need his help sometimes at least?—do not wait for the rare visit he can pay you, but go yourself to see him, and in this parish you know exactly when and where you can see him.

This office of the Christian pastor is one of the most important in the Church and is not generally exercised as it ought to be. Let all see that there is some clergyman whom they look upon as their particular pastor and whose offices they make use of.

PARISH NOTES.

LENT begins the middle of this month. We trust all our people will resolve to keep it, as it is intended by the Church to be, as a solemn time when one should give up the pleasures and indulgences we allow ourselves at other times and devote oneself to special acts of prayer and self-denial and charity and the cultivation of our spiritual life. A Lent so kept will be a very profitable and sweet season to us. There will be celebrations of the Holy Communion on Tuesdays and Fridays at 7 A. M., and on Thursdays, at 9 A. M. As in other years the boys of the choir will be present at the daily 5 P. M. prayers during Lent, and there will be a lecture after prayers on Friday afternoons.

CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTIONS are given every Tuesday, by the Curate, at 8 P. M., and every Friday by the Rector. It is of the utmost importance that those expecting to be confirmed should attend one, at least, of these courses of instruction.

ACTORS' CHURCH ALLIANCE.—We had the pleasure of having the Rev. Walter E. Bentley, the General Secretary of this body, preach in our church on Sunday, January 24th, morning and evening, on "The Relationship of the Church and the Stage." The stage is a great power, which should be used for good, and not evil, purposes. And there is no class of persons who are so slightly reached by church influence as actors and actresses. It is to elevate the stage and to bring religious influences to bear on members of the dramatic profession that the Alliance aims. We should be glad if members of our congregation would join it. The dues are $1 a year, and the Rev. Mr. Dyer is the treasurer.

CONVOCATION.—We had the winter meeting of the Southwest Convocation in our church on the evening of January

25th. It is many years since it met here before. In spite of the full choir being present, and the Rev. W. C. Richardson, the Rector of S. James' Church, being the preacher, and the Rector's appealing on the Sunday before to the people to be present, there were not more than 60 persons there. Why is it that so little interest is taken in the great work of spreading the Church in our very midst? There was very important action taken at the business meeting looking towards the establishment of a new mission in the extreme southern limits of the built-up portion of the Convocation.

DIOCESAN MISSIONS.—The benevolent envelope sent out this month is for this object. Our parish is asked to contribute $100. Unless every one in the parish gives a fair proportion of this sum it will not be raised and will have to come out of our ordinary offerings. Let each one return some time during the quarter the envelope he or she has received for this purpose with an offering in it.

THE MOTHERS' MEETING.—We are very much in need of means to carry on the admirable work of this agency for helping the more needy members of our congregation. We had some money left over from the Bazaar which has met its expenses so far this winter. But that is now exhausted and unless we get contributions for it we cannot carry it on. The money is needed to pay the members of the meeting for work which they do. Donations put in an envelope marked "Mothers' Meeting," can be put on the plate at any service, or dropped in the alms box in the vestibule.

THE MISSIONARY BOX the ladies sent off before Christmas was duly received. The clergyman writes: "We found many serviceable things in it. The coats and vests and pair of pants fit me beautifully and will doubtless be sufficient outer suits for my few remaining years. I put on the shoes at once, as I was wearing an old pair, both thin and cold, and I shall sleep between the blankets until the very cold weather is over. We have also enjoyed the soup, pickles, rennet, etc., and, indeed, are very grateful for your unmerited kindness."

S. AGNES' GUILD.—A new Guild was organized on Friday, January 8th, with S. Agnes for its name-saint. It will consist of little girls, will meet at 7.45 P. M. every Saturday, and close promptly at 9 P. M. The meeting hour will be spent in saying a brief Office together, in receiving an instruction from their Chaplain, and the balance of the time in playing games and otherwise.

Miss Laura Virginia Hoover is the Superior, Miss Emelia Palmgren, Mrs. William J. Morgan, Miss Allibone, Miss Ashcomb and Miss Trice, her assistants. The dues will be 1 cent a week. The officers of the Guild, selected from among the children, will be announced next month.

The prayers of the congregation are asked that this Guild may promote the glory of God and the good of the souls of His little ones.

S. JOHN'S GUILD.—The members of the Guild have been enjoying their gymnastic work every Monday evening. They have the guidance and assistance of a professional trainer, and are making good progress in their athletic work.

On the first Monday of each month they say an office in the church and hold their monthly business meeting, and their Chaplain gives them a brief exhortation.

MEETINGS FOR WOMEN.

A QUIET DAY FOR CHURCH WOMEN, to be conducted by the Rev. J. Charles Roper, D. D., will be held in the Church of the Ascension, Broad, below South street, on Thursday, February 25th. Hours of service, 9 A. M., beginning with the Holy Communion, and 3 P. M. There will be a celebration of the Holy Communion also at 7.30 A. M.

A CONFERENCE OF CHURCH WOMEN will be held in Holy Trinity Parish House, Twentieth street below Walnut, on Friday, February 26th, at 10.30 A. M. and at 3 P. M. Papers will be read and discussion invited on the following topics: "The Girls' Friendly Society—Its Influence as a Church Organization;" "Religion and Philanthropy;" "Wisdom in Charity;" "Our Responsibility for the Training of the Christian Child."

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor.

The following subscriptions have been received:

Mrs. Parrish	Miss Casey
Mrs. Clark	Miss C. W. Hare
Mrs. Loughlin (2)	Miss Schell
Mr. Geo. Wharton(2)	Miss Pitcher
Mr. W. M. Newnam	Mrs. T. B. Allen

THE CHOIR

The choir will render the following music during the month:

SEXAGESIMA SUNDAY—February 7, 1904.
10.30 A. M.
Benedicite in G . . . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass: Responses and Creed . . . *Henry Smart*
Sanctus, Agnus Dei and Benedictus *J. B. Calkin*

7.45 P. M.
Anthem—"The Lord is My Shepherd," *James Shaw*

QUINQUAGESIMA SUNDAY—February 14th,
10.30 A. M.
Benedicite . . . . . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass . . . . . *Smart and Calkin*

7.45 P. M.
Anthem—"Abide With Me" . *Sir Jos. Barnby*

ASH WEDNESDAY—February 17th,
10.30 A. M.
Benedicite . . . . . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass in E flat . . . . . *Cruickshank*

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT—February 21st,
10 30 A. M.
Benedicite . . . . . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass in E flat . . . . . *Cruickshank*

7.45 P. M.
Anthem—"Seek Ye the Lord" . . . . *Roberts*

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT—February 28th,
10.30 A. M.
Benedicite . . . . . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass in E flat . . . . . *Cruickshank*

7.45 P. M.
Anthem—"Hear My Prayer" . . *Mendelssohn*

The music at the 4 P. M. Service on Sundays is furnished by half of the members of the regular choir and an assistant organist.

The Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis will be sung in Anthem form and a Solo or Anthem will be rendered.

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The Ascension News

VOL. XVII. PHILADELPHIA, MARCH, 1904 NO. 3

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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Holy Communion.

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HOLY DAYS . . . . 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.
TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS . . . . 7.00 A. M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON 10.30 A. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (Choral) . . . . . 4.00 P.M.
" (with Sermon) . . . . 7.45 P.M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 5.00 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) . . 8.00 P.M.

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MISS M. J. GILPIN	
For the Junior Brotherhood	3.00 P.M.
MISS HODGE	
For Men	3.00 P.M.
MISS M. A. L. NEILSON	

KEEPING OF LENT.

The observance of Lent is as much a duty as the keeping of Sunday or saying one's prayers or going to church. It is "required" by the Church, and just as the State has the right to pass laws for the regulation of the conduct of the people, so has the Church.

Many persons may think it of small importance, but experience has taught that some such season is necessary to arouse people up to new efforts in regard to spiritual things and to give opportunity for special exercises and acts of devotion.

So every one should keep Lent by fasting, either from food or from luxuries or amusements, or something which will involve real self-denial on our part, not as a thing which is virtuous in itself, but which is most useful in giving the power and habit of self-control. Then, too, we should be more frequent in prayers and services and religious reading, in order to quicken our devotion and cultivate our spiritual life.

So Lent is a time for special acts of charity or almsgiving. Our self-denials may well furnish us with the means for these, and the number of claims on Christian charity is boundless. All about us there is spiritual and temporal need of all descriptions. And beyond is the vast heathen world to be converted unto God. To what better purpose could we devote our substance?

Let no one say he has not time to keep Lent. It does not take any time to fast from food or amusements. It will save time which otherwise would be frittered

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EDITORS
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TREASURER
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KALENDAR.

March	6.	Third Sunday in Lent
	13.	Fourth Sunday in Lent
	20.	Passion Sunday
	25	Annunciation, B. V. M.
	27.	Palm Sunday
	28.	Monday before Easter
	29.	Tuesday before Earter
	30.	Wednesday before Easter
	31.	Maundy Thursday

RECORD FOR FEBRUARY

COMMUNICANTS—

Received by transfer from S. Andrew's Church, West Philadelphia—
Mary Tremper Truitt

Transferred to the Church of the Incarnation—
Mrs. Emma Palmgren

BURIALS—

Thomas Benjamin Allen
Leona Bornman

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses	$390 29
" the Poor	11 42
" " Sunday and Industrial Schools	5 00
" " General Missions	2 51
" " Diocesan Missions	10 35
" " Benevolent Purposes	5 44
" " Missionary Box	53 50
" " Mothers' Meeting	17 63
Of the Sunday School	6 22
Total	$502 36

ASCENSION CADETS.—The members of the brigade have been meeting regularly every Thursday night, and have had an attendance of 20 boys as an average. They are doing well in their drilling under the instruction of Mr. Thayer, and make a really good showing in their manœuvres upon the floor.

away. And to say one has not time to pray or go to church is like saying one has not time to eat or sleep. There are some things we must take time to do, no matter how busy we may be.

Persons may, indeed, and often do, go without food or sleep for a long time, or get them only irregularly. But if they do, they will suffer in consequence. So, if one neglects his religious duties he will, inevitably, lose thereby, though he may not be conscious of it.

The wise and thoughtful person will try to discharge, as far as he can, all the duties that have a claim on him, and he will make a point of using such an opportunity as Lent presents for the development and cultivation of his spiritual life.

A well-kept Lent may have an immense influence on one's whole future.

EASTER OFFERING.

As the next number of the NEWS will not come out until after Easter, we want now to call the attention of the congregation to the necessity of our having a large Easter offering this year. It will be remembered that a year ago the ladies of the congregation were very active in getting up a bazaar, by which they made something over $2,000. This paid off all the floating debt of the church at that time and enabled us to pay back $1,000 to the reserve fund, which it is necessary for us always to have on hand.

This fund we have to have for use during the summer months when so many of our people go out of town, and the offerings Sunday by Sunday are very small. We used up the whole of this $1,000 during the last year, and now we ought to put it back, and we depend on the Easter offering to do it.

Will not everyone attending the church or interested in it in any way give a large special offering at that time?

Our church is free. We do not fix for anyone the amount he must contribute to its support. We leave it to each one's conscience to give as largely as he or she can. And we hope in that way to make men more liberal than they would be if they were charged pew rents.

But people must be conscientious and careful about it, otherwise they will fail or forget to give what they should.

It is every year becoming more difficult to keep up our city churches, owing to the removal of so many to the country and suburbs and the length of time so many are away during the summer. Yet there is work for the city churches to do, and ours was never more active than it is now. But it needs money. Will you let it lack for it? Give this coming Easter as largely as you can, and do not force us again to resort to bazaars and entertainments to earn money to meet our current expenses.

In this connection we would urge every one who can do so, to remember the church in their wills, so that it may not only be freed from debt, but endowed, and thus its usefulness secured for all time. There may be in the congregation those who cannot give largely in their lifetime, who could help the church in this way, and secure to it the continuance of the support they gave it in their lives.

PARISH NOTES.

THE LADIES' AID, which meets every Wednesday at 3 P. M., will sew this Lent for the Maternity Hospital, a most worthy charity. It invites any ladies of the congregation to meet with them. It would be glad of any donations of money and material which would be suitable for simple garments for children.

SPECIAL PREACHERS.—There will be a special preacher each Friday during Lent at the 5 P. M. service, among whom will be the Rev. Mr. Fuller, Rector of the Old Oxford Church; Rev. H. P. Roche, Rector of the Church of the Transfiguration, and the Rev. Mr. Gunnell, Rector of St. Andrew's Church. Our Rector preaches this Lent in the evenings at Trinity, Oxford, St. Michael's, Germantown, All Saints', S. Asaph's, Bala; Christ Church, Franklinville; S. Philip's, West Philadelphia, and S. David's, Manayunk.

The Curate has been asked to preach at Hackettstown, N. J., to take the Three-Hour Service at House of Prayer, Branchtown; preach at Good Shepherd, Cumberland street; St. James' Church, Perkiomen, Pa.; House of Prayer, Branchtown; Women's Club, of West Philadelphia.

HOLY WEEK.—The services will be as in former years—daily Celebrations at 7.30 A. M.; at 10 A. M., prayers, and second Celebration (except on Good Friday), 5 P. M., Prayers; 8 P. M., Sermon. On Good Friday, Stations of the Cross for the children, 9 A. M., and morning prayer and Litany at 11 A. M., followed by preaching of the Cross from 12 to 3 P. M.

EASTER DAY—Celebrations at 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 A. M.; service and Celebration at 10.30 A. M.; children's service at 3 P. M., and service and sermon at 7.45 P. M.

THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—The Children's Service on Sunday afternoons, at 3 P. M., consists, during Lent, of a Litany for Lent, prayers, hymns and the Story of the Cross, together with an instruction by the Curate.

An Honor Roll has been provided for the School, upon which are inscribed the names of all officers, teachers and scholars who have not been absent once during the preceding month. The names are an-

nounced to the School on the first Sunday in each month, and then the framed Roll is hung up in the Parish Building during the rest of that month.

Perry Pictures are given every Sunday to all who at that time have earned five stamps since receiving their last picture.

Mite Boxes have been given to the School, in which to collect money during Lent for missions. The boxes will be returned at the end of Lent, and the amount sent to S. Saviour's Associate Mission, Wuchang, China. The clergy in this Mission live in community and are doing work which is real. They are teaching the Chinese the truths and practice of Christ's religion.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENT.—On February 13th the children of the School, with some of their friends, enjoyed a treat. Mr. Charles T. Walker, our Superintendent, brought his lantern and gave us part of an evening's pleasure with pictures, chiefly amusing. A number of little girls recited various cunning pieces, and at the end Mr. Samuel Smith and Mr. Hugh Rice entertained us with a large number of comic and pathetic songs and speeches, bugle calls, etc., upon a fine graphophone. With the addition of several humorous recitations by Mr. Walker and some piano pieces, by Miss Ashcomb, interspersed, we all decided that we had spent a pleasant evening.

A RECEPTION.—St. John's Guild and St. Mary's Guild held a joint reception on the night of February 11th, which was a great success. The evening was spent in dancing to the music of a small but efficient orchestra. After many waltzes and the old Virginia reel, we were invited to feast upon the good things provided by our hosts and hostesses, and thus a charming evening closed. It is secretly hoped by many that other invitations of the same kind may again be wafted thitherward.

ST. JOHN'S GUILD.—The regular monthly meeting of this Guild took place on February 1st, with an attendance of 14 members. After the saying of their Office in the Church, with an instruction by their Chaplain, the Guild repaired to the Parish Building for their business meeting. Three members received the beautiful medal of the Society and a number were proposed for membership. The gymnastic work continues under the same professional guidance, and good progress is being made.

DIOCESAN MISSIONS.—All who have received the envelope for Diocesan Missions are requested to return it well filled this month, as the parish is asked to contribute $100 towards this purpose, and not half that amount has yet been received. The payment ought to be made before Easter.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL EASTER ENTERTAINMENT.—Preparations are in progress for this event, which will take place probably in Easter week.

THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—We have very much for which to be thankful in the school. We have almost a full corps of teachers, all of whom are regular in their attendance. The attendance this autumn has averaged more than at the same time last year, and our Children's Service, at 3 P. M. every Sunday, is really enjoyable. We wish more of the congregation would join us in the children's worship. At each session a tiny stamp is given to every child who is present, to be attached to a green certificate, and when five stamps have been received a Perry picture is given to the child. We welcome as new teachers Mrs. Hurst in the primary school and Miss Laura Hoover in the main school.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor.

The following subscriptions have been received:

Mrs. Neilson	Mrs. Marshall
Miss Haynes (2)	Mrs. Stevenson
Miss Thompson	Miss McElhenny
Mr. Cameron	Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Cope
Miss Wilson (2)	Mrs. Barrett

THE CHOIR

The choir will render the following music during the month:

10.30 A. M.
(throughout the month)

Benedicite in G . . . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass in E flat . . . . . *Cruickshank*
Hymn 335 in place of Gloria in Excelsis

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT—March 6th,
7.45 P. M.
Anthem—"Come unto Me" . . . *Trowbridge*
(Tenor Solo)

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT—March 13th,
7.45 P. M.
Anthem—"Blessed are the Merciful," *H. Hiles*

PASSION SUNDAY—March 20th,
7.45 P. M.
Anthem—"By the Waters of Babylon"
(Baritone Solo)

PALM SUNDAY—March 27th,
7.45 P. M.
Anthem—"The Story of the Cross,"
A Cantata by *Dudley Buck*

The music at the 4 P. M. Service on Sundays is furnished by half of the members of the regular choir and an assistant organist.

The Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis will be sung in Anthem form and a Solo or Anthem will be rendered.

HE LOVED ME AND GAVE HIMSELF FOR ME.

"Is it nothing to you all ye that pass by? Behold and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow."

O blessed Feet of Jesus,
Weary with seeking me!
Stand at God's bar of judgment,
And intercede for me.

O Knees which bent in anguish
In dark Gethsemane!
Kneel at the throne of glory
And intercede for me.

O Hands that were extended
Upon the awful Tree
Hold up those precious Nail-Prints
Which intercede for me.

O Side, from which the spear-point
Brought Blood and Water free
For healing and for cleansing!
Still intercede for me.

O Head so deeply pierced
With thorns which sharpest be!
Bend low before Thy Father
And intercede for me.

O Sacred Heart! such sorrows
The world may never see,
As that which gave Thee warrant
To intercede for me.

O risen, ascended Saviour,
From death and sorrow free!
Present Thy perfect Offering:
Still intercede for me.

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The Ascension News

VOL. XVII. PHILADELPHIA, APRIL, 1904 NO. 4

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HOLY DAYS . . . . 7.00 and 10.30 A. M.
TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS . . . . 7.00 A. M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON 10.30 A. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (Choral) . . . . . 4.00 P.M.
" (with Sermon) . . . . 7.45 P.M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 5.00 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) . . 8.00 P.M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.00 P.M.

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The Ascension News

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334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*
1506 Pine Street

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SEXTON

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2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Second Monday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Ascension Cadets . . . . . 7.30 P.M.
Thursdays, St. Mary's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild . . . . . 7.45 P.M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Tuesdays, Choral Society . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Wednesday, Ladies' Aid . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
Wednesday, Mothers' Meeting . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class . . . . . 10.30 A.M.
First Friday, Missionary Society . . . . . 10.30 A.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.30 P.M.

Superintendent . . . . . THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent . . MR. CHARLES T. WALKER
Secretary . . . . . MR. WM. E. LINTON
Assistant Secretary . . . . . MR. IRWIN CONGER
Librarian . . . . . MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist . . . . . MR. THAYER

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS S. E. GILPIN
For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN
For the Junior Brotherhood . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS HODGE

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

While England has been convulsed for more than a year in discussing the question of the religious education of the young, we in this country seem to be utterly indifferent to the matter. Yet it is certainly of as vital importance here as it is there.

Look how it stands with us. We have no religious instruction in our public schools. The most that can be said of them is that there is nothing in them inimical to religion. And the reading of a few verses of Scripture, the saying of a prayer, or occasional singing of a hymn, when that takes place, is a recognition of, and tends to excite reverence for, religion. But there is no regular, systematic inculcation of religious, or even moral, principles.

In our universities the attendance at all religious services is almost universally now made entirely voluntary; the teaching of moral philosophy is most meagre, and the tendency of much of the philosophical, scientific and critical teaching is decidedly hostile to revealed religion. There are, of course, a number of denominational schools and colleges in which the teaching and exercises of religion occupy a very prominent place, but they reach only a very small proportion of our population.

Of our churches, the Roman Catholic is really the only one which makes any large and adequate effort to grapple with this question. And is not the hold which it has upon its people, as shown by their attendance at public worship, due to the

THE ASCENSION NEWS

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS

THE CLERGY

TREASURER

MR. RICHARD GILPIN

904 Clinton Street

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KALENDAR.

April 1. Good Friday—Fast
2. Easter Even—Fast
3. Easter Day
4. Easter Monday
5. Easter Tuesday
8. Friday—Fast
10. Low Sunday
15. Friday—Fast
17. Second Sunday after Easter
22. Friday—Fast
24. Third Sunday after Easter
25. S. Mark, Evangelist
29. Friday—Fast

RECORD FOR MARCH.

BAPTISMS—Alberta Stewart
Mary Constance Hill
Grace Hamilton Hague Cochraine (adult)
Emma Helen Ransley (adult) 4

CONFIRMED—John Brown
George Washington Martin Aimes
Sidney Brown Conger
Franklin George Dickers
William Martin Fiddie
Russell Levin Heberling
John Killie
John Lindsay
David Crossett Rea
Joseph Almer Wilson
Howard Roy Woolsey
Mrs. Sarah Elizabeth Thompson
Mrs. Elizabeth Ellis
Mary Swayne Ashcomb
Ruth Henderson
Edith May Kelley
Emelie Hortense Klofach
Caroline Moore
Emma Helen Ransley
Margaret Smith
Mary Ida Trice
Florence May Wallace
Annie Forbes Patrick
Grace Hamilton Hague Cochraine 24

COMMUNICANT, DIED—Blance Augusta Dodson 1

BURIAL—Blance Augusta Dodson 1

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses	$367 40
" the Poor	9 65
" " General Missions	6 26
" " Diocesan Missions	68 31
" " Benevolent Purposes	8 14
" " Mothers' Meeting	22 00
" " Flowers	23 55
At Discretion of the Rector	5 00
Of the Sunday School	6 41
Total	$516 72

way in which they are taught when they are young?

The Protestant churches rely almost entirely for the religious teaching of their youth upon Sunday-schools. But what does that amount to? At the best it is only one hour's instruction in the week, and that intermitted for from two to four months in the summer. It is given mostly by young persons who have no qualifications whatever for teaching, and the methods employed are far from being systematic or thorough. And attendance at these schools is not compulsory. Children attend when and as long as they choose. Many parents do not send their children at all, and their place is very imperfectly supplied by religious training at home. Hence, the growing indifference to and neglect of all religious duties, and inappreciation of religious truth, as shown in all classes by their giving up so largely any connection with the church, their absorption in worldly pleasures and pursuits, the frequency of divorce, avoidance of parental obligations, etc., and the fearful increase in crime. At the beginning of the last century statistics showed that there was an average of one criminal in every 3000 of the population; now there is one in every 800. And one cannot pick up a single newspaper without seeing a long list of murders, suicides and every other crime committed daily.

To what can all this be due, except the neglect of the religious education of the young? Is there any subject, therefore, which calls for more earnest and thoughtful consideration by the members of all religious denominations, and by all intelligent and thoughtful men, who have the welfare of their country and the happiness and safety of their own homes at heart?

PARISH NOTES.

EASTER.—As this number of the NEWS does not come out until after Easter, we are enabled to say something of it. In spite of the unfortunate illness of our Curate from an attack of Grippe, which kept him away from the church for over two weeks, including Holy Week, the Rector was able to get through all the services with the help of one or two clergymen. By Easter Even the Curate was out again and took his share of the duty on Easter Day. It was a beautiful day and the services all well attended. There were more Communions made at all the services than last year. The offerings were a little over $700, about the same as last year. Can we not make up the $1000 asked for, before May 1st?

THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL EASTER SERVICE.—On the afternoon of Easter Day at 3.30 o'clock, the children of the Sunday-school took part in their Easter school service. Mr. Thayer, our kind organist, played a march and the school marched silently to their seats. Then a carol was sung, a brief Office said and another carol sung. The Superintendent, Mr. Walker, then made some earnest remarks to the children, who have learned to value very highly their kind friend and leader, and then came another carol. At its close, the Processional Versicle and Response were sung, and the entire school, scholars, teachers, choir and clergy, made the circuit of the church, singing the carol, "The world itself keeps Easter Day."

After the procession, the Rector spoke some loving words to his children, as did also the Curate; and then it was that a gift from the school was made to the Rector. After the collection of the money gathered since the autumn for St. Saviour's Mission in China, and some remarks by Mr. Witmer, another carol was sung, the closing prayers said and the choir retired, they and the school singing, "Jesus Christ is risen to-day."

After the close of the service, there were given to the children and teachers a pot of living flowers, the result of the kind efforts of Mr. Witmer in behalf of the children.

The attendance at this service was larger than usual and the occasion was happy and bright. About 130 children were present, with 40 or 50 grown people; the day was beautiful, the flowers were fragrant and we have happy memories of our Easter afternoon.

A GIFT TO THE CHURCH.—On Palm Sunday, the St. Agnes' Guild of little girls experienced a great pleasure. They meet once a week for devotions, instruction and play, and at each meeting they pay a very small sum to the Guild treasury as their offering. For many weeks they have been much interested in the growth of these collections, for out of them they wanted to buy something for the church.

So after anxious discussion, it was decided that we would order from Geissler in New York, a piece of brass work. The Chaplain, therefore, asked Mr. Geissler to send us some photographs of various things and from them we selected the best lighter and extinguisher for the altar candles that he had. In due time it arrived, and a committee, with the whole Guild, visited the Rector in his sacristy on Palm Sunday, and presented the lighter to him.

It is an improvement upon the two articles which were in use before and which seemed to have almost outlived their beauty, if not their usefulness.

A GIFT TO THE RECTOR.—At the Children's Sunday-school service a pleasant feature was the presentation to the Rector of a token of love from the school. As a result of a single suggestion to the school, on one Sunday, on the next Sunday offerings were made and a handsome silk umbrella was presented to him at the service. The cordial acceptance of the suggestion by the school made the gift a token of real and reverent affection for their Pastor by his children.

AN EASTER ENTERTAINMENT OF THE SCHOOL.—On Thursday, April 21st at 8 p. m., it is proposed to give in the Parish building, an entertainment for the school and largely by the school. If all goes well, there may be expected such things as a Maypole Dance, a Fan Drill, Boys' Minstrel Show, some concerted pieces by young men, banjos and other instruments, something by the little tots, and last, but by no means least, some account of the "Troubles of Saturday" by seven young ladies from West Philadelphia, who have very kindly consented to help us.

It is suggested that each teacher and scholar in the school be given a complimentary ticket and that other persons be charged five cents for admission. We think we can promise a varied and pleasant evening to those who care to be with us at that time.

LECTURE—A lecture was given in the Parish House on the evening of March 16, by Miss Banfield, Superintendent of the Polyclinic Hospital. It was well attended.

The lecture treated of the care to be taken in avoiding contagious diseases, boiling and filtering the drinking water, the great necessity of vaccination, and some important suggestions on the care of the little children. We thank Miss Banfield warmly.

COLLECTION FOR MISSIONS.—The mite boxes of the school have so far contained $45.00, and no doubt a number more boxes will yet be returned. This amount is about $6.00 more than last year and we hope it will be increased to $10.00 additional.

The money, as announced at the beginning of Lent, will be sent to St. Saviour's Mission, Wuchang, China, where thorough work is being done by a body of clergy living in community under the direction of the Bishop.

S. MARY'S GUILD is manifesting new life. Eight new members have recently been received, and the weekly attendance is much larger than it had been for some time. The Guild made a number of garments during Lent to be used in the Mission work of the Parish. It provided the flowers for the Altar on the Feast of the Annunciation, the anniversary day of the Guild, and gave five dollars toward the Easter offering. It is now rehearsing a short play to be given at the Parish Tea.

THE MEN'S BIBLE CLASS, taught by Miss M. A. L. Neilson, has been discontinued for the season, Miss Neilson has not been able to continue it, and no person being found to take her place. Miss Neilson, although not a member of the Parish, has kindly taught this class for several years and we are sure her labors have been much appreciated.

The members of the class have placed in the hands of the Rector some $90, their collections for the past two winters, to be used for the benefit of the church. He will apply it toward the payment of our mortgage debt. In addition to this the class placed the window with the figure of S. Andrew in the clerestory of the church a year ago.

HOW TO USE THE ENVELOPES.

1. Let each one fix upon a sum to be set apart each Sunday for the support of the Church.

2. Let this sum be a just and conscientious measure of your ability, not too large so that you will not keep it up during the whole year, and not so small that it will not come up to the standard of what in justice you ought to give.

3. When Sunday comes put this amount in your envelope whether you can go to Church or not. Let no Sunday pass without the setting apart of this offering to Almighty God.

4. If you cannot make your offering in person send it by some one else, or keep it until you can take it yourself.

5. Never let your envelopes accumulate at home without being filled each Sunday with the regular offering. It is in this way that people get so far behind that they become discouraged and give up the system, and so fail in a plain practical duty.

We are convinced that the large majority of those who use the envelopes esteem it a privilege to give in this way, and that it draws them nearer to the Church. At any rate the system has the divine warrant of Holy Scripture, for one of the Apostolic injunctions to the first Christians had reference to this very thing, "upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him."

—St. Mary's Chimes.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor.

The following subscriptions have been received:

Mrs. Repplier (2 yrs.)
" W. P. Henszey
" Alexander
Mr. Neagle (2)
Mrs. Shelton
Mr. S. Milliken
Mrs. Jos. Jackson
" Wm. Drayton
Mrs. Volmer

THE CHOIR

The choir will render the following music during the month:

EASTER SUNDAY—April 3d.
10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in D . . . . . *A. E. Fisher*
Mass in B flat . . . . . *Schubert*

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat, *Stanford*
Anthem—"Break Forth into Joy" . . *Barnby*

FIRST (LOW) SUNDAY AFTER EASTER,
April 10th—10.30 A.M.

Te Deum in D . . . . . *A. E. Fisher*
Mass in B flat . . . . . *Schubert*

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat, *Stanford*
Anthem—"I will Mention Thy Loving Kindness" . . . . . *Sir Arthur Sullivan*

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EASTER—April 17th
10.30 A.M.

Te Deum in E flat . . . . . *Dudley Buck*
Mass in E flat . . . . . *Eayre*

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E . . *Roberts*
Anthem—"The Lord is My Strength" *Henry Smart*

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EASTER—April 24th
10.30 A.M.

Te Deum in D . . . . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass in E flat . . . . . *Eayre*

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E . . *Roberts*
Duet—"Love Divine, All Love Excelling"
Tenor and Soprano *Sir John Stainer*

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The Ascension News

VOL. XVII. PHILADELPHIA, MAY, 1904 NO. 5

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS . . . . 7.00 A. M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON 10.30 A. M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (Choral with Sermon) . 7.45 P.M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 5.00 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) . . 8.00 P.M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.00 P.M.

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SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Second Monday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Ascension Cadets	7.30 P.M.
Thursdays, St. Mary's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P.M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesday, Ladies' Aid	3.00 P.M.
Wednesday, Mothers' Meeting	8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class	10.30 A.M.
First Friday, Missionary Society	10.30 A.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.30 P.M.

Superintendent	THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent	MR. CHARLES T. WALKER
Secretary	MR. IRWIN CONGER
Assistant Secretary	MR. WILLIAM HOLMES
Librarian	MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist	MR. THAYER

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women — Miss S. E. GILPIN	3.00 P.M.
For Young Men and St. John's Guild — Miss M. J. GILPIN	3.00 P.M.
For the Junior Brotherhood — Miss HODGE	3.00 P.M.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

In our last issue we called attention to the very serious neglect of the religious education of the young in this country. We make now the following suggestions for the remedy of that evil.

First, in regard to our public schools. It is, of course, impossible, owing to the unhappy divisions which exist among Christians, for any instruction to be given in them which would be in any way peculiar to any one denomination. But there are many things upon which not only all Christian denominations, but those of different religions are agreed. The great principles of morality are the same for all. Take the Ten Commandments, they are accepted by Jew and Christian alike. Even the fourth Commandment, enjoining a weekly day of rest, is accepted and enforced by the laws of the country. Why should not this code then be taught in our public schools? So with the Lord's Prayer, though it owes its authorship to the Founder of Christianity, there is not an expression in it which could not be used by the Jew, or the professor of even natural religion. So it would be perfectly possible to frame a collection of moral aphorisms, selected, say, from the Sermon on the Mount, to which every one believing in morality and virtue at all, could give assent. And it would be of immense advantage to our youth if they were made to commit such things to memory as part of their educational curriculum.

And as this is professedly a Christian

THE ASCENSION NEWS

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS

THE CLERGY

TREASURER

MR. RICHARD GILPIN

904 Clinton Street

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KALENDAR.

May 1.	SS. Philip and James	20.	Friday—Fast
6.	Friday—Fast	22.	Whitsunday
8.	Rogation Sunday	23	Whitsun-Monday
9.	Rogation Day	24.	Whitsun-Tuesday
10	Rogation Day	25.	Ember Day—Fast
11.	Rogation Day	27.	Ember Day—Fast
12.	Ascension Day	28.	Ember Day—Fast
13.	Friday—Fast	29.	Trinity Sunday
15.	Expectation Sunday		

RECORD FOR MARCH.

BAPTISMS—
Elizabeth Price
Virginia Price
Helen Anne MacGregor
David Alfred Bright
Irene Maria Ogden — 5

COMMUNICANTS—ADDED NEW—
John Brown
George Washington Martin Aimes
Sidney Brewer Conger
Franklin George Dickers
William Martin Eddie
Russell Leon Heberling
John Lindsay
David Crossett Rea
Howard Roy Woolsey
Mrs. Sarah Elizabeth Thompson
Mrs. Esther Hermitage Smythe
Nancy Swayne Ashcomb
Grace Hamilton Hague Cochrane
Ruth Henderson
Edith May Kelley
Emilie Hortense Klofach
Caroline Moore
Emma Helen Ransley
Margaret Smith
Florence May Wallace
Joseph Alex. Wilson
John Killie
Mary Ida Trice
Annie Forbes Patrick — 24

Transferred to S. Peter's Church, Springfield, Mass.—
Albert Edward Shaw

Transferred to S. Paul's Church, Flint, Mich.—
Marion Gray — 2

MARRIAGES—
Wilmer James Paget and Ella Douglas Weeks

Walter Alexander Silliman and Marietta Tasher Clark

Sidney Brewer Conger and Annie Forbes Patrick — 3

BURIAL—Mrs. Anna Theodora Lafquist — 1

CHURCHING— — 1

COMMUNIONS OF THE SICK— — 2

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses (Including Easter Offerings)	$967 28
" Diocesan Missions	2 77
" Flowers	25 73
" The Poor	15 89
" Sunday-school Flowers	33 50
" Parish Missions	131 00
" Prayer Book Society	11 00
" Freedmen's Mission	2 00
" Benevolent Purposes	2 93
Of the Woman's Auxiliary for Missions	78 25
Of the Sunday-school	4 91
Sunday-school Mite Boxes	47 99
At Rector's Discretion	5 00
Total	$1,328 25

nation, our courts have declared it to be such, why should not the Apostles' Creed, which we believe is accepted by every Christian denomination, Catholic and Protestant alike, be added to that curriculum?

Of course all Jewish children and those whose parents are atheists or agnostic would have to be excused from learning it, if their parents had conscientious scruples as to their doing so, but that would be perfectly reasonable and practicable. This is always done in English public schools where there is professedly religious teaching.

If it is said that giving this definite religious teaching would be contrary to the provision of the Constitution against the recognition of any particular religion, the answer is, it would not be more so than the present practice of reading the Scriptures, reciting the Lord's Prayer and singing hymns. But it would be vastly more effective and practically useful.

As to how the Churches shall teach the young other than they do, we would suggest that the clergy should personally discharge this duty, and not leave it as so many do to such Sunday-school teachers as they can get, most of whom are very ill-fitted for the task. Personal teaching and catechising by the clergy

ought to be, as it was formerly, not occasional, but part of every Sunday's duty of the clergy. If, in addition, men of culture and intelligence could be gotten to give themselves to Sunday-school work, and not leave it to untaught boys and girls, it would be so much the better. Then, all parents should be impressed more with their duty and responsibility of seeing that their children receive religious training, either from themselves personally or those whom they know to be competent to give it. Let them see that their children go to church with them, teaching them thus in the most effective way by object lessons, and that they cultivate in them habits of devotion. The present widespread neglect of religion is due more than anything else to the supineness and weakness of parents in not bringing their children up with the habit of going to church. Some fear giving them a distaste of religion thereby, but the danger of their growing up in ignorance of the principles of religion or coming to consider it a matter of little or no importance, is far greater.

Youth is the seed-time of life. "Train up a child in the way in which he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."

PARISH NOTES.

THE SUNDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE at 4 o'clock has been discontinued owing to the great falling off of late in the attendance. This service has been maintained for many years during the winter months in order to accommodate those who did not care to go out to church at night. But as there seem to be now so few who care for it, it is not worth while to keep it up.

ASCENSIONTIDE.—We shall observe the Feast of the Ascension, our special parochial festival, as in former years, with celebrations of the Holy Communion in the morning at 7 o'clock and after Prayers at 10.30 A. M., and with a special choral service in the evening at 8 P. M., at which time the Rector will preach the anniversary sermon, which, it is hoped, every one in the parish will attend. On the following Sunday will be the anniversary of all the parish guilds, when a special sermon will be preached to them by the Rev. Dr. Mortimer, Rector of S. Mark's Church.

On Tuesday, May 17th, our Annual Parish Tea will take place, at which we hope to see all our adult parishioners or any of their friends they care to bring with them. The boys of the Choir will be given a supper on the following evening at 7 P. M.

VESTRY ELECTION.—At the annual election held on Easter Monday, the following gentlemen were duly elected to serve for the ensuing three years: Mr. Harry B. French, Mr. John H. Mason, Mr. John S. Newbold and Mr. George B. Warder.

At the subsequent meeting of the Vestry, Mr. Francis S. Keese was re-appointed Rector's Warden, Mr. William C. Lloyd was re-elected Accounting Warden, and Mr. David L. Witmer, Dr. Thomas R. Neilson and Mr. John S. Newbold were elected delegates to the Diocesan Convention.

THE CHORAL SOCIETY, which has been held on Tuesday evenings during the winter, has completed its second quarter and will be discontinued during the summer. Its members will give an exhibition of their proficiency at the Parish Tea.

GIFTS TO THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—An effort is being made to make the Sunday-school room a little more attractive. Mr. Walker has procured two long strips of carpeting for the floor, and Mrs. Hirst has presented us with two handsome framed pictures for the walls. We are very grateful to both kind friends.

THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—We are sorry to have lost from among our officers Mr. Wm. E. Linton, who has been for months our faithful Secretary. His business duties will hereafter prevent his regular attendance at the sessions of the School. Mr. Irwin Conger, the former Assistant Secretary, takes the post of Secretary, and Mr. Wm. Holmes becomes Assistant Secretary.

We have lost from the rank of our teachers Mr. A. E. Shaw, who has been called to Springfield, Mass., the home office of his insurance company, and we greatly regret his going; we are, however, glad to welcome Miss Walshe, as his successor. Our staff of teachers is now full, and it is a fact that everyone of them attends regularly on Sunday afternoons. This cannot be said of every Sunday-school.

THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENT.—On Thursday, April 21st, at 8 P. M., in the Parish Building, we had one of the most successful School merry-makings within our memory. The night was all that could be desired, every one was in a happy mood and nothing occurred to mar the pleasure of the affair.

There was a programme too long to be inserted in detail here, but consisting of recitations, songs, May-pole, fan drill, banjo, etc., etc.

We must especially thank those who came from outside of the Parish for the pleasure they gave us. Seven young ladies from different parishes in West Philadelphia presented the stirring little comedy, "Troubles at Satterlee's," while the Wagner Club provided a novel and amusing minstrel show. Both of these features were greatly enjoyed by the crowded audience.

SPRING SPORTS.—At the last meeting of S. John's Guild, a committee was appointed to arrange for the annual spring sports, on Monday, May 23d, at 8 P. M.

Active preparations are in progress and a band of young men are training every week, under the guidance of a professional trainer. Tickets have been distributed among the members of the Guild for sale. The price of admission and of reserved seats will be small, and we think the congregation ought to show their interest in this department of the parochial work, by thus encouraging the young men's efforts to energize the parish life.

ORGAN RECITAL.—On Tuesday evening, May 24th, by organist of the church. An offering will be taken for the benefit of the Choir Boys' Summer Outing.

PLEASURE SEEKINGS.—On Tuesday, April 12th, our little Choir on Wednesday nights was taken by the Curate to Keith's New Theatre, and had fun watching the wonderful things to be seen there. Acrobats, funny men, midgets, Chinese, bicycle man, etc., etc.

On Tuesday, April 26th, the St. Agnes' Guild repaired to Bostock's Animal Show. Thirteen little girls and four grown people formed the party, and if those animals have any sense of appreciation at all, they must have valued our enthusiastic presence. We had to go and return in a heavy rain, which kept several other members of the Guild at home. Peanuts on the first occasion and Mr. Goodridge's candy on the second added their charms.

TWO EARLY WEEKDAY CELEBRATIONS.—We now have a Celebration of the Holy Communion on every Tuesday and Friday at 7 A. M., and we have reason to be thankful for the attendance. The average attendance for one year (omitting the summer) at the Tuesday Celebration has been eight, and this included all the severe days of this past stormy winter. The average attendance at the Friday Celebration, which only began in Lent, has been nine.

Are there not others in the congregation, who would be willing to come on one of these mornings to make an act of praise and worship to their Divine Redeemer?

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor.

The following subscriptions have been received:

Mrs. Rufus Smith	Mrs. C. F. Leaming
Mr. H. C. Kelley	Miss Carpenter
Mrs. Klofack	Miss Schubert
Miss Chamberlaine	Miss Hofmann

THE CHOIR

The choir will render the following music during the month:

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER--May 1st

10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in E flat . . . . . *Dudley Buck*
Mass in E flat . . . . . *Eayre*

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E flat . *Simper*
Anthem—"Send out Thy Light" . . *Gounod*

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER—May 8th

10.30 A.M.

Te Deum in D . . . . . *A. E. Fisher*
Mass in E flat . . . . . *Eayre*

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis . . . . *Stanford*
Anthem—"Hark, Hark, My Soul" . . *Shelley*

ASCENSION DAY—May 12th

10.30 A.M.

Te Deum in E flat . . . . . *Dudley Buck*
Mass in E flat . . . . . *Eayre*

7.45 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D, *J. C Marks*
Anthem—"King All Glorious," *Sir Jos. Barnby*
Te Deum after Sermon, *Waller St. Clare Knodle*

SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION—May 15th

10.30 A.M.

Te Deum in F . . . . . *Henry Smart*
Mass in F . . . . . *Berthold Tours*

7.45 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis . *J. C. Marks*
Anthem—"King All Glorious," *Sir Jos. Barnby*

WHITSUNDAY—May 22d

10.30 P.M.

Te Deum in D . . . . . *A. E. Fisher*
Mass in F . . . . . *Berthold Tours*

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E flat, *Simper*
Anthem—"O for a Closer Walk with God." *Foster*

TRINITY SUNDAY—May 29th

10.30 A.M.

Te Deum in C . . . . . *Dudley Buck*
Mass in F . . . . . *Berthold Tours*

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E . . *Roberts*
Anthem—"I am Alpha and Omega" . *Stainer*

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SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.30 P.M.

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Assistant Superintendent	MR. CHARLES T. WALKER
Secretary	MR. IRWIN CONGER
Assistant Secretary	MR. WILLIAM HOLMES
Librarian	MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist	MR. THAYER

THE PAROCHIAL YEAR

We held our parish anniversary service as usual on the evening of Ascension Day, and the Rector gave a review of the history of the parish for the past year. We publish in this number the full report to the Bishop of the Diocese of the spiritual and financial statistics for the year, which the Rector read, and we repeat here the chief comments which he made upon them, for the benefit of those who were not present, and we are sorry to say that the congregation was not large, though it was a beautiful service and an interesting occasion.

The number of baptisms, confirmations, etc., for the year was just about the same as those for the year before. The number of additions to the Communicant list about equal the losses through deaths and removal, though the number of deaths was exceedingly small, only three. These were Mrs. Rebecca McAfee, long a member of the Mothers' Meeting; Mr. William Jones, who had been in the choir as boy and man almost continuously since 1881, and Miss Blanche Dodson, at one time a teacher in our Industrial School. The numbers in the Sunday-school have been about the same as the previous year, though the attendance of both teachers and scholars has been more regular. The interest in the Guilds has been well kept up, and a new one formed of little girls, for their instruction in Church principles and amusement. The number of services has been increased by the addition of a number of celebrations of the Holy Communion on some week days at an hour (7 A. M.) which has been found more convenient for many to attend. The Mothers' Meeting and other charitable organizations have been well kept up and been of service to quite a number of people.

In regard to the financial report for the year about the same thing can be said, that it is up to the average of late years. The total receipts for all parochial pur-

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EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

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KALENDAR.

June 3. Friday—Fast
5. First Sunday after Trinity
10. Friday—Fast
11. S. Barnabas
12. Second Sunday after Trinity
17. Friday—Fast
19. Third Sunday after Trinity
24. Nativity of S. John the Baptist
26. Fourth Sunday after Trinity
29. S. Peter

RECORD FOR APRIL.

BAPTISM (Conditional)—
Emma Jane Hughes 1

CONFIRMED (in S. Clement's Church)—
Emma Jane Hughes 1

COMMUNICANTS—ADDED NEW—
Emma Jane Hughes 1
By transfer from the Church of the Evangelists—
Jane Lowry 1
Transferred to S. Mark's Mission—
Mattie Elliot
To S. Luke's Church, Altoona, Pa.—
Mrs. Marietta Tasker Clark
To the Church of the Mediator—
Mrs. Alice Atlee 3

DIED—
Frank Savary Pearce, M.D. 1

BURIAL—
Clarke Merchant 1

COMMUNIONS OF THE SICK— 2

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses	$558 61
" Diocesan Missions	80
" The Poor	34 64
" Benevolent Purposes	1 91
" Outing Fund	21 00
Of the Sunday-school	6 73
Total	$623 69

poses were curiously just 65 cents more than those for the year before. The total receipts from offerings for all purposes were about $50 less.

It will be noticed, however, that the total expenses exceeded the total receipts from all sources by about $600. This was met by the amount we had on hand at the beginning of the year, which was realized from the Bazaar held in the previous autumn and which we had put by to be used as a reserve fund. Having been used we had hoped that it might have been put back again, but as a matter of fact, we have only about $400 of it left, which will hardly take us through the coming year.

The fact we have to face is, that our income does not equal our expenses, and we ought to make strenuous efforts to increase it. The best way to do this is for every one in the parish to contribute towards its support through the envelope system, which has been adopted by the Vestry for the purpose. Out of our 500 and more Communicants only about 200 use the envelopes. Of course, there are a few others who conscientiously and regularly contribute as much as they would if they did use them. But we are afraid that the remaining members of the parish give very little towards its support, nothing like what they would if they were renting pews. We call upon every one who has an income to give regularly a proportion of that income towards the support and carrying on of the work of the church, and to give it as regularly and largely as they would if they received the equivalent of a reserved seat. If all would do this we would not be obliged to resort, as we are compelled to from time to time, to entertainments and sales to make our ends meet.

Another thing needed is that our people should be more regular in their attendance at the church services. Though we have enough Communicants to fill the church if they were all present, we seldom get half of them out at one time. Some are as regular as clockwork, never miss a Sunday. Others come only occasionally. This is to their own loss, and to the injury of the parish, for nothing leads more to the increase of a church than for strangers to come to it and see it already well attended. Will not our people think of their duty in this matter, what they owe to Almighty God, the spiritual benefit they might gain for themselves and good they can do to others by setting an example in their own appreciation of spiritual privileges?

In reviewing the year as a whole, it is evident that we have held our own very well, which we suppose is doing as much as could be expected considering the losses we have sustained of late by deaths and removals, and that there is still no improvement in the immediate neighborhood of the church.

In the belief that that improvement must some day come, when the church will be able to do a much larger work than it has as yet, and that in the meantime it is doing a steady and good work and is reaching and benefiting a goodly number of people, shall we not all hold together and be as faithful and work as hard as we can for, and take as much interest as we should in this our parish church?

PARISH NOTES

THE ASCENSION.—We cannot say that our parochial festival is observed with as much enthusiasm as we should like to see. The festival, generally, is not kept in the church, as, from the importance of its teaching, it deserves to be. And the time of the year in which it occurs is one in which our churches have already begun to thin out, owing to removals to the country. But as it is the name day of our parish our people ought to turn out better than they do. Not more than 75 people, outside of the choir, were in the church on Ascension night when the Rector preached the anniversary sermon. We give the substance of what he said, that more of our people may familiarize themselves with the condition of their parish.

The Rev. Dr. Mortimer preached an excellent sermon at the Annual Guild Service. The Girls' Guilds made a good showing in numbers, we cannot say as much of the boys.

The Parish Tea was well attended, as it always is, and passed off very pleasantly with music from the Choral Society and a very pretty Japanese fan drill. We are glad to see so many of our people and their friends turn out on these occasions and hope it will tend to attach them to their parish.

THE SUMMER SERVICES.—There will be no changes in the Sunday services during the summer, they will keep up just as they have been, except that the Litany will not be said on Sunday mornings.

The daily services will be discontinued, prayers being said only on Wednesdays and Fridays at 10 A. M., and the Holy Communion as usual on all holy days, and on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. The Rector expects to be away from the parish for two months, July and August, this year, the first time he has been absent so long for the nearly twenty-four years he has been Rector. While he is away the parish will be in charge of the Curate. He can be communicated with at any time at the church, which will be open, as usual, all day throughout the summer.

SUMMER OUTING FOR THE CHOIR.—The choirmaster is anxious to give the choir boys a treat in the country sometime

during the summer. The organ recital he gave for this purpose realized $14. But this sum will not be sufficient for the purpose. He will be glad to receive any donations from those disposed to reward the boys in this way for their good work during the winter.

S. Agnes' Guild Pictures. — The young people of this Guild have had their pictures taken in a group. It is difficult to get a considerable number of people together and we are sorry there were four children absent. As it was, there were 17 present, together with seven of their friends and their director.

The Guild has been faithful in attendance at their weekly meetings, and it has been a comfort to their pastors to have so many of them present every Sunday to meet their Saviour at His Altar-throne.

If any of the congregation care to have a copy of the group, it can be had at a cost of 50 cents.

The Sunday-school's Closing Service.—The regular sessions of the school will close on Sunday, June 5th, when the closing service will take place. We hope to have a bright, joyous service and ask the congregation to join us in this Children's Evensong. Why do so few of the older people come to meet the young people at their meetings for worship or fun?

A number of teachers and others have undertaken to gather and procure flowers, we hope to have a floral arch, prizes will be awarded for attendance, the honor roll for the month will be read, a report of the school for the past year will be made, and we hope to have a visiting priest to speak to the school. We have much for which to be thankful for the school's past season. The prizes have been ordered from New York, are handsomely enameled in red and white on silver, and nearly 50 will be distributed.

The Summer Sunday-school.—This summer we are to try the experiment of having the school meet in the afternoon at the usual hour, 2.30 P. M. The session will begin at 2.30 P. M. and only last half an hour, closing at 3 P. M. Several of the teachers have promised to attend and we hope the children will come.

The Sunday-school Picnic.—We shall have our Sunday-school picnic during the summer, but the exact date cannot be stated at present. The children, and those of their friends who care to attend, may count upon its taking place.

Choir Boys' Tea.—On Wednesday, May 18th, the choir boys had their annual Tea in the Parish Building. Twenty-five of them were seated at the table and enjoyed the ice cream and strawberries and cake. Some speeches were made by the boys and a pleasant time was spent.

The Spring Sports.—The seventeenth annual sports of S. John's Guild took place on Monday, May 23d, at 8 P. M. About 75 people were present, which was more than twice as many as last year, and 14 young men were on the floor, which was about twice as many as last year. The prizes were awarded to Mr. Robert Lindsay for the largest number of points made during the evening, and his name will be engraved upon the Cup. To Mr. Lindsay was also awarded a medal for the best jumping and running; to Mr. James Adams a medal for the best all around athletics, and to Mr. John McCracken a sweater for the best high jumping.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the News is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor.

The following subscriptions have been received:

Mrs. Grosholz
Mrs. Wirgman
Mrs. Faught
Miss Massey
Mrs. R. A. Gilpin
Mr. David Rea
Mrs. John Mason
Mrs. Carman
Mrs. Bonnet
Miss Elizabeth Lloyd
Mr. J. H. Barton
Mrs. Anable
Mrs. Griffith

REPORT

The following is the report of the parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop:

Baptisms—Adults, 2; infants, 28; total, 30. *Confirmed*—Males, 11; females, 13; total, 24. *Communicants added*—New, 29; by transfer, 8; died, 3; removed, by revision of list, 13; by transfer, 16; present number, 550. *Marriages*, 8; *Burials*, 14. *Public Services*—Sunday, 290; on other days, 689; total, 979. *Celebrations of Holy Communion*, 275. *Sunday-school*—Officers and teachers, 26; scholars, 210. *Other Parish Agencies*—Industrial School: teachers, 10; scholars, 100; Mothers' Meeting: members, 40; Men's Guild, the male communicants; Woman's Guild, the female communicants; Young Men's Guild, S. John's: members, 26; Young Woman's Guild, S. Mary's: members, 23; Chapter Brotherhood of S. Andrew: members, 8; Ascension Cadets: members, 25; S. Agnes' Guild: members, 23.

Money Receipts—Offerings for all parish purposes, $5,440.95; offerings for purposes outside the parish, $443.07; investments, $653.70; other sources, entertainments, etc., $176.54; Sunday-school, $118.02; Woman's Auxiliary, $227.25; total, $7,059.53.

Expenditures—Parochial, current expenses (including salaries of clergy, music, fuel and lighting, care of church building and grounds and ordinary repairs of the same), $5,380.30; interest on mortgage, $472.50; support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools, $148.56; summer outings, $49.81; Parish missions, $131.40; for the poor, $252.41; miscellaneous, $576.74; total, $7,011.32.

Diocesan—Episcopal and Convention Fund, $155.26; Diocesan Missions, $128.10; Episcopal Hospital, $26.80; City Missions, $7.00; Sustentation Fund, $34.58; total, $351.74.

General Missions—General, $32.03; Foreign, $69.14; Domestic, $84.90; Indian, $16.40; colored people, $19 90; Prayer Book and Tract Societies, $16.00; Church Building, $2.00; Clergy Relief Society, $2.00; United Offerings, $41.70; total, $283.17.

Total for all objects, $7.646.23.

Estimated value of five missionary boxes and bundles, $138.00.

Financial Condition—Aggregate value of property of the parish, real and personal, $80,000; incumbrances: mortgage on the church edifice, parish building and ground, $10,500; Endowment Fund, $10,025.

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The Ascension News

VOL. XVII. PHILADELPHIA OCTOBER, 1904 NO. 7

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS . . 7.00 A.M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON 10.30 A.M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 5.00 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) 8.00 P.M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.30 P.M.

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The Ascension News

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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CLERGY

Rev. G. Woolsey Hodge, *Rector*
334 South Thirteenth Street

Rev. H. Page Dyer, *Curate*
1506 Pine Street

WARDENS

Francis S. K[illegible]se
William C. Lloyd

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

Water St. Clare Knodle

SEXTON

Wm. J. Morgan
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Second Monday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, St. Mary's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Ascension Cadets	7.30 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Superintendent	The Curate
Assistant Superintendent	Mr. Charles T. Walker
Secretary	Mr. Irwin Conger
Librarian	Mr. George H. Fairchild
Organist	Mr. Thayer

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women	3.00 P.M.
Miss S. E. Gilpin	
For Young Men and St. John's Guild	3.00 P.M.
Miss M. J. Gilpin	
For the Junior Brotherhood	3.00 P.M.
Miss Hodge	

Sunday Afternoon Services

For many years we have had in this parish two evening services on Sunday, one at 4 P.M. and one at 7.45 P.M. excepting during the summer months, when the one in the afternoon was omitted. The object of having the two services was because there are some people in the parish who preferred to go to church in the afternoon and some who preferred the evening. And for a long time these services were equally well attended; sometimes there would be more present in the afternoon and sometimes more at night. But for the last few years the attendance at the afternoon service has been steadily falling off. This has been due, first, to the fact that a number of persons who attended this service regularly have died or removed from the parish; secondly, because of the removal of so many of our people from the immediate neighborhood of the church, and who, though they still retain their connection with it, find it impossible to attend its services more than once a day; thirdly, owing to the change in the habits of church people, so many now-a-days using Sunday afternoon for going into the country, visiting or other occupations.

Certain it is that from these or other causes the Sunday afternoon attendance not only in our church, but in almost every other in the city, has greatly fallen off in late years. In our church it became last year so small that it was manifestly absurd to keep it up; requiring the at-

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS

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KALENDAR

October 2. Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity
7. Friday—Fast
9. Nineteenth Sunday after Trinty
14. Friday—Fast
16. Twentieth Sunday after Trinity
18. S. Luke, Evangelist
21. Friday—Fast
23. Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity
28 SS. Simon and Jude
30. Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity.

Record for June, July, August and September

BAPTISMS—
Edith Alberta Worrell
Charles Francis Macauley
Franklin Butler Kohlhund — 3

MARRIAGES—
Paul Gex and
Cecile Eveard
George W. Hunter and
Rosalie B. Altemus
John Reed Mason and
Marion Pauline Bond — 3

COMMUNICANTS—ADDED BY TRANSER
from S. Paul's Church,
west Whiteland, Pa.—
Thomazin Ashbridge — 1
Transferred to Toronto, Canada—
Mildred Balfour Woolryche
To Christ Church, Franklinville—
Mrs. Tillie Stevenson
Richard Blair Stevenson
Chester Arthur Martz
Mrs. Edith Martz — 6
To S. Philips, Philadelphia
Martha W. Harper

DIED—
Mrs. Julia DeVeaux Peters — 1

BURIALS—
Rosanna Ervin
David Hawkins
Mrs. Anna Jane Newnam
Mrs. Catharine Ford
Anna May Sterritt — 5

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses	$885 55
" the Poor	43 33
" " Church Debt	01
" " Diocesan Missions	8 00
" " Benevolent Purposes	4 55
" " Schools	25 95
" " Outing Funds	65 01
United Offiering	25 50
Of the Sunday Schools	2 47
Total	$1060 97

tendance of a large choir when perhaps there was not more than a half dozen people in the congregation. So the Rector discontinued it after April, and it is not proposed to revive it this winter.

This service is less necessary in our parish than it is in others, because we have always in the afternoon a service for children. The time allowed for this service was hardly sufficent when we had the four o'clock service, it being sometimes not over before it was time for the latter service to begin. The giving up therefore of the four o'clock service will afford more time for the children's service and allow it to begin a little later, which will be a great comfort to the teachers who have found it hard to get home after the morning service and be back again for the Sunday-school at half past two o'clock. It is proposed therefore, hereafter to have the Sunday-school begin at 2.45 P. M. and the Children's Service in church at 3.30 P. M., which will give the teachers more time with their scholars, which they have wanted, and yet the service in the church will be over about the same time it usually has been.

In addition to this it is proposed to make that service more such an one as those adults who prefer to go to church in the afternoon might like to attend, and one we think which will be more profitable for the children themselves. Heretofore for some years the children's service has consisted simply of the singing of hymns, a metrical Litany, which they had printed on a card, the recitation of the Creed, a few versicals and collects sung by the Priest. Now, this service is not in the Prayer Book and does not in the least familiarize the children with the Prayer Book or teach them how to use it. And yet this is the only service the majority of the children in our Sunday-school now attend. They do not come and their parents do not bring them to any other, and so they grow up without learning or understanding the distinctive principles of worship in the Episcopal Church. And such a service is a very unsatisfying one for an adult.

It is proposed, therefore, this winter to have the children's service consist of a shortened form of the regular evening prayer of the Prayer Book. It will consist of, first, a sentenee, then the Lord's Prayer and regular versicles, one Psalm from the Psalter, one Lesson, one of the evening Canticles, the Creed, versicles and three Collects. This will accustom the children to the regular worship of the church and teach them how to handle the Prayer Book, there being plenty of Prayer Books in the seats, and the teachers will show them how to find the places. It will make also a service which many adults may be glad to attend, and the instruction will be adapted to them as well as to children. We shall hope to see many there. As there will not be both an afternoon and evening service, one of which has been taken by the Rector and the other by the Curate. Both the Rector and Curate will be ordinarily present at the evening service, and they will share the preaching between them.

PARISH NOTES

SUMMER OUTINGS.—On June 4th the Industrial School was invited, by its kind Principal, to a day in the Park. About sixty-five children attended, under the guidance of some of their teachers, and spent a pleasant day. Games, romps and refreshments caused the time to fly only too quickly.

CHOIR BOYS' CAMP.—The Choir Master and seventeen of his choir went to camp, at Florence, N. J., on Monday, July 25th, and returned on Tuesday, August 2d. Happy days were spent and a night or so of rain did not in the least dampen the enthusiasm of the merry jaunt. Fishing, boating, ball playing, country strolling, filled the days, and left pleasant memories behind.

Two nights it rained so that cots had to be stood on edge, and adjournment made to a Palm House; but this only added fun to the experiences.

BRIGADE TO CAMP.—The Boys' Brigade also had their summer outing. They pitched their tents at Perkiomen. This year they joined forces with the boys of Christ Church, Franklinville, all under the direction of the Rev. W. B. Gilpin. Thirty Christ Church boys and fifteen Ascension boys, with several adults formed the party. Their return was made during the following week, not all in one party. The two sets of boys made friends, and remember their camp with pleasure.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL PICNIC.—On Saturday, July 16th, the Sunday-school went for their annual picnic to Belmont in the Park.

The picnic was larger than last year and the storm of the previous time was not repeated. The weather was charming and every one had a good time.

Eight prizes for success in sports were given to the little boys, 6 to the young men (of whom we were glad to see such an unusual number present), 4 prizes to the little girls and one prize to the young ladies for a running match. Ice cream to the extent of twenty quarts was a welcome visitor in the afternoon, and two trolley cars brought us home tired and happy.

THERE have been two picnics given to the members of "The Mothers' Meeting," both of which were enjoyed by the mothers and children. Quite a number of children, whose mothers belong to the Meeting, and others, have been to the couutry, on visits of two weeks each.

A basket of flowers was received August 25th from "The Flower Mission of Haddonfield, New Jersey. Bouquets numbering forty, were distributed.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—The closing service of the school took place on Sunday, June 5th, at 8 P. M. It poured rain before the service and so hard after service that many of the congregation had to delay leaving the church. Notwithstanding this there were 120 people in the church and a bright festal service was offered to God.

The Rev. W. A. McClellan spoke most interestingly to the children and they will not soon forget the story of the guilds and the lesson the speaker taught them.

ST. AGNES' GUILD feast, July 9th, was the time when the St. Agnes' Guild formally closed its meetings for the summer, and the event was marked by a feast.

Seven adults and 37 children took part. The Guild's treasury provided the ice cream and the children brought the cakes. They were so generous in the latter that we sent several bundles of uncut ones to the House of the Holy Child the next day. So the children themselves paid the cost of their own entertainment. This is true with the exception that the Superior added enough to the treasury to enable it to pay for the cream. We are very grateful to her for this kindness.

A brief office, an instruction by their Director and their recitations, songs and games, occupied the evening. It was not entirely an old ladies' party, for the girls invited some boys, who added to our pleasure.

ST. JOHN'S GUILD PICTURES.—At the beginning of the summer the Guild met in the yard of the church and the group was photographed.

The picture proved to be good and forms a pleasant memorial of the winter's meetings. Some of us will keep and prize it as a souvenir of pleasant evenings spent together.

WOMEN'S GUILD.—We hope to see all the ladies of the congregation at the annual meeting of the Women's Guild on the morning of SS. Simon and Jude's day, October 28th. The work of the different chapters for the coming year will be arranged.

THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL re-opens this month. We trust all the teachers and scholars will be in their places on the first Sunday at 2.45 P. M.

NEW HYMNALS are very much needed for the choir. Is there not some one in the congregation who would like to present some, as there are no funds in hand to purchase any?

ENVELOPES.—Will not all who are back in their envelopes kindly make them up as soon as possible, as the Warden has not funds sufficient in hand to meet the salaries, etc., now due?

Over $300 are due on account of unpaid envelopes. If this and some other money due the Church were paid, all our obligations could be met

FOR THE CHURCH DEBT.—Where the Rector was this summer a dramatic entertainment was given and the proceeds handed to him for his Church, in recognition of the services he redered there on Sundays. It amounted to $67.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor.

Mrs. Ellis
Miss E. C. Hare (2)
Miss Vodges
Mrs. Walter Cox (2)

THE CHOIR

The following music will be rendered during the month:

OCTOBER 2d
10.30 A. M.
Te Deum in G . . . . . *A. J. Holden*
Mass in D . . . . . *Woodward*
7.45 P. M.
Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D, *J. C. Marks*
Anthem—"Hark! Hark my Soul" . *Shelley*

OCTOBER 9th
10.30 A. M.
Te Deum in E flat . . . *Dudley Buck*
Mass in F . . . . . *Sir John Stainer*
7.75 P. M.
Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E, *J. V. Roberts*
Anthem—"Behold the Days Come" *Woodward*

OCTOBER 16th
10.30 A. M.
Te Deum in F . . . . *Henry Smart*
Mass in F . . . . . *Sir John Stainer*
7.45 P. M.
Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat, *Villiers Stanford*
Anthem—"Seek ye the Lord" . *J. V. Roberts*

OCTOBER 23d
10.30 A. M.
Te Deum in D . . . . *A. E. Fischer*
Mass in F . . . . . *Stainer*
7.45 P. M.
Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D *J. C. Marks*
Anthem, "I am Alpha and Omega," *Stainer*

OCTOBER 30th
10.30 A. M.
Te Deum in D . . . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass in E flat . . . . *Battison Haynes*
7.45 P. M.
SPECIAL MUSICAL SERVICE.
Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat *Sir John Stainer*
Anthems:
1. Duet, Soprano and Tenor, "LOVE Divine" (by request) . . *Stainer*
2. Soprano Solo, "Fear not ye, O Israel" . . . *Dudley Buck*
3. "Ho! Every One that Thirsteth." *Martin*

Address by the Rector, "Music and its place in the Church Service."

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The Ascension News

VOL. XVII. PHILADELPHIA NOVEMBER, 1904 NO. 8

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TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS . . 7.00 A.M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON 10.30 A.M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 5.00 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) 8.00 P.M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.30 P.M.

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The Ascension News

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH

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REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE, *Rector*
334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*
1506 Pine Street

WARDENS

FRANCIS S. KEESE
WILLIAM C. LLOYD

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

WALTER ST. CLARE KNODLE

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Second Monday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, St. Mary's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Junior St. John's Guild	7.30 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Superintendent	THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent	
Secretary	MR. IRWIN CONGER
Librarian	MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist	MR. THAYER

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women	3.00 P.M.
Miss S. E. Gilpin	
For Young Men and St. John's Guild	3.00 P.M.
Miss M. J. Gilpin	
For the Junior Brotherhood	3.00 P.M.
Miss Hodge	

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesday, Ladies' Aid	2.00 P.M.
Wednesday, Mothers' Meeting	8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class	10.30 A.M.
First Friday, Missionary Society	10.30 A.M.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays	10.00 A.M.

A SCHEME TO GET RID OF OUR CHURCH DEBT

We think the time has come to make a determined effort to get rid of the mortgage debt upon our church property. The finances of an individual or of a corporation are not in a healthy condition while they are burdened with debt. This is especially true of a church and above all a free church which depends for its support entirely upon voluntary offerings. When we began the building of this church there was a mortgage of $25.000 on the property. This has been gradually reduced by gifts and legacies to $10,500. But even this amount of debt necessitates our payment every year of over $500 in interest, which is not only so much money thrown away as it were, but it is just about that sum that we come short every year in failing to meet our current expenses, and so necessitates our resorting constantly to fairs and entertainments to make up the deficit. If we could get rid of our debt, we might consider ourselves as fairly self-supporting.

Moreover, by November, 1905, if he lives so long and remains in the parish, our Rector will have completed the twenty-fifth year of his rectorship, and it would be particularly appropriate and a great gratification to him if by that time the church could be entirely freed from debt. Can we not if we make a determined and united effort accomplish that result in the year intervening, so that the church which he has been the instrument of building might be solemly consecrated on the twenty-fifth anniversary of his entering upon its rectorship to the worship of Almighty God forever, which cannot be done until the property is free from any indebtedness.

In thinking over how this might be accomplished it has occurred to some

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A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
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KALENDAR

November 1. All Saints' Day
" 4. Friday—Fast
" 6. Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity
" 11. Friday—Fast
" 13. Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity
" 18. Friday—Fast
" 20. Sunday next before Advent
" 25. Friday—Fast
" 27. Advent Sunday
" 30. S. Andrew

Record for October.

BAPTISMS—
Florence May Ropes
John Loser Adams 2
COMMUNICANTS
Transferred to Christ Church, Germantown—
Kate Chase 1
DIED—
Mrs. Margaret Botwright. 1
Communion of the Sick 1
BURIALS—
Mrs. Margaret Botwright 1

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses	$308 41
" the Poor	5 18
" " Schools	3 40
" new hymnals	5 00
" altar linen	15 00
" the Church Debt	26 00
At the descretion of the Rector	$5 00
Year Book	3 25
Mothers' Meeting	15 00
Benevolent	2 92
Of the Sunday Schools	6 00
Total	$ 395 16

members of the parish that some such scheme as the following might be practicable.

We ought to raise about $12.000. This would pay off the $10.500 mortgage, replace our reserve fund, which we have again used up since our bazaar, and leave $500 to make some needed repairs to our parish building. Now if this amount were divided up in some such way as the following the whole would be raised: If forty persons would agree to give or raise within one year from this November $100 each that would be $4,000. If eighty more would give $50 each that would be another $4,000. If eighty would give $25 each that would be $2,000. If one hundred would give $10 each that would be $1,000, and if two hundred would give $5 each that would be $1,000, and the total would make the required $12,000. We capitulate:

40	to give within a year each	$100	$4,000
80	" " "	50	4,000
80	" " "	25	2,000
100	" " "	10	1,000
200	" " "	5	1,000
Total,			$12,000

It would require five hundred persons to make up this number of contributions and we have over that number of registered communicants, and there are others who are attendants or interested in the parish who might be willing to join in this movement. Some who could not afford to give the larger sums themselves might obtain them by soliciting from their friends or by giving small entertainments of their own, or by working in various ways and selling what they make. Some might prefer to make their gifts in weekly instalments. This would mean—

		Per week
$100	in the year would be in round numbers	$2.00
50	" " " "	1.00
25	" " " "	50
10	" " " "	20
5	" " " "	10

Are there not five hundred persons sufficiently interested in our church and good work it has been doing for these twenty-five years among all classes of people, and who want to see it relieved of the burden of debt and put on a permanent foundation, who will be willing to fill up these figures?

Perhaps some would give more than $100, and thus take the place of several of those who cannot afford to give as much.

We think this scheme ought to be tried, that now is a good time to put it into operation, and we believe it will be successful. Of course all persons contributing in this way must remember that what they give must not be taken away from what they are now giving weekly to the support of the church, or what they are in the habit of giving at Christmas and Easter, for the current expenses of the church are going on all the time just the same and have to be met.

A circular setting forth this scheme will be sent to all the present and former members of the parish who can be reached, and any responding to it can send their contributions directly to the rector or accounting warden. Envelopes marked for "the church debt" will also be sent out hereafter with every set of envelopes and can be filled and placed in the plate at any service. Those desiring to have envelopes for weekly contributions will be supplied with them on application to one of the clergy As these contributions come in they will be immediately paid on account of the mortgage, which can be done by agreement at any time in sums of $500, thus relieving the church at once of paying interest on that amount.

Let *every one* in the parish take part in this scheme and the result desired will be accomplished.

PARISH NOTES

DONATIONS.—Five dollars were received last month in response to our appeal for new hymnals, and fifteen dollars were given for new linen for the altar, which was much needed, and five dollars were given to be used at the Rector's discretion. Offerings of this kind which are given without solicitation are most acceptable.

ENVELOPES for the new quarter are sent out the beginning of this month. They include three specials, one for the church debt, one for the Christmas offering, and one for general missions. Will not every one attending the church take and use these envelopes? It is the only way in which a free church can receive a regular, systematic income, and the benevolent objects for which contributions should be made receive due attention. There are always blank forms in the rack just inside the main door of the church which any one can take and fill up and mail to the warden, or put in the alms-box in the vestibule, when the envelopes will be sent in return.

WOMEN'S GUILD.—The anniversary of the Guild took place on SS. Simon and Jude's day. The reports of the various chapters for the past year were read and work arranged for the coming winter. All the different committees begin work with this month: the Ladies' Aid to sew for the church on Wednesdays at 2 P. M.; the Mothers' Meeting after service on Wednesday evenings; the Embroidery Class on Thursdays after morning prayer; the Missionary Society on the first Friday of each month at the same hour, and the Industrial School on Saturdays at 10 A. M. Workers and donations of money or materials are needed for all these departments of church work. Each member of the parish is asked to take part in or help them in some way. The chief needs of contributions are for the missionary work and the Mothers' Meeting, and for the altar fund, which provides for the care and washing of all the linen

of the church, and flowers each Sunday for the altar. The ladies attending the meeting of the Guild also took up with much enthusiasm the plan we propound in this number of the NEWS for getting rid of our church debt and resolve to push it. $250 were subscribed to it on the spot. Only by every one in the parish interesting themselves and seeing what they can give personally and what they can induce others to give can this end be accomplished. We have a year to do it in; let us see if it cannot be successfully carried through in that time, and the church made absolutely free from debt and saved from an annual deficit in its receipts.

THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—The sessions of the Sunday-school were resumed on the first Sunday in October. The hour of beginning has been changed to 2 45 P.M., the service in the church to 3.30 P.M. This year we are using a series of cards containing each Sunday a portion of the Church Catechism, together with a picture of some sacred subject and a description of it. After the class instruction in the parish building the school marches into the church for a brief service, and an instruction is given to the school upon the portion of the Catechism printed on that Sunday's card. We hope thus to teach the children the words and some of the meanings of the church's official Catechism.

OFFICERS NEEDED FOR THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—We are in need of two or three men to help us in the management of the sessions of the school. There is a large amount of work required in the way of supervision, record of attendance, distribution of books, cards, maintaining of order, arranging of classes, seeing that they are provided with teachers, and all the other details involved in the conduct of a school. Will not some one in the congregation offer himself for this labor for God's children?

NEW TEACHERS.—We welcome as new teachers in the school Miss Eppecht, Miss Barker, and Miss Wagner.

BOYS GUILDS.—*The Junior Branch of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew.*—Our choirmaster, Mr. Walter St. Clare Knodle, has been appointed its Superior. The intention of the society is to do spiritual work among the youths of the parish in inspiring them with a zeal for their own growth in grace and the spread of Christ's kingdom among other boys. It is designed to be a spiritual organization and to prepare boys and young men for membership in the Senior Branch of the Brotherhood.

A *Junior St. John's Guild* has been formed. This is composed of young men and boys who are too young for the Senior St. John's Guild. The chief feature is gymnastic and athletic work, and has as its instructor Mr. James Adams.

S. Alban's Guild of Servers held its first meeting for this winter October 26th. Nine were present and their duties were arranged for some weeks ahead. It will meet again before Christmas.

The scheme of guilds in the parish seems now complete. We have the Junior and the Senior St. John's Guild for the boys and men; the St. Agnes and the St. Mary's Guilds for the younger and older girls; the Junior and Senior Brotherhood of St. Andrew for the spiritual training and work of the male portion of the parish, and there is the St. Alban's Guild for servers.

AN EVENING OF MAGIC.—St. Agnes' Guild has secured the services of Professor Razarf, one of the best professional magicians of the city, to give them and their friends an evening of tricks in magic and sleight-of-hand on Monday, November 14th, at 8 P. M.

The little girls of the Guild will assist in the entertainment, and Mr. Chester F. Myers and the Messrs. Conger have kindly consented to help. So we shall have an unusually attractive affair. The cost of tickets will be only ten (10) cents and can be obtained from any member of the Guild or at the door on the night of the entertainment.

Come and encourage the children and pass a pleasant evening.

THE CHOIR

The following music will be rendered during the month:

NOVEMBER 6th
10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in D . . . *A. E. Fisher*
Mass in E flat . . . . . *Haynes*

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D
J. C. Marks, Jr.
Anthem—"Praise the Lord" . . *Bliss*

NOVEMBER 13th
10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in G . . . . *A. J. Holden*
Mass in E flat . . . . . *Haynes*

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat,
Sir John Stainer
Anthem—"I Will Lay Me Down in Peace"
Gadsby

NOVEMBER 20th
10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in C . . . *Dudley Buck*
Mass in A . . . . . *Garrett*

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D
Berthold Tours
Anthem—"The Heavens are Telling" *Haydn*

NOVEMBER 24th
Thanksgiving Day—10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in C . . . *Dudley Buck*
Anthem—"O, Lord! How Manifold" *Barnby*
Mass in A . . . . . *Garrett*

SPECIAL MUSICAL SERVICE.
NOVEMBER 27th
10.30 A. M.

Benedicite in G . . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass in A . . . . . *Garrett*

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D
Berthold Tours
Anthem—"Awake Thou That Sleepest" *Allen*

ORGAN RECITALS.

Beginning with November 6th the organist will play a series of recitals previous to the evening service, starting at 7.30 P. M. Printed programmes will be distributed to those present. An earnest effort is being made by the choirmaster and the members of the choir to make the evening service especially attractive, and it is hoped that the parishioners will show their appreciation by attending.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor.

Miss O'Harra — Miss Holbrook
Mrs. Darlington (2) — " Maria Gilpin
Mrs. Hiller

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Assistant Superintendent	MR. ALBERT C. HEURST
Secretary	MR IRWIN CONGER
Librarian	MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
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	MISS M. J. GILPIN
For the Junior Brotherhood	3.00 P.M.
	MISS HODGE

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Thursdays, Embroidery Class	10.30 A.M.
First Friday, Missionary Society	10 30 A.M.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays	10.00 A.M.

REDUCTION OF OUR DEBT

The Vestry of parish at its regular meeting on the first Thursday in November formally adopted the scheme for the payment of our church debt, which we suggested in our last issue, and authorized the Rector to appoint a committee of gentlemen and ladies of the parish to carry it into effect.

The Rector accordingly appointed as such committee—

Mr. William C. Lloyd,
Mr. John S. Newbold,
Mr. George B. Warder,
Mr. Richard Gilpin,
Mrs. John Mason,
Miss Maria L. Goodman,
Mrs. James Lafourcade.
Miss Charlotte W. Hare.

And these will be glad to associate with them any in the parish who may be willing to aid in the good work.

The committee met at the house of the Rector and organized by electing Mrs. John Mason as chairman and Mr. Wm. C. Lloyd as treasurer. They resolved that all moneys collected should be at once deposited in bank to the credit of the Church of the Ascension and paid on order of the chairman; also that the first and last $500 collected before November 30, 1905, should be placed to the credit of the reserve fund. unless specifically designated otherwise by the donors, and that the remainder should be paid on account of the mortgage as soon as it was received in sums making $500.

The committee also authorized the printing of the following circular in the

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EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
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904 Clinton Street

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KALENDAR

December	2.	Friday—Fast
"	4.	Second Sunday in Advent
"	9.	Friday—Fast
"	11.	Third Sunday in Advent
"	14.	Ember Day—Fast
"	16.	Ember Day—Fast
"	17.	Ember Day—Fast
"	18.	Fourth Sunday in Advent
"	21.	S. Thomas
"	23.	Friday—Fast
"	25.	Christmas
"	26.	S. Stephen
"	27.	S. John Evangelist
"	28.	Holy Innocents
"	30.	Friday—Fast

Record for November.

COMMUNICANTS

Transferred to Christ Church Chapel—
Mrs. Helen Repplier
To the Church of the Reconciliation—
Mrs. Rebecca H. Larzelere
Blanch E. Larzelere
To S. Luke and the Epithany
Mrs. Mary Heth Mortimer
Mary Heth Mortimer
To S. Philip's Church
Mrs. Rebecca Farr Pollock 6
Received from Trinity Church, Torrington, Conn.:
Mrs. Margaret Emma Barker
Mary Elizabeth Barker
From the Church of Canada—
Rachel E. Ross

Churchings 3
Communion of the Sick 1

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses	$410 33
" the Poor	15 52
" " Schools	1 50
" the Episcopal Hospital	22 66
" general missions	5 45
" the Church Debt	99 25
Benevolent	2 81
Of the Sunday Schools	5 13
Total	$561 75

name of the Vestry and mailing it, with an enclosed card of subscription and return envelope, to all the present and former members of the church and those in any way interested in it whose addresses could be obtained.

We print this circular here, as it may thus reach some eyes which otherwise might not see it :

To the Members, former Members, those who contributed towards the erection of, and all in any way interested in, the Free Church of the Ascension, Broad and South streets, Philadelphia:

The Vestry of the Church of the Ascension, Philadelphia, feels that the time has come when a determined effort should be made to free it from encumbrance. Nineteen years ago, when the property at Broad and South Sts. was purchased, a mortgage of $25,000 was placed upon it. This has gradually been reduced by gifts and legacies to $10,500. But even this sum is a burden upon a free church, which has few wealthy parishioners and prevents its being solemnly consecrated to its holy purposes. In November, 1905, our Rector, the Rev. G. Woolsey Hodge, will have completed, if he is alive and remains in the parish so long, the twenty-fifth year of his Rectorship. It would be singularly appropriate and a great gratification to him, if the church could be fully free from debt and consecrated by that time.

The Vestry therefore appeals to all those who are now, or who have at any time been connected with, the church, or any who are willing to aid in this worthy object, to contribute towards obtaining that result.

We need $12,000; of this $10,500 is the mortgage and the rest would replace a reserve fund which has been used for current expenses. To secure this sum, the Vestry propose the following plan. They ask :

40	persons to give	within a year	each	$100—$4,000
80	"	"	"	50— 4,000
80	"	"	"	25— 2,000
100	"	"	"	10— 1,000
200	"	"	"	5— 1,000
Total,				$12,000

This would enable every one interested in the parish to take part in this work according to their means, and no large sum would be asked from any one. Some might be willing to give more than the largest amount asked, thus taking the place of others who could not give so much. And others who could not give what they would like, might raise the amount by making and selling things or having little entertainments for the purpose. Those who cannot give what they desire at once, can do so in monthly or weekly installments, envelopes for which will be furnished on application to the Accounting Warden.

Contributions should be sent to the church to the care of Wm. C. Lloyd, Accounting Warden ; who will make due acknowlegement of them, or they may be placed on the plate at any service in an envelope marked "Church Debt".

Persons belonging to the parish contributing to this object must remember that what they give should be IN ADDITION to their ordinary contributions, as the current expenses of the church are going on all the time and have to be met in the usual way.

It is hoped that every one to whom this appeal is addressed will make some response to it, that so the plan may be accomplished and the parish relieved from its debt and enabled to continue unabated the good work it has been doing for the last twenty-four years.

By order of the Vestry,

FRANCIS L. KEESE,
Rector's Warden.
WILLIAM C. LLOYD,
Accounting Warden.
JOHN D. HENDERSON,
Secretary.

November, 1904.

On the third Sunday morning in November the Rector laid the whole matter before the congregation in a sermon in which he gave an historical review of the parish and stated its needs and prospects, urging every one to help in this effort to free it from all indebtedness.

During the following week the circular was sent out by mail, and the following responses have been so far received :

5—	$100	subscriptions	$ 500
2—	50	"	100
9—	25	"	225
9—	10	"	90
16—	5	"	90
2—	1	"	2
1—	.50	"	50
1—	.20	"	20
1—	.5	"	05
Total,			1007 75

We propose each month to report the subscriptions thus received that the congregation may be kept informed of the progress which is being made.

PARISH NOTES

SAFEGUARDING THE FINANCES OF THE CHURCH.—At the last annual convention of the Diocese the Bishop Coadjutor called the attention of the delegates to the necessity of better safeguarding the finances of the parishes, as had been shown by some recent defalcations. In accordance with this suggestion our Vestry at its last regular meeting resolved to put the Accounting Warden under bonds, as is done with all treasurers of financial institutions, and requiring all checks drawn by him to be countersigned by the Rector.

The church should exercise the greatest care in all its business concerns to insure against loss, and to render those who give or leave money to churches certain that their donations will be used as they intend.

CHRISTMAS.—There will be celebrations of the Holy Communion on Christmas day at 6.30, 7.30 and 8.30 A. M., in addition to the services in the middle of the day.

The children's Christmas festival will take place on Holy Innocents day, December 28th, at 7.30 o'clock, after a short service in the church.

Special Christmas offerings are asked as usual from each member of the congregation. Those who are contributing for the reduction of the debt must not let that interfere with the usual special offer-

ing they give at Christmas to meet our current expenses, as they go on all the time just the same and must be met.

ST. JOHN'S GUILD.—An unusually interesting and enthusiastic meeting took place on November 7th. Among other business accomplished it was determined that the Guild would give a minstrel show during the winter for the benefit of the church debt fund. A competent committee was appointed and the prospects are bright for a really good entertainment.

Another action taken was the formation of a basket-ball team. Mr. W. E. Linton was appointed captain, and already systematic and hard work is being done in practice.

Several offers of money were made to defray the cost of the work of the Guild at the meeting.

ST. JOHN'S JUNIOR GUILD.—This Guild has already proved the wisdom of its formation. It has been meeting regularly every Thursday, and has had an average attendance of twelve boys On the first Thursday in the month the members said their office together and heard an address from their Director, after which they held their business meeting. On the other Thursdays gymnastic work has occupied their time.

ST. AGNES' GUILD ENTERTAINMENT.—On November 14th, at 8 P. M., sharp, the Guild gave an entertainment. We are not unduly boastful when we say that we feel sure everyone present did enjoy the evening. Prof. Razarf was most satisfactory in his wonderful feats of magic, and we shall hope some time to have him with us again. To Mr. Myers and Mr. Coates we are indebted for a very enjoyable sketch of school life. But the larger portion of the evening was occupied by the little girls themselves. The recitations and songs were really well done, and the performance of the bright comedy, "No Cure, No Pay," would have done credit to older actors. About 250 persons were present.

ST. AGNES' GUILD.—This society for the little girls of the parish is active and prospering. Some new members have been admitted this winter and almost all the old members are with us again. The saying of their office, which most of them now know by heart, and instruction by their Director, and more than half an hour of fun fill their evenings.

ST. AGNES' GUILD'S GIFT TO THE DEBT.—The little people of the Guild feel very proud that they are the first of the parish organizations to make a contribution to the Debt Fund.

They handed to the Rector on the Monday morning after their entertainment the sum of ten dollars, which was the larger portion of their profits from their show. So those who bought tickets encouraged the little performers, gave pleasure to the children, and in a tiny way helped the Debt Fund.

THE WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICE AND SINGING.—The attendance at this service is increasing An instruction is given upon the Sunday-school Picture of the previous Sunday, and there is always a plenty to think about. At the last Singing meeting, after the service, we had nineteen present and the singing was hearty. We wish more of the congregation would come to the service, instruction and singing on Wednesday nights.

THE "Ascension Chapter" of the Junior Brotherhood of S. Andrew, which has been lately re-organized by Mr. Knodle, held two meetings in November and will continue to meet on the first and third Sunday evenings in each month at seven o'clock. A cordial invitation is extended to all the young men in the parish to become members of the chapter.

ON Sunday, November 20th, the members of the choir with the choirmaster rendered a musical service at the Eastern Penitentiary, which was greatly appreciated by those in charge and must have given much pleasure to the eleven hundred convicts imprisoned there.

THE CHOIR

The following music will be rendered during the month:

DECEMBER 4th, 11th and 18th
10.30 A. M.

Benedicite . . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass arranged from Merebecke, Morley, Cooper
Hymn 36 (Dies Ivae) in place of Gloria in Excelsis

DECEMBER 4th

7.30 P. M.

Organ Recital followed by Service.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E . *Roberts*
Anthem—"Send Out Thy Light" . *Gounod*

DECEMBER 11th

7.30 P. M.

Organ Recital followed by Service.
Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat, *Stanford*
Anthem—"The Grace of God" . *Barnby*

DECEMBER 18th

7.30 P. M.

Organ Recital followed by Service.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in F . *Simper*
Anthem—"Abide With Me" . *Barnby*

DECEMBER 25th
CHRISTMAS DAY.
10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in D . . . . *J. T. Field*
Benedictus.
Mass—"St. Cecilia" . . *Charles Gounod*

7.30 P. M.
Organ Recital followed by
SPECIAL MUSICAL SERVICE.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D *Berthold Tours*
Anthems "Now when Jesus was Born" *Stevenson*
"Glory to God in the Highest" *Handel*
(Soprano Aria and Chorus from the Orotorio "Messiah")

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor.

Miss Pomeroy (2)	Mrs. David Hawkins
Mr. G. C. Neagle (2)	Mrs. M. Milliken
Mrs. Jensen	Miss Bloomer
Miss Bryson	Mr. F. S. Keese (2)

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The Ascension News

VOL. XVIII. PHILADELPHIA JANUARY, 1905 NO. 1

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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HOLY DAYS . . . 7.co and 10.30 A.M.
TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS . . 7.co A.M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.co A.M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON 10.30 A.M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 5.co P.M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) 8.co P.M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.30 P.M.

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The Ascension News

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH

CLERGY

REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE, *Rector*
334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*
1506 Pine Street

WARDENS

FRANCIS S. KEESE
WILLIAM C. LLOYD

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

WALTER ST. CLARE KNODLE, A.A.G.O

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Last Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P.M
Tuesdays, St. Mary's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Junior St. John's Guild	7.30 P.M
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Superintendent	THE URATE
Assistant Superintendent	MR. ALBERT C. HURST
Secretary	MR IRWIN CONGER
Librarian	MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist	MR. THAYER

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women — MISS S. E. GILPIN	3.00 P.M.
For Young Men and St. John's Guild — MISS M. J. GILPIN	3.00 P.M.
For the Junior Brotherhood — MISS HODGE	3 00 P.M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesday, Ladies' Aid	2.00 P. M.
Wednesday, Mothers' Meeting	8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class	10.30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society	10.30 A. M.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays	10.00 A. M.

WHAT IS CHRISTIANITY?

If some one from another country who had never heard of the Christian religion should suddenly come among us to go to our different churches what would he think the Christian religion was? He would go into one church and see an Altar handsomely vested and decorated with Cross and candles, and the service conducted with the use of vestments, incense, etc., and in a language perhaps the people did not understand. And if he learned the doctrines taught there he would be told that there is one supreme govenor of the whole church, who is able to teach infallibly what is true, and who must be obeyed implicitly, that the elements in the Eucharist are changed into the very body and blood of Christ, that the Blessed Virgin Mary is to be adored and prayers addressed to her as if she was God. And in another church he would see only a platform with a man on it in ordinary clothes, who would conduct service, the essential thing in which was a sermon, and where, very occasionally, the people, sitting in their pews would eat bread and drink wine as a memorial of the Death of Christ. And there he would find the people taught that they need not believe anything even about the most abstract and mysterious things, except what commended itself to each one personally.

Now would not a stranger going first into one and then into another of these churches naturally think that they were two different religions, or think that one was the Christian religion and one was

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

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KALENDAR

January	2.	Circumcision
"	6.	Epiphany
"	8.	First Sunday after Epiphany
"	12.	Friday—Fast
"	15.	Second Sunday after Epiphany
"	20.	Friday—Fast
"	22.	Third Sunday after Epiphany
"	25.	Conversion of S. Paul
"	29.	Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Record for December.

BAPTISMS—
Henry Evans Hutchinson
Franklin John White
Bonita Burns 3

COMMUNICANTS
Transferred to the Church of the Reconciliation—
William Thomas Kelsh
To the Church of the Holy Spirit—
David Donaghy Patchell
Mrs. Rica Maria Patchell 3
Received from the Church of the Saviour—
Margaret McElheny
Annie McElheny 2

DIED—
Mrs. Anna R. Sauk 1

BURIALS—
Mrs. Anna R. Sauk 1

Communions of the Sick 2

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses	$510 05
" the Poor	11 74
" " Schools	1 00
" General Missions	2 90
" the Church Debt	1,394 60
" Church Building	1 00
" Missionary Box	61 00
At Rector's discretion	5 00
Christmas Decoration and Festival	54 75
Benevolent	3 38
Of the Sunday Schools	4 79
Total	2050 21

not? But if he looked into the matter further he would find that both these different sets of people believed in the same God, and professed the same creeds; that they reverenced the same Holy Book and were all admitted into the Christian body by the same rite, that of baptism. The things on which they differ are not essential to salvation. A man may be saved whether he believes in the Pope and Transubstantiation or not, or whether he worships the Blessed Virgin Mary or not, or uses forms and ceremonies in his worship or not. These things are not essential. They are largely matters of taste and temperment. Of course, down to the time of the Reformation there was but one church and one form of worship. But since that event men have become so widely separated from each other, and adopted such different modes of worship and so many different doctrines have sprung up that it is hard for one set of Christians to understand an other, much less to worship together in the same way.

Of course, so long as some Christians make certain things, as the supremacy of the Pope, a *sine qua non* of their having any communion with them, there must be divisions among Christians. But it is a great mistake to make lesser things, such as mere forms and ceremonies, causes of division, or to look upon those who think differently or worship in a different way from ourselves as if they professed another religion. These differences have existed so long now, and so many have been brought up in one or the other way that it is impossible for many to understand each other, or believe that there is any truth or reality in any thing but what they themselves believe or do. But as people generally become better educated this ought not to be the case. People ought to learn to discriminate between what is essential and what is not, and so long as persons agree on the great truths of our religion, recognize them, as its sincere professors, though in immaterial things they may differ from us, or they may have other ways of expressing their devotion from those to which we are accustomed.

It is only as people become capable of doing this that there can be any hope of that final reunion of all Christians into one body, which is so much to be desired, being accomplished.

Let us realize that though, from temperament or habit, people may worship God in different ways, still if they all believe in the same God who has revealed Himself to men in the Christian religion, and have by baptism been admitted as members of that religion, they all belong to one and the same body.

CHURCH DEBT FUND

The following subscriptions have been received up to date:

2—	$500	subscriptions	$1000 00
9—	100	"	900 00
4—	50	"	200 00
16—	25	"	400 00
1—	15	"	15 00
20—	10	"	200 00
26—	5	"	130 00
3—	2	"	6 00
5—	1	"	5 00
1—	.50	"	50
1—	.20	"	20
1—	.10	"	10
89		Total,	$2856 80

Amount paid in,	$1551 85
Paid on account of mortgage,	$1000 00
Paid to the reserve fund,	500 00
Balance,	51 85
Total,	$1551 85

As subscriptions are received in amounts of $500 they will be paid at once on account of the mortgage.

PARISH NOTES

CHRISTMAS DAY, while typical Christmas weather, was too severe for many of our people, as the attendance was smaller than we usually have on a great festival. The church looked beautiful as usual, and the choir rendered that most beautiful of services, Guinod's St. Cecelia, very well. The offerings for the day amounted to $319. We trust others will yet come in to swell this amount. When Christmas occurs on a Sunday people should remember to give a special Christmas offering in addition to the one they give for Sunday.

MISSIONARY SERVICE.—There is a Missionary Society composed of the students of our Diocesan Divinity School. It asks permission to hold service once a month during the winter in different churches. Its meeting this month will be held in our church on the evening of January 8th. The address will be delivered by the Ven Archdeacon Fay, of the Diocese of Fon du Lac. He is a very good speaker, and we hope our people will show their interest in him and in the subject by turning out in strong force.

MISSIONARY BOX.—Our ladies made up a very nice missionary box and sent it off before Christmas to a clergyman in the Diocese of Easton, Maryland. The following letter was received in acknowledgment of it:

December 13, 1904.

MY DEAR MRS. GILPIN:

The box has been received and opened and everything it contained is so nice. My suit fits exactly.

My wife is particularly pleased with the articles for her department, all of which is most acceptable. We did not overlook the postage stamps in the little calendar. The entire box betokens a great deal of care and thoughtfulness on the part of those who were so kind as to

provide it for us. And to you especially, my dear Mrs. Gilpin, do we owe a debt of gratitude which we are wholly unable to pay.

May God reward you for us is the earnest prayer of yours, most gratefully,

ST. ALBAN'S GUILD.—On Dececember 19th St. Alban's Guild held its second meeting at the call of its Director, five members being present. Eight Servers were appointed for duty on Christmas Day and provision was made for every Sunday until Easter,

An invitation was received from the Servers' Guild of St. Thomas' Church to take part in a festival service on December 26th, but the Guild felt obliged to decline, our organization having been so recently formed and in several ways unprepared as yet for such an occasion.

ST. JOHN'S SENIOR GUILD.—We met on December 5th, fourteen being present. Reports were received from the Committee on Basket Ball, Minstrel Show, Gymnasium, etc , all of which reported satisfactory progress. The office of the Guild was said and their Director spoke of preparation for the Christian Communion.

ST. JOHN'S JUNIOR GUILD —The December meeting was attended by thirteen members, and an interesting meeting was held. The Guild is growing and the boys seem interested. The Guild Office was said and an instruction on morning prayer was given by their Director, who presented to each one present a prayer card for use for that purpose. It was encouraging to have every boy present state that he had said his prayers every morning since the last meeting, and in the case of a large proportion of them this was a new habit. It is painful to see how little instruction many children receive from any source, their clergy or parents or teachers, as to practical duties of their spiritual life.

ST. ANDREW'S JUNIOR BROTHERHOOD.—This branch of the Brotherhood has had two meetings during December. At the first meeting they were addressed by their Superior and at the second by their Director, both in regard to their Christmas Communion. The first and third Sundays at 7 P. M. are the meeting nights for this branch of the Brotherhood.

ST. AGNES' GUILD—This band of little girls is very happy in their weekly meetings and come most faithfully. On one of the snowy nights recently, when the snow was falling in an almost blinding storm and quite deep, there were fourteen of us gathered in the comfortable Parish Building saying our Office, hearing an instruction and having lots of fun with a new game. During the month they made their Director happy by the gift of a beautiful pair of gloves, for which he is very grateful.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS.—We regret very much to have lost from among our number Mrs. Wm. H. Morgan, who has long and faithfully taught a large class of little girls. We are thankful to have come to us as her successor, Mrs. Hurst, the wife of Mr. Hurst, who has become our Assistant Superintendent. It is a great pleasure to have them both with us.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL WORKERS.—On the evening of December 26th, five teachers, two of St. Mary's Guild and two others filled 250 boxes with candy, and December 28th a number of other teachers dressed the Christmas tree.

GIFTS TO THE SCHOOL.—One kind friend gave us 175 pounds of candy, and another 250 candy boxes and 200 oranges, another furnished the electrical lights, etc., for the tree, and another the batteries for lighting them. A number of persons made gifts of money and some of dolls, etc. For all of these we are grateful, and they have enabled the children to have a brighter Christmas in their Sunday-School.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL FESTIVAL.—On Holy Innocents' Night the school sang their carols in the church and heard an address from the Rector.

After the service the school and congregation repaired to the Parish House, where the children of both the primary and main school gave an interesting exhibition.

This was followed by a series of tricks in Magic by Prof. Raustein, who surely mystified both young and old by his remarkable feats Teachers and officers and scholars all received a Christmas gift, together with a box of candy and an orange. Santa Claus officiated most acceptably, quite disguising the fact that he was one of our own faithful young men.

The attendance of children was materially larger than last year, and it was all a success. A pleasing innovation this year was that a number of the children brought, to be given to the poor, toys, books, vegetables, games and fruit, which were on the following day distributed.

Our Sunday School Christmas was happy and satisfactory.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor.

Miss Whitehouse	Mrs. G. M. Dallas
Miss Wurts (2)	Mr. Goodridge
Miss E. C. Hare (2)	Miss Brodie
Mr. W. N. Newman	Miss Casey

THE CHOIR

The following music will be rendered during the month :

JANUARY 1st, 1905
10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in D . . . . . *J. T. Field*
St. Cecilia Mass . . . . . Gounod

7.30 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D . *J. T. Field*
Anthem—"Now When Jesus Was Born."
Stevenson

JANUARY 8th
10.30 P. M.

Te Deum in E flat . . *Dudley Buck*
Mass in E flat . . . *Alfred Eayre*

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat *Villiers Stanford*
Anthem—"We Have Seen His Star"
Edwin Clare

JANUARY 15th
10.30. A.M.

Te Deum in G . . . *A. J. Holden*
Mass in E flat . . . *Alfred Eayre*

7.30 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E flat . *West*
Anthem - "Arise, Shine for Thy Light is Come" . . . . *Elvey*

JANUARY 22d
10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in B flat . . . . *King Hall*
Mass in E flat . . . . *Alfred Eayre*

7.45 P.M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E flat . *West*
Anthem.—"Brightest and Best" . *Parker*

JANUARY 29th
10.30 A.M.

Te Deum in B flat . . . *King Hall*
Mass in E flat . . . *Alfred Ayre*

7.45 P.M.
SPECIAL MUSICAL SERVICE.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D
Berthold Tours
Anthem—"O Come Before His Holy Presence"
Martin

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AND GOFFERING

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The Ascension News

VOL. XVIII. PHILADELPHIA FEBRUARY, 1905 NO. 2

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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Holy Communion.

EVERY SUNDAY . . 7.30 and 11.30 A.M.
HOLY DAYS . . . . 7.co and 10.30 A.M.
TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS . . 7.co A.M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.co A.M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON 10.30 A.M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 5.co P.M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) 8.co P.M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.30 P.M.

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334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*
1516 Pine Street

WARDENS

FRANCIS S. KEESE
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CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

WALTER ST. CLARE KNODLE, A.A.G.O

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

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Mondays, St John's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Last Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, St. Mary's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Junior St. John's Guild	8.00 P.M
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Superintendent	THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent	MR. ALBERT C. HURST
Secretary	MR. IRWIN CONGER
Librarian	MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist	MR. THAYER

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women	3.00 P.M.
	MISS S. E. GILPIN
For Young Men and St. John's Guild	3.00 P.M.
	MISS M. J. GILPIN
For the Junior Brotherhood	3 99 P.M.
	MISS HODGE

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesday, Ladies' Aid	2.00 P. M.
Wednesday, Mothers' Meeting	8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class	10.30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society	10.30 A. M.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays	10.00 A. M

THE CHURCH—HOME

There is nothing people set so much store by as having a home. There are a few restless souls who prefer to roam about without any settled dwelling-place, but most persons love above all things to have a place which they can feel is their own, where they belong, which they can make just what they want and where they can do just what they choose, which is to them all that is conveyed by that endearing word, Home.

Now that is the way people ought to regard, and the feeling they ought to have for, their Parish Church; they ought to look upon it as their spiritual home. And as the spirit is the highest and most real part of a man, so is it of more importance and value to him to have a spiritual home than it is to have one for his body.

The church is home in the sense that it is the house of our Heavenly Father, the place where He would gather and protect and care for all His children. It is there that we realize how all do constitute one family under the care of the one all-powerful, all-wise, all-good Parent. It is where we meet week by week to think of that Parent and hold communion, spiritual intercourse, with Him, to think of, and be taught our duties towards Him, and our fellow-members in the one great family of which we form a part. It is there He feeds us with that spiritual food which is just as necessary for the sustenance of our souls as material food is for our bodies. It is, or should be, the bright and beautiful and

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
901 Clinton Street

TERMS

Single Copies, by Mail, 50 Cents a Year

KALENDAR

February	2.	Purification B. V. M.
"	3.	Friday—Fast.
"	5.	Fifth Sunday after Epiphany.
"	10.	Friday—Fast
"	12.	Sixth Sunday after Epiphany.
"	17.	Friday—Fast
"	19.	Septuagesima.
"	24.	S. Matthias.
"	26.	Sexagesima.

Record for January.

BAPTISMS—
- George Franklin Horner.
- Samuel George Hemphill.
- Clara Annie Kehler.

MARRIAGE—
- Robert Campbell Watson Jr., and Alice Marion Pepper.

COMMUNICANTS
- Received from the Church of the Messiah—
  - Cornelius Fergerson
  - Mrs. Matilda Fergurson.
  - James Henry Fergurson.
  - Matilda Serina Fergurson.
  - Hannah Spence Fergurson. 5

Died
- Francis Barnes Voigt 1

BURIALS—
- Guy Penn Aimes.
- Mrs. Marie Louise Reyer. 2

Communions of the Sick 1

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses	$440 68
" the Poor	4 28
" " Mothers Meeting	1 75
" the Church Debt	213 00
" General Missions	9 45
" Foreign "	5 00
" Domestic "	5 00
" Students Missionary Society	8 89
" Diocesan Missions	5 00
" Benevolent	1 73
Of the Sunday Schools	7 55
Total	$702 33

rich place which impresses us with a sense of the greatness and glory and splendor of eternal things, where one can give expression to his sense of thankfulness and gratitude in times of prosperity and peace, and find comfort and support in seasons of adversity and gloom.

It is the one place where every man, even the most lonely and isolated of mortals, can feel that he has a home and place where he has a right and welcome and which will supply his deepest and most vital needs. It is the one home which is never broken up. Earthly homes change or are destroyed by death and removals and the constant alterations which are going on in human relations and conditions, but the Church remains for generations. In old parts of the country, the House of God in which our fathers worshipped, their children worship from generation to generation. And even if the material building be a new or different one from that of your parents or of your own youth, still the organization is the same. The Church Christ founded will be on earth till He comes again in glory. The sacraments and the services and the teachings are the same. From early youth to oldest age no one need ever leave or lose the privileges, the joys and comforts of that home.

The Church thus being to us all, and more than all, than earthly home, we ought to feel towards it, and do for it, what people do for their earthly homes. Every Christian should see that he has such a home, that there is one particular parish to which be belongs, which he attends regularly, whose pastor knows him personally and looks upon him as a member of his congregation. And one

should do all he can for that parish, do his full share in supporting it; see that it has a regular income sufficient to meet its expenses. And he should take pleasure in decorating and making that church beautiful and attractive as he would his own home. There is the place for the memorials of his dead, rich gifts which both serve to make that house beautiful and render it solemn and sweet with its associations with those who have gone hence, but whom we delight still to remember.

Any one who really looks upon his church as his home will do for it what he does for his own home, make it just as efficient and attractive as it can be, and have the same affection for it. Every Christian should feel for the church as the devout Jew did for Jerusalem;

"If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning. If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth; yea, if I prefer not Jerusalem in my mirth."

CHURCH DEBT FUND

The Committee on the church debt is disappointed that subscriptions have not been coming in as rapidly as they would like to see since the first of the year. But about ninety persons in all have so far responded to the appeal—five-sixth of our communicants have let it fall on deaf ears. How can the committee dare to hope to interest outsiders in helping to lift our burden, if our own people will not exert themselves. Will not each and every person who worships in the Church of the Ascension rise to the appreciation of the privilege that this year is theirs? One united effort will free the church from debt and the edifice we have loved so long, to which we have brought so many sorrows and in which we have thanked God for so many blessings, to be consecrated to His perpetual service. Will not each one of us love the church the more if we feel that in some little way a personal sacrifice has been made to give it to Him who gives us so much! If the united offerings of each member of our congregation fail to reach the desired sum, it can only be said that the task proposed was to heavy for us; but let it never be said that we have failed because some of us held back.

Let us do all we can—and let us all do what we can.

The following subscriptions have been received up to date:

2—	$500	subscriptions	$1000 00
10—	100	"	1000 00
4—	50	"	200 00
18—	25	"	450 00
1—	15	"	15 00
22—	10	"	220 00
34—	5	"	170 00
3—	2	"	6 00
7—	1	"	7 00
1—	80	"	80
1—	.50	"	50
1—	.20	"	20
2—	.10	"	20
89		Total,	$3069 70
Amount paid in,			$1766 85

Paid on account of mortgage,	$1000 00
Paid to the reserve fund,	500 00
Balance,	266 85
Total,	$1766 85

As subscriptions are received in amounts of $500 they will be paid at once on account of the mortgage.

PARISH NOTES

CONFIRMATION—The Bishop Coajutor of the Diocese will visit this church to administer Confirmation on the evening of Wednesday, April 5, and the clergy call upon all in the Parish who have reached years of discretion and are not yet Confirmed to present themselves for Confirmation at that time. The Prayer Book directs that all who are baptized shall be brought to the Bishop to be Confirmed by him "so soon as they can say the Creed, the Lord's Prayer and the Ten Commandments, and are sufficienly instructed in the other parts of the Church Catechism set forth for that purpose." That all in this Parish may be properly prepared in this way, a series of instruc-

tions will be given every Wednesday, beginning February 1st after the 8 P. M. service by the curate, and on Tuesdays, beginning February 21st, at 8 P. M., by the Rector.

It is well for persons brought up in, or belonging to, other Christian bodies and desirous of entering the Episcopal Church to attend these instructions that they may become thoroughly familiar with the teachings of the Church. Any who have been already Confirmed are welcomed also to attend them.

ENVELOPES.—Another quarter's envelopes are sent out with the beginning of this month. These envelopes are intended to take the place of pew rents, and secure the church a regular revenue to meet its current expenses. It is very important, therefore, that every one in the Parish should use them, giving thus what would be given in another church for a pew or sitting.

We cannot imagine that any one would attend a free church in order to take advantage of the seats not being rented to escape paying a sufficient sum towards its support. And yet unless the envelopes are used people will be very likely through carelessness or forgetfulness not to give what they should. It is earnestly asked therefore that every one, no matter how small the sum may be that he or she feels they can give, will give it in this way to secure its being paid regularly. If you have not already taken them ask the Rector to send them to you.

With this quarter there is sent out a special envelope for Diocesan Missions, towards which this church is asked to contribute $100, and it is collected in this way. This envelope can be placed on the plate at any service during the quarter.

There is another envelope marked "Church Debt" for the use of those who have not already contributed to this special fund. This envelope will be supplied in any numbers to those who wish to contribute to this fund in installments.

"THE MOTHERS' MEETING."—Miss Thompson reports concerning Christmas dinners were not to be generally given out, so no money was solicited. However, through the kindness of friends, $3.75 was received and also some provisions, enabling us to give several dinners—these in cases of sickness. We also received a barrel of half-used clothing, books, etc., and a large box of pictures and scrap-books.

Christmas cards were distributed to the members on the last meeting held before Christmas, and they also received each a box of candy, the last kindly presented by Mr. Cameron through Mr. Witmer.

The "Christmas Meeting" was held on January 3, when some recitations were very kindly given by two members of St. Mary's Guild and a reading by the Rev. Mr. Hodge. Ice cream, cake and tea were served later. We are sure all truly enjoyed the occasion.

One large bag of sewing has been finished and returned to hospital, and the members of the Mothers' Meeting are now filling out an order to hem 200 towels for another hospital.

The members of the Meeting have been most glad to adopt a suggestion that that they give up the pay they receive for their sewing for several weeks, the amount resuling therefrom to go toward the Church Debt.

We should like to say just here that we thank the ladies of the congregation for their contributions of clothing, etc., through the winter. We will receive gladly everything. There is a demand for boys' clothing, shoes especially; half-used bedding, carpets, matting, etc. will be purchased by members of the Meeting. In this way if contributions of money cannot be given toward the mission work of the church, at least some money may be made. If any of the ladies of the church would desire to have a "Rummage Sale" for this purpose, we think it would be a success.

PROGRESS OF THE FREE CHURCH MOVEMENT

Mr. J. Vaughan Merrick, president of the Free and Open Church Association, has compiled from annual reports the following table showing the growth of the movement:

	CHURCHES		
Year	Free	Pewed	Total
1879	1350	1650	3000
1885	2079	1221	3300
1888	2835	942	3777
1891	3023	939	3962
1894	3483	886	4367
1897	3843	877	4720
1900	4203	725	4928
1904	4418	786	5205

In twenty-five years the number of free churches has increased from 1350 to 4418, or from forty-five to eighty-five per cent., while the number of pewed churches has diminished from 1650 to 786.

Thus, deducting the 864 converted churches there have been 2204 new free churches. Apart from this mark of progress in the movement for free and open churches, it must be observed with regret that the rate at which new parishes are established is much reduced. In the ten years from 1884 to 1894 the annual increase was 112 parishes, and 1894 to 1904 the annual increase was 84 parishes, and of late this has been reduced to 69 parishes.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor.

Mrs. W. H. Cope, 2
" W. P. Pepper 2
" Wm. Andrews
" Wm. Waterall 2
" W. N. Newman
Mrs. Richard Biddle 2
" Thos. Fenton
Miss Schell
" Barrett
" Casey
Miss Dickerson

THE CHOIR

The following music will be rendered during the month:

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany, February 5th.

10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in D . . . . . *J. T. Field*
Mass in F . . . . . *Tours*

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D . *Tours*
Anthem—"O Come Before His Presence" (By request) *Martin*

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany, February 12th.

10.30 P. M.

Te Deum in D . . . . . *J. T. Field*
Mass in F . . . . . *Tours*

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D . *Tours*
Anthem—"Ho! Everyone that Thirsteth"

Septuagesima Sunday, February 19th.

10.30. A.M.

Benedicti in E flat . . . . *C. H. Lloyd*
Mass in E . . . . . *Tours*

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D *J. C. Marks*
Anthem "Seek Ye the Lord" . *Roberts*

Septuagesima Sunday, February 26th.

10.30 A. M.

Benedicti in E flat . . . *C. H. Lloyd*
Mass in F . . . . . *Tours*

7.45 P. M.

SPECIAL MUSICAL SERVICE.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in F . *Gladstone*
Anthems—"Love Divine all Love Excelling" *Stainer*
Duett, Soprano and Tenor, (by request). "Hear my Prayer" . . *Mendelsohn*
Soprano, Solo and Chorus.

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Wednesday, Ladies' Aid	2.00 P.M.
Wednesday, Mothers' Meeting	8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class	10.30 A.M.
First Friday, Missionary Society	10.30 A.M.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays	10.00 A.M.

THE USES OF LENT

The observance of the season of Lent is of great antiquity and very extensive among Christians. We can trace it as far back as 90 A.D., and it is to-day kept in all branches of the Catholic Church, and to some extent by the Lutherans. Other Protestants have given it up as they have so much else that belonged to the historic church, though there is a tendency now to realize how useful it may be and to try and restore its use to some extent.

But we are afraid that a great many of our own church people do not appreciate it and recognize it as they should. Some church people we fear make no difference whatever between Lent and any other season of the year. And a great many men seem to think that they have no time to observe it and so pay no attention to it whatever, and so of course gain no benefit from it.

What then are its uses and why should it be observed? Its great use is the revival of the spiritual life, the making at least once in each year a special and determined effort to cultivate the spiritual side of one's being. Of course we should do this all the time. One should never lose sight of his spiritual nature, of his duties and obligations, of the power and blessing of coming nearer to God. But experience proves that it is well to have special times for quickening of those efforts, the directing of the attention more than ordinarily away from the earth, the merely material, and concentrating it on spiritual things. We are

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

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Single Copies, by Mail, 50 Cents a Year

KALENDAR

March	3	Friday—Fast.
"	5	Quinquagesima
"	8	Ash Wednesday
"	12	First Sunday in Lent
"	15	Ember day
"	17	Ember day
"	18	Ember day
"	19	Second Sunday in Lent
"	25	Annunciation B V M
"	26	Third Sunday in Lent

All days in Lent are Fasts

Record for February.

BAPTISM—	
Andrew George Challman, adult.	1
COMMUNICANTS—	
Received by transfer from Church of the Holy Trinity—	
Henry Allen Yost.	
From S. Stephen's Church, Baker City, Oregon—	
Jean Reeves.	
First communion—	3
William Hall.	
Transferred to Church of S. Luke and the Epiphany—	
Caroline Price Toler.	
DIED—	2
Elmer Blaine Conger.	
Communions of the Sick	2
BURIAL—	1
Francis Barnes Voiht.	

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses	$414 47
" General Missions	2 00
" Diocesan Missions	7 50
" the Poor	4 25
" the Church Debt	254 45
" Benevolent objects	2 81
Of the Sunday Schools	5 20
Total	$690 68

all apt to sink down to a dead level of satisfaction with the standard to which we may have already attained, and not make the efforts after progress that we shonld. Many of us are apt fo fall behind even, and not be as attentive and as earnest and zealous for good things as we once were.

All religions find the necessity of times of revival. And the church, instead of leaving such revival to the uncertain and spasmodic motion of individuals, accompanied as such efforts often are with an unhealty excitemənt and transitory effect, provides this regular sober revival every springtime. The awakening of nature to a new life in the spring should in itself be a call to us to rise to a newer life. Lent means spring. It should be to the souls of men what spring is to inanimate creation. Let us try to think thus of it and make it a time when we shall take a new start, begin, if we have not made any effort at all before, or try and make stronger efforts, if we have been making some, to live a more righteous, sober and godly life. We are all surrounded by influences which tempt us to evil, engross us in the merely worldly and temporal, making us forget and neglect the higher aims and aspirations every intelligent man should have, drag us down to what is only earthly and sensual. We want to make an effort to fight against and break away from these influences, especially for a time, and that will strengthen us to do it altogether.

So we should keep Lent by giving up amusements and pleasures we indulge in at other times in order to be undistracted and as a discipline. So we fast that we may gain the power of self-control at all times. So we attend more frequent services that we may have closer communion with God. We listen to more instructions or read devotional books, that we may learn to live a holier life. And we practice acts of self-denial and charity that we may attest the sincerity of our intentions to do good to our fellow men.

Let each of us resolve to use this Lent in these ways as far as we can, and we shall feel and realize its practical benefit. What a blessing it would be to our own lives, and to the community in which we live, if all Christians would keep such a holy Lent.

PARISH NOTES

LENTEN SERVICES.—We have so many services all the time in this parish that they are not greatly increased in number, but we hope to see a large increase in the attendance at them during Lent. The boys of the choir will be present as usual at the daily 5 P. M. evensong, and there will be a lecture by a special preacher each Friday, with a collection of Lenten offerings. The preacher on the first Friday in Lent will be the Rev. Mr. Tait, Rector of S. Paul's Church, Chester, lately elected Coadjutor Bishop to Bishop Hare, of South Dakota.

CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTIONS are given every Tuesday evening at 8 P. M. by the Rector, and every Wednesday evening after the service in the church by the Curate. All in the parish not yet confirmed are asked to attend one of these classes.

The instructions on Tuesday evening are intended especially for the older, and those on Wednesday for the younger members of the class.

A DONATION—Three pairs of long real wax candles for the altar were recently sent to the church, we presume, as a donation. We have no means of ascertaining who sent them, so take this means of thanking the anonymous donor.

ST. MARY'S GUILD.—A most enjoyable entertainment was given under the auspices of St. Mary's Guild on Thursday evening, February 23, the proceeds to be given toward the church debt.

We are always glad to see the Dames of Cranford, with their quaint costumes of many years ago, their equally quaint manners and conversation, and the Dames on this occasion did credit to their ancestors of 1830.

An excellent musical programme was rendered, consisting of instrumental and vocal selections; also selections for the piano and violin. Master Louis T. Scheel was most kind in coming to play for us on his violin.

A young "George Washington" in attractive costume aided us in distributing the programmes and showing our audience to their seats.

St. Mary's Guild gave the flowers for the altar on the "Feast of the Purification."

A small sales of fancy articles was held by the guild in December. The proceeds were contributed to some of the church work.

The guild has had excellent classes in English and embroidery during the winter. At the February business meeting an appropriation was made for material for the sewing during Lent.

MISSIONARY WORK.—The Ladies' Aid have determined to work during Lent for the poor white people in the mountains of North Carolina who are repre-

sented as very destitute, even of clothing; so garments of any description will be acceptable. The society meets in the Parish building every Wednesday at 2 P. M. and invites any of the ladies in the congregation to join them. Donations of money or materials will be acceptable.

NEW WORKERS.—We gladly welcome Miss Walsh and Miss Amy Peters as additional teachers in the Industrial School, Miss Katharine Greer in the Sundap-school, Mrs. Harry Worth in the embroidery class, and Miss Peters and Miss Viola Bidlack on the Altar Committee.

NEW BIBLE-CLASS.—Mrs. Hodge has begun a class composed of some of the older girls of the parish and of some outside the parish, which will meet at her house on Sunday afternoons at 3 o'clock.

PRIZES FOR NEW SCHOLARS.—Through the kind generosity of our assistant superintendent a prize was offered some weeks ago to the child bringing the most new scholars in the male and in the female department of the main school. A considerable number have been competing for these prizes, and only last Sunday one boy brought four children with him.

CHURCH DEBT FUND

This fund grows slowly, as every one coming in the church door can note, as the receipts for each week are recorded there, or as they see them reported in this paper month by month.

We are glad to say that sufficient subscriptions have been paid in to enable us to make another payment of $500 on account of the mortgage. Thus our debt diminishes and we are relieved of so much interest.

We suppose many of our people are waiting to see how large a subscription they can make before putting down their names. But they must remember that because they make the subscription they do not have to pay it at once. They can pay it by instalments if they like, or in any way or at any time before the end of next November.

On the first Sunday of this month the Rector will make another appeal to the congregation on behalf of this fund, and mite chests will be given to all who will take them for collections during Lent. If this debt is to be paid it must be by the persistent efforts of every one in the parish. Let each make some self-denial during Lent and put the money that is saved thereby into this fund

The fund stands now as follows:

2—	$500	subscriptions	$1000 00
10—	100	"	1000 00
5—	50	"	250 00
21—	25	"	525 00
1—	20	"	20 00
1—	15	"	15 00
22—	10	"	220 00
35—	5	"	175 00
1—	4	"	4 00
4—	2	"	8 00
8—	1	"	8 00
1—	80	"	80
1—	.50	"	50
1—	.20	"	20
2—	.10	"	20
2—	.05	"	10
117		Total,	$3226 80
Amount paid in,			$2021 30
Paid on account of mortgage,			$1500 00
Paid to the reserve fund,			500 00
Balance,			21 30
Total,			$2021 30

As subscriptions are received in amounts of $500 they will be paid at once on account of the mortgage.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor.

Miss Pitcher
" Alice Young
" Lucy Perry, 2
Mr. Henry B. French
Mrs. John Klofach
Mrs. M. F. Roberts, 2
" Thomas Neilson
" James Bonsach, 2
" William Drayton
" C .F. Leaming

THE CHOIR

The following music will be rendered during the month:

Quinquagesima Sunday, March 5th

10.30 A. M.

Benediciti in G . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass in E flat . . . . *Cruickshank*

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in F *Caleb Simper*
Anthem—"The Lord is my Shepherd" *Shaw*

Ash Wednesday, March 8th

10.30 P. M.

Benediciti in E flat . . . *C. H. Lloyd*
Mass arranged from Merebeeke, Tours, Morley, Gower.
Anthem—"Turn Thy Face from My Sins" *Attwood*

First Sunday in Lent—March 12th

10.30. A.M.

Benediciti in G . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass in E flat . . . *Cruickshank*

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E *Roberts*
Anthem—"Abide with Me" . . *Barnby*

Second Sunday in Lent—March 19th

10.30 A. M.

Benediciti in G . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass in D . . . . . *Woodward*

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat *Stanford*
Anthem—"Incline Thine Ear" . *Himmel*

Third Sunday in Lent—March 26th

10.30 A. M.

Benediciti in G . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass in D . . . . . *Woodward*

7.45 P. M.

SPECIAL MUSICAL SERVICE.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat *Staine*
Anthem—"O Jesu Thou art Standing" *Walter St. Clare Knodle*

The boys of the choir will be present daily during Lent at evensong, 5 o'clock.

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The Ascension News

VOL. XVIII. PHILADELPHIA APRIL, 1905 NO. 4

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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Holy Communion.

EVERY SUNDAY . . 7.30 and 11.30 A.M.
HOLY DAYS . . . . 7.00 and 10.30 A.M.
TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS . . 7.00 A.M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON 10.30 A.M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 5.00 P.M.
WDNSDAYS (with Address) 8.00 P.M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.30 P.M.

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The Ascension News

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH

CLERGY

REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE, *Rector*
334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*
1526 Pine Street

WARDENS

FRANCIS S. KEESE
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CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

WALTER ST. CLARE KNODLE, A.A.G.O

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
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GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Last Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, St. Mary's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Junior St. John's Guild	8.00 P.M
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P M

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' instruction at 2.20 P. M.

Superintendent	THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent	MR. ALBERT C. HURST
Secretary	MR IRWIN CONGER
Assistant Secretary	MR. CHARLES EDWARD PRATT
Librarian	MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist	MR. THAYER

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women — Miss S. E. GILPIN	3.00 P.M.
For Young Men and St. John's Guild — Miss M. J. GILPIN	3.00 P.M.
For the Junior Brotherhood — Miss HODGE	3.00 P.M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesday, Ladies' Aid	2.00 P. M.
Wednesday, Mothers' Meeting	8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class	10.30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society	10.30 A. M.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays	10.00 A. M.

THE PASSIONTIDE

The last two weeks in Lent have from very early times been obseaved in special commemoration of our blessed Lord's Passion, the word Passion being derived from the Latin word passio, to suffer. His whole life was a life of suffering in that it was one of self-abnegation, hardship, constant labor for others, and exposure to the hatred and malice of enemies. But it was during the last two weeks of His life that those sufferings culminated in what He endured during the last Passover which He celebrated with His disciples at Jerusalem. The Sunday which begins those two weeks is generally called Passion Sunday because it ushered in this season, and it was about that time that our Lord "set His face to go up to Jerusalum," knowing full well what was to happen to Him there. From that day on His soul was "straitened" within Him until the terrible tragedy should be accomplished. As that tragedy formed so important a part in His human experience, as it was all endured for love of us, and as it has bound up in it the deepest and most precious lessons and explanation of the mystery of human suffering, so it is well that Christians should annually commemorate it in the most solemn way and try to learn and lay to heart all its precious teachings.

So we try to make the Passiontide differ from all other seasons of the year. Our churches put on their most sombre aspect. All pictures and statues are covered, the cross and ornaments of the

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KALENDAR

April	2	Fourth Sunday in Lent
"	9	Passion Sunday
"	16	Palm Sunday
"	17	Monday before Easter
"	18	Tuesday before Easter
"	19	Wednesday before Easter
"	20	Maundy Thurseay
"	21	Good Friday
"	22	Easter Even
"	23	Easter
"	24	Monday in Easter week
"	25	Tuesday in Easter week
"	25	Friday—Fast.
"	29	Low Sunday

Record for March.

BAPTISM—

Helen Shaw 2

William Bernard Britton

COMMUNICANTS—

Received from the Church of England—

Charles Edward Pratt

from Bethesda Church. Saratoga, N. Y.—

Mary Carroll Hodge 2

Communion of the Sick 1

BURIALS—

Elmer Baine Conger

Mrs. Mary Bolden 2

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses	$313 71
" General Missions	16
" Diocesan Missions	12 00
" the Poor	5 09
" the Church Debt	493 63
" Benevolent objects	5 63
Of the Sunday Schools	6 70
Prayer Book Society	10 00
Total	$846 92

altar draped, hymns about the Passion sung The last of these two weeks is called the Holy Week, because in it the betrayal, seizure, trial, mocking, scourging and crucifixion took place. The first day is called Palm Sunday because on that day Christ entered Jerusalem amid the waving of palm branches by the multitude. This we commemorate by a procession of the choir and clergy round the church carrying palms. During each day of this week there is a special altar service, all the accounts of the Passion being read in the Gospels appointed for the several days. We have in this parish always two celebrations each day, one at 7 A. M. and the second after Morning Prayer at 10 A. M., except on Good Friday. On Maundy Thursday, so called from Maundy, a gift, white is used at the celebrations to show our joy and thankfulness for the great gift given to us at that time in the institution of the Holy Communion. On Good Friday there is a plain, early celebration at at 7.30 A. M., as the Prayer Book appoints a special altar service for that day and does not provide for a mass of the presanctified such as there is in the Greek and Latin churches, but the sung service in the middle of the day is omitted. At 9 A. M. there is a special service for the children of the Stations of the Cross, pictures of which are hung round the church and are explained to the children as they stand in turn before each of them. At 11 A. M. there is Morning Prayer and the Litany, followed by the singing of the Reproaches and the Preaching of the Cross from 12 to 3 P. M. This is broken by the singing of hymns at regular intervals, during which those who do not wish to remain the whole time can leave the church and

others can enter it. There will be Evening Prayer without any sermon or address each day at 5 P. M., and 8 P. M., a special service adapted for the Passiontide, or a sermon. This service will also be used at the children's service on Passion and Palm Sunday afternoons and on the Wednesday evening before Palm Sunday.

We trust all our people will make use of these full provisions for observing this holy season, and that it may be blest in helping them to realize all it teaches and enable them thereafter more faithfully to bear their own particular crosses which the providence of God may lay upon them, and to take up the cross of self-sacrifice which our Lord says every one must do who would be His disciple. And by so learning to bear the cross by contemplating His Passion "may we be brought," as the beautiful collect for the feast of the Annunciation expresses it, "unto the glory of His resurrection," which we celebrate on Easter day.

CHURCH DEBT FUND

Since our last issue enough has been paid in for this fund to enable us to pay another $500 on account of the mortgage, thus reducing it to $8500. Let us see if we cannot keep on paying at least $500 a month until it disappears altogether. Only $201.05 were received during the month in new subscriptions. There ought to have been many more. On the Sunday before Lent over 200 mite chests for collections for the fund were given out to those present at the services. These should be returned during Easter week. Any person who has not receive done can get one from the verger any time he is in church. In addition to this several members of the committee have written personal letters to persons connected with, or interested in the church, which we trust will be responded to by many additional contributions.

If there are any who are paying their subscriptions by putting contribution in the offertory in envelopes marked "church debt," they should always write their name or the number of the regular envelope on it that the amount may be credited to them.

The fund stands now as follows :

2—	$500	subscriptions	$1000 00
11—	100	"	1100 00
5—	50	"	250 00
1—	30	"	30 00
22—	25	"	550 00
3—	20	"	60 00
1—	15	"	15 00
23—	10	"	230 00
39—	5	"	195 00
1—	4	"	4 00
4—	2	"	8 00
13—	1	"	13 00
1—	80	"	80
3—	.50	"	1 50
1—	.25	"	25
1—	.20	"	20
13—	.10	"	1 30
2—	.05	"	10
146		Total,	$3459 15
Amount paid in,			$2501 92

Paid on account of mortgage,	$2000 00
Paid to the reserve fund,	500 00
Balance,	1 95
Total,	$2501 95

As subscriptions are received in amouuts of $500 they will be paid at once on account of the mortgage.

PARISH NOTES

EASTER DAY.—There will be celebrations of the Holy Communion on Easter day at 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 and 11.30 A. M., the latter being choral and preceded by Morning Prayer with a short sermon at 10.30 A. M. The children's Easter ser-

vice will be at 3.30 P. M., at which time their missionary collections during Lent will be presented.

EASTER OFFERING.—The congregation must remember that we need, as usual, a large Easter offering to meet our current expenses for the year, and we trust that the special offerings which have been made for the debt fund will not be allowed to detract from the usual special Easter offering. We ought to have $1000 in order to pay up all our expenses to May 1st. Let us see how near to it we can come.

Offerings for the Easter flowers can be placed in the alms box in the vestibule of the church, which will be marked for the purpose.

THE STORY OF THE CROSS.—A cantata by Dudley Buck will be rendered on Thursday evening, April 13th, at 8 P. M., by the choir, assisted by Mr. Harvey W. Hindermeyer, formerly one of our choirmen, now singing in Calvery Church, New York.

A silver offering will be made for the benefit of our debt fund.

MITE BOXES FOR BONTOC.—The children are collecting money this Lent for the use of the Rev. Walter C. Clapp at Bontoc, Phillippine Islands. He, with the Rev. J. A. Staunton and some women helpers, are doing a real work in the full and frank teaching of the people there the truths of our holy religion and how to work out those truths practically in their spiritual lives. Their's is a vocation with some hardships and participations in their Lord's Passion, but they seem to be brave and happy and there are now and again conversions to God.

NEW SCHOLARS IN THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—The offer made by Mr. Hurst of a new Bible to the boy and girl bringing the most new scholars has had its effect and, according to the record, some twenty odd new children have become connected with the school.

If only one of them should really absorb the principles of the old religion and learn to receive and correspond with its gifts of grace, who can measure its results in that child's life and upon the world? There are many embryonic saints about us and many who are waiting to be developed into choice propagators of the faith and many who have been entrusted by God with a message, who are waiting to have imparted to them the grace and truth stored up for God's elect in the divine reservoir, His holy Church. Perhaps one or more of these new scholars may be one of them.

ST. JOHN'S GUILD MINSTREL SHOW.—The Senior Branch of St. John's Guild will give a minstrel show on Tuesday in Easter week. April 25th, at 8 P. M. for the benefit of the church debt fund.

Members of the choir will take part, as well as the guild, and a really enjoyable entertainment may be expected. Already a large number of tickets have been sold and a large attendance is anticipated.

THE TEACHERS' INSTRUCTION CLASS.—The teachers of the Sunday-school are asked to attend this class that they may be the better prepared for the serious and responsible work of teaching the children. How serious the work is is sug, gested by this one fact, among many others: that their instruction to these boys and girls for the half hour they are together once a week is, in almost all cases, the entire teaching they receive at all, with the exception of the Superintendent's instruction in the church at the close of the school for about fifteen minutes. The Superintendent appreciates the regular attendance of nine of the teachers and two of the officers of the school.

LENTEN SERMONS.—When not at the Ascension, the Rector has been preaching during Lent in the following churches: The Reconciliation, Trinity Southwark, S. John's Lower Merion; S. David's Manayunk; S. Martin-in-the-fields, and S. Ann's, Annapolis, Md.

The Curate has, been preaching in S. John Chrysostomes, Church of the Transfiguration, Calvary Monumental, S. John's Norristown, S. Paul's Oaks, and Christ's Church Hammonton, N. J.

NEW HELPERS IN THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—Mr. C. E. Pratt has joined our force of officers and has been assigned to the post of Assistant Seretary. Miss Millikin has been put in charge of a class of little boys. Help was needed in both of these positions. We welcome them among us.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor.

The following were received during March:

Miss Goodman	Mrs. W. P. Henszey
Dr. T. R. Neilson	Miss Barrington
Mrs. John Alexander	" Essie Shelton
" Harry Connelley, 2	" Thompson

THE CHOIR

The following music will be rendered during the month:

APRIL 2d, 9th, 16th
10.30 A. M.

Benediciti in G . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass in D . . . . . *Woodward*

APRIL 2d—7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in F
Caleb Simper
Anthem—"Seek ye the Lord" . *Roberts*

APRIL 9th—7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat
Villiers Stanford
Anthem—"O, Jesus, Thou art Standing"
Walter St. Clare Knodle

APRIL 16th—7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D
J. Christopher Marks, Jr.
Anthem—"There is a Green Field"
Charles Gounod
(Soprano, Solo, and Chorus.)

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 21st.

11 A. M.. Morning Prayer, followed by the Singing of the Reproaches and the "Three-Hour" Service.

EASTER DAY—APRIL 23d
10.30. A.M.

Te Deum in G. . . *J. Baptiste Calkin*
Benedictus in G . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass in C . . . . *Franz Schubert*
Anthem—"Hallelujah Chorus" . *Handel*
(Orotorio, "Messiah"

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat *Stainer*
Soprano Solo—"I Know that my Redeemer Liveth" . . . . . *Handel*

APRIL 30th—10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in G . . *J. Baptiste Calkin*
Benedictus in G . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass in C . . . . *Franz Schubert*

7.45 P. M.

SPECIAL MUSICAL SERVICE.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E flat
J. E. West
Anthems—"The Lord is my Strength" *Smart*
"Hallelujah Chorus" . . *Handel*

On Thursday evening, April 13th, at 8 o'clock, the cantata, "Story of the Cross," by Dudley Buck, will be rendred by the full choir, assisted by Mr. Harvey Wilson Hindermeyer, tenor soloist Calvary Church, New York. Silver offering.

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The Ascension News

VOL. XVIII. PHILADELPHIA MAY, 1905 NO. 5

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Holy Communion.

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HOLY DAYS . . . . 7.00 and 10.30 A.M.
TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS . . 7.00 A.M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH LITANY AND SERMON 10.30 A.M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 5.00 P.M.
WDNSDAYS (with Address) 8.00 P.M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.30 P.M.

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The Ascension News

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*
1506 Pine Street

WARDENS

FRANCIS S. KEESE
WILLIAM C. LLOYD

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

WALTER ST. CLARE KNODLE, A.A.G.O.

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
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GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Last Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew . . 8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, St. Mary's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Junior St. John's Guild . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild . . . . . 7.45 P.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P.M.

Superintendent . . . . . THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent . MR. ALBERT E. HURST
Secretary . . . . . MR. CHARLES EDWARD PRATT
Librarian . . . . . MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist . . . . . MR. N. B. THAYER

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS S. E. GILPIN
For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN
For the Junior Brotherhood . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS HODGE

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesday, Ladies' Aid . . . . . 2.00 P.M.
Wednesday, Mothers' Meeting . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class . . . . . 10.30 A.M.
First Friday, Missionary Society . . . . 10.30 A.M.

OUR EASTER

The way in which Easter is kept in a parish is a very fair indication of how it is prospering, especially when the annual Confirmation occurs about that time. So we can congratulate ourselves on the way in which Easter passed with us. The Confirmation which took place shortly before was the largest we have had for years. At the same time the hearts of the clergy are pained to think how many others there are, who should have been Confirmed, who did notpresent themselves. May they have both the grace and the opportunity of doing so another year.

Easter day itself was a beautiful day; the church was particularly well decorated with flowers, including plants secured by the exertions of Mr. Witmer for the Sunday-school. The congregations were large, the music was good, and the number ofcommunions made was over three hundred.

The offerings for the day amounted to over $600, which, considering the additional amount given for the debt, is good, though it is not sufficient to meet our current expenses up to the first of May. Our people do not seem to realize how essential it is for a church to have a regular and steady income. This can only be secured by pew rents or subscriptions made through the envelopes or some other system. If people only give spasmodically when they happen to be in church, and not at other times, the income is not realized and we are constantly confronted by a deficit.

Will not *all* our people use the envel-

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
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KALENDAR

May 1 S Philip and S James
" 5 Friday—Fast
" 7 Second Sunday after Easter
" 12 Friday—Fast
" 14 Third Sunday after Easter
" 19 Friday—Fast
" 21 Fourth Sunday after Easter
" 26 Friday—Fast
" 28 Rogation Sunday
" 29 Rogation Monday
" 30 Rogation Tuesdey
" 31 Rogation Wednesday

Record for March.

BAPTISM—
John Dougherty McLaughlin. (Adult)
Elizabeth Marter (Adult)
Anna Bunn Field, (Adult)
Ray Milton Briggs, (Adult)
William Henry Harris Adult
Mabel Marie Smith
Ruth Forbes Conger
Arthur Ernest White
Frank Gordon Engel
Earl Hemphill
Thomas David Hemphill
Mildred Irene Hemphill
Laura May Schaeffer 13

CONFIRMATIONS—
Ray Milton Briggs
John Dougherty McLaughlin
Charles Martin Kille
George Boggs
Henry Clay Hurst
William Henry Harris
Clarence Arthur Zimmer
John McIlvaine
William Hall
Mrs. Amanda Amelia Smith
Mrs. May Agnes Smith
Mrs. Carrie Elizabeth Davis
Mrs. Elizabeth Martin
Mrs. Virginia Tutwiler
Mrs. Mary Proctor
Mrs. Mary Ann Hall
Lillian Hull Walter
Anna Bunn Field
Jean Reeves
Florence Bowen Anderson
Matilda Rutherford Smith
Elizabeth Hoskins Carpenter
Emily Peel Stewart
Mabel Marvine Smith
Anna Evelyn Carpenter
Ida Viola Klofach
Edna May Carrigan
Marian Elizabeth Rowe 28

COMMUNICANT—NEW—
Ray Milton Briggs
John Dougherty McLaughlin
George Boggs
Charles Martin Kille
Henry Clay Hurst
William Henry Harris
Clarence Arthur Zimmer
John McIlvaine
Mrs. Elizabeth Marter
Mrs. Virginia Tutwiler
Mrs. Mary Proctor
Anna Bunn Field
Florence Bowen Anderson
Matilda Rutherford Smith
Elizabeth Hoskins Carpenter
Emily Peel Stewart
Mabel Marvine Smith
Anna Evelyn Carpenter
Ida Viola Klofach
Edna May Carrigan
Marian Elizabeth Rowe
William Hall
Mrs. Mary Ann Hall 23

Received from the Church of Ireland—
Mrs. Margaret Gault
Martha McDougall 2

Transferred to St James' Hestonville—
Edward Harry Ahern

Transferred to S. Paul's, Chestnut Hill—
Rena Sinnickson Wood 2

Communions of the Sick 4

DIED—
Joseph Dana Lindsay
Carrie Anna Wagner 2

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses	$932 49
" General Missions	1 56
" Diocesan Missions	64 14
" Indian "	15 26
" Colored "	17 00
" Foreign "	12 85
" Domestic "	26 00
" the Poor	16 05
" the Church Debt	1450 94
" Benevolent objects	4 16
Of the Sunday Schools	7 90
Sunday-school Foreign Missions	27 88
Flowers	65 02
At Rector's discretion	5 00
Tract Society	5 00
Total	$2651 25

opes and thus give regularly what in another church they would be forced to give as a pew rent? And will they not also see that the amount they give is equal to the sum they would have to pay as pew rent in another church.

PARISH NOTES

VESTRY ELECTION.—The old members were re-elected on Easter Monday and Mr. Keese was reappointed Rector's Warden and Mr Lloyd re-elected Accounting Warden for the ensuing year.

PARISH FESTIVAL.—As Ascension day does not occur until June the 1st this year our annual parish tea will not take place until June 5th. It has been suggested that we combine with that this year a package party for the benefit of the debt fund. Each person coming to the tea is requested to bring a package containing a useful or fancy article which will be sold for the benefit of the debt fund. They will probably be auctioned off to the highest bidder. It will add to the interest of the occasion and swell the debt fund.

There will be the usual anniversary service on the evening of Ascension day, and the annual guild service on Sunday evening, June 4th, in which all the guilds of the parish will take part.

THE CANTATA given in the church by the choir, assisted by Mr. Harvey Hindermeyer, was very well rendered and attended by a large congregation. The offering on the occasion netted $40 for the debt fund.

THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL EASTER SERVICE.—At 3.30 P. M. on Easter Day the children sang their carols, received an instruction from their superintendent, listened to kind words from their friend, Mr. Witmer, were presented with a pot of geraniums apiece, and three of them received a prize. It was delightful to hear the tots of the Primary School recite without mistake almost the entire Catechism, which they have been learning this winter.

PRIZES FOR NEW SCHOLARS.—Mr. Hurst, our assistant superintendent, presented a handsome Bible to three of the children who had done best in bringing new scholars. The winners of the prizes were George Tait, Tillie Smith and Lillian Larkin.

MISSIONARY OFFERINGS.—On Easter Day the school mite boxes were returned and the proceeds amounted to $25. A large number of boxes were not brought back at that time and we shall, therefore, no doubt, have an addition of perhaps $10 to the above amount. The money is to be sent to the Rev. W. C. Clapp at Bontoc, P. I., who is doing a real work and laying true foundations there.

THE WAY OF THE CROSS.—On Good Friday, at 9 A. M., the school marched around the church singing the Stations of the Cross. At each station a brief office was said, a short instruction upon that particular event in the Passion given, a versified description sung, and Faber's beautiful processional verse chanted on the way to the next picture. It was a simple, touching devotion to the Passion and the children took part in it with noticeable reverence. The Stations were also sung twice in Holy week.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL EASTER ENTERTAINMENT.—Preparations are being made for the annual Easter entertainment of the school. Miss Hodge has kindly consented to take charge of the affair, and we may expect an enjoyable evening. Tuesday, May 2d, at 8 P. M., is the time appointed. There will be no charge for admission and tickets can be procured from the children.

THE CONFIRMATION CLASS.—At the visitation of the Bishop Coadjutor twenty-eight persons received confirmation. Their instructions had been unusually thorough in two classes for eleven weeks.

An average attendance of thirty-five at the Curate's class for younger people and of eight at the Rector's class for older persons showed that many besides the candidates took advantage of the instructions.

THE FIRST COMMUNION OF THE CLASS.—Nearly all of the class made their first communion at the 8.30 A. M. celebration of the Blessed Sacrament on Easter Day. It was a happy occasion for many.

THE WEDNESDAY NIGHT CHOIR AT KEITH'S.—The little volunteer choir which sings on Wednesday nights repaired to Keith's Theatre on April 27th and probably none of the audience better appreciated the performance. Five boys and three men as special guests composed the party. We arrived at Keith's a few minutes after 6 P. M and remained to the end.

S. JOHN'S GUILD MINSTREL SHOW.—An unusually good show was given by the guild on April 23d, in the presence of a large audience. The choir men lent their aid and every number was well rendered. The profits amounting to $50. were given to the Debt Fund as the gift of S. John's Guild.

S. AGNES' GUILD'S GIFT.—On Palm Sunday the little girls of the guild invaded the Sacristy in force and presented to the Rector a beautiful piece of cut glass for the use of the church. It was purchased with money from their weekly dues, and they enjoyed giving it. It has been used at every Celebration of the Blessed Sacrament since.

MISS WAGNER.—All in the parish who knew her were much shocked by the sudden death in Easter week of Miss Carrie Wagner, a member of S. Mary's Guild, and for some time one of the teachers in the Sunday-school. A girl of unusual character and attractiveness we shall greatly miss her, and our deepest sympathies are extended to her afflicted parents.

CHURCH DEBT FUND

We are glad ro report this month $1000 paid on account of the mortgage and we have $204.44 in hand for still another $500 payment.

The first of the mite boxes for Lenten collections for this purpose was returned during Holy week containing $100—a very good beginning. A large number of others were returned on Easter and Low Sundays. Those who have them are requested to open them, and put their contents in an envelope, marked Church Debt, and place them on the plate at any service they attend, if they have not already done so And any who would like new boxes to use during the summer can obtain them from the verger.

Among the subscriptions to the debt we have been much gratified by the amounts raised by the choir and different guilds of the parish, and especially by the contribution of $15 from the Mothers' Meeting, the members of the meeting giving up the pay they should have received for their work for this purpose.

The fund stands now as follows:

2—	$500	subscriptions	$1000 00
1—	250	"	250 00
15—	100	"	1500 00
7—	50	"	350 00
1—	40	"	40 00
1—	30	"	30 00
25—	25	"	625 00
6—	20	"	120 00
2—	15	"	30 00
32—	10	"	320 00
57—	5	"	285 00
4—	4	"	16 00
1—	3	"	3 00
12—	2	"	24 00
29—	1	"	29 00
Smaller amounts,			32 88
		Total,	$4654 88

Amount paid in,	$3704 44
Paid on account of mortgage,	$3000 00
Paid to the reserve fund,	500 00
Balance,	204 44
Total,	$3704 44

As subscriptions are received in amouuts of $500 they will be paid at once on account of the mortgage.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor.

The following were received during April:

Mrs. Thos. Robb (4) Miss C. W. Hare
" Chas. E. Bonnet " Means (2)
Miss A. Chamberlaine " M. McIlhenny
" M. E. Hofmann Mr. H. L. Kelly
Mrs. Alexander Mrs. Volmer
Miss Griffiths

THE CHOIR

The following music will be rendered during the month:

MAY 7th, 10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in G - - - - *J. T. Field*
Mass in E flat - - - *Battison Haynes*

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E flat *West*
Anthem—"Break Faith into Joy" - *Barnby*

MAY 14th, 10.30. A. M.

Te Deum in D. - - - *A. E. Fisher*
Mass in E flat - - - - *Battison Haynes*

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E *J. Varley Roberts*
Anthems—"Christ our Passover" . *Wiegand*

MAY 21st, 10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in F - - - - - - *Smart*
Mass in E flat - - - - - - *Eayre*

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat *Villiers Stanford*
Anthem—"O Come Before His Presence" *Martin*

MAY 28th, 10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in E flat - - *Dudley Buck*
Mass in E flat - - - *Alfred Eayre*

7.45 P. M.

SPECIAL MUSICAL SERVICE.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D *Berthold Tours*
Anthems—

ASCENSION DAY—JUNE 1st

10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in G - - - - *Holden*
Mass—arr. from Mozart, Schubert, Merebecke, Gower, Eayre.

8 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat *Stainer*
Anthem—"King All Glorious" - *Barnby*
Te Deum in C - - - - - - *Gounod*

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VOL. XVIII. PHILADELPHIA JUNE, 1905 NO. 6

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The Ascension News

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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CLERGY

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334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*
1506 Pine Street

WARDENS

FRANCIS S. KEESE
WILLIAM C. LLOYD

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SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

PARISH YEAR

As usual on the evening of Ascension the Rector preached an anniversary sermon reviewing the work of the parish for the past year. We give the substance of it here, as many of our people were prevented from being present, owing to Ascension day this year being so unusually late, they having already left the city for the summer.

After reading the annual report to the Bishop, giving all the statistics of the parish from May 1, 1904, to May 1, 1905, which we print in full, the Rector pointed out that the number of baptisms, marriages, confirmations and burials were about the same, some more and some less, as in the corresponding period last year, showing that the church is holding its own in spite of its suffering from removals, owing to changes in the neighborhood.

The number added to the communicant list for the year was 42, a very fair increase, but the number of names removed from the list, owing to deaths and changes of residence, was exactly the same, 42, thus keeping us in just about the same condition. Of those who died during the year, eight in all, it is singular that all except one were young or in middle life, and all but one died suddenly. They were Dr. Savery Pearce, Mrs. Julia DeV. Peters, Mrs. Margaret Botwright, Miss Frances Voigt, Mrs. Anna Sank, Mr. Elmer B. Conger, Mr. Joseph R. D. Lindsay, and Miss Carrie Wagner. May they rest in peace and may we all be prepared to follow them whenever we may be called.

The Sunday and Industrial Schools of the parish show a slight increase in numbers for the year and could doubtless be largely increased if we had more faithful and earnest teachers. Are there not those in the parish, men and women, who would be willing to give themselves up to this most charitable and needed work? The Mothers' Meeting has been efficiently carried on and has been a great help to those attending it. The different Guilds have been well maintained, especially that for the younger men and for little girls. The members of the latter have made the practice of attending the mid-day Celebration each Sunday, which we are sure is most beneficial to them and is an example to others.

In reviewing the financial statistics for the year the Rector called attention to

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A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY
TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

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KALENDAR

June 1. Ascension Day
" 2. Friday—Fast
" 4 Expectation Sunday
" 9. Friday—Fast
" 11. Whitsun Day S. Barnabas
" 12. Whitsun Monday
" 13. Whitsun Tuesday
" 14. Ember Day—Fast
" 16. Ember Day—Fast
" 17. Ember Day—Fast
" 18. Trinity Sunday
" 23. Friday—Fast
" 24. Nativity of S. John Baptist
" 25. First Sunday after Trinity
" 29 S. Peter, Apostle
" 30 Friday—Fast

Record for May.

BAPTISM—
Frank Raymond Neil
Dorothy Frampton Hodge
William Ledek 3

COMMUNICANTS ADDED—NEW—
Mrs. Amanda Amelia Smith
Mrs. Carrie Elizabeth Davis
Mrs May Agnes Smith
Lillian Hull Walter 4

Transferred to St. Elisabeth's Church—
Mrs Ella May Martz

Transferred to Epiphany Chapel—
Mrs. Charlotte Dinsmore Baird
Ellen Baird 3

DIED—
Mary J. McCauley 1

Communion of the Sick 1

BURIALS—
Carrie Anna Wagner
Thomas Phipps 2

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses	$404 47
" the Debt Fund	860 77
" the Poor	21 60
" School	5 50
" Diocesan Missions	1 00
" General "	25
" Domestic "	2 00
" the Parish Tea	6 00
Of the Sunday School	4 60
Total	$1306 19

the fact that the amount contributed for all parish purposes was within 91 cents of the amount contributed last year and 64 cents of that of the year before, showing how steadily we hold our own. The offerings for outside purpose and from the Sunday-school and Guilds was somewhat less than what was realized the previous year This was doubtless owing to the efforts we have been making, and in which all our organizations and societies have taken part to free the church from all indebtedness. A circular was sent out in November, 1904, asking for special contributions for this purpose, in order thus to commemorate if possible the completion of the twenty-fifth year of the present Rectorship which will occur next November. The responses so far have been very gratifying, nearly $5500 having been subscribed, of which over $4600 has been paid in. Most of it has come from our own people, though some of our former members have been very good in helping us, as well as some outside of the parish, but interested in it from one cause or another. Whether the total amount can be raised by next November or not we do not know, but if not, we must keep at it until it is all raised, as the church should not only be free from debt, but endowed, in order to secure it from any contingencies in the future. We trust that all who can do so will remember it in their wills.

The amount contributed for the debt fund made the total receipts more than $3000 more than those of last year.

The review of the year therefore is most encouraging, and we can go on in the hope of improvements coming in our neighborhood and in the certainty that the position of the church will always be central and prominent and thus enable it to do a good work.

CHURCH DEBT FUND

Again we can report another $1000 paid on account of our mortgage debt, $860 77 having been paid in on account of subscriptions during May.

In six months we have raised nearly half of the total amount we asked for. Can we do as well in the other six months? Will not all interested in the parish keep this fund in mind during the summer? Perhaps they can be doing some work for it, even while they are away from home. Perhaps they could get up some entertainments where they may happen to be whose proceeds might be given to it.

We have still a large number of mite boxes for the debt fund on hand and would be glad if any would take them for collections during the summer. Ask the verger for them.

The fund stands now as follows :

3—	$500	subscriptions	$1500 00
1—	250	"	250 00
15—	100	"	1500 00
1—	71 75	"	71 75
8—	50	"	400 00
1—	40	"	40 00
2—	30	"	60 00
26—	25	"	650 00
7—	20	"	140 00
2—	15	"	30 00
33—	10	"	330 00
66—	5	"	330 00
5—	4	"	20 00
1—	3	"	3 00
12—	2	"	24 00
32—	1	"	32 00
Odd. amounts,			47 14
		Total,	$5427 89
Amount paid in,			$4615 21
Paid on account of mortgage,			$4000 00
Paid to the reserve fund,			600 00
Balance,			15 21
Total,			$4615 21

As subscriptions are received in amounts of $500 they will be paid at once on account of the mortgage.

PARISH NOTES

SUMMER SERVICES. The only change in our order of services during the summer months will be the omission of the Litany on Sundays, and of the daily evening prayers, and the daily morning service during July and August. In those months prayers will be said on Wednesdays and Fridays at 10 A. M. and the morning of all Holy days

The Rector expects to be away during July and August, when the Curate will be in charge of the parish, and the latter will take his holiday in September, when the Rector returns. During that month there will be no early Celebrations during the week, but the Sunday services will be as usual.

Let our people remember the privilege and duty of discharging their religious obligations in the summer as well as in the winter.

CHURCH PERIODICAL SOCIETY. A branch of this society has been formed in the parish and Miss Caroline Thompson appointed treasurer and secretary. Its object is to collect church papers and magazines and literature of all kinds and send them to persons or institutions where they are not able to procure them for themselves.

If there are any in the parish who have such papers and magazines and would be willing to send them to others after they have finished with them, Miss Thompson will furnish addresses of those who will be glad to receive them. Her address is 1123 Spruce Street. Or, if they are sent to the church at any time, they will be disposed of from there.

Miss Thompson will be glad to receive any donations to defray the expense of postage on these packages.

OUR DEFICIT. It will be remembered that before Easter the Rector announced that one thousand dollars would be required to meet our current expenses up to May 1st. Of this amount only about seven hundred dollars was received at Easter, leaving a deficit at the end of our financial year of some three hundred dol-

lars. An effort has been made to make up this amount. One gentleman gave one hundred dollars, three others twenty-five each, one fifteen and one ten dollars. Are there not others in the parish who would contribute similiar sums to complete the small total still needed?

S. MARY'S GUILD. The last meeting was held May 23d. At the May business meeting resolutions were taken regarding the death of Miss Wagner expressing the great sorrow and sadness of the members of the Guild and their sympathy with the parents of Miss Wagner. She will be so missed our loss can scarcely be expressed. These resolutions are to be sent to Mr. and Mrs. Wagner.

At the yearly business meeting of the Guild Miss Miller was re-elected secretary, Miss Emelia Palmgren treasurer, and Miss Greer banner bearer.

Three appointments were made: Organist, Miss Wagner; Librarian, Miss Moreland, and Assistant Librarian, Miss Trice.

MOTHERS' MEETING. The Easter entertainment was given as usual on April 26. The last meeting was held May 31. On Wednesday evening, May 24th, Miss Payne, superintending nurse of the Episcopal Hospital, gave an address on "The Care of the Sick." It was a most interesting talk, and Miss Payne kindly answered a number of questions regarding nursing.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL PRIZES. On Trinity Sunday the closing service of the regular sessions of the school will be held. The prizes will be delivered to three sets of scholars, viz., first prizes to those who have not missed more than two Sundays during the season, a second prize to those who have not missed more than three Sundays, and honorable mention for those who have not missed more than four Sundays

SUMMER SUNDAY-SCHOOL. The sessions will continue to be held in the afternoon at the same hour as during the winter, *i e.*, at 2.45 P. M. A class session will be held in the Parish Building, followed by the Children's Service in the church, with an instruction by the Curate.

The weather will be hot and the work trying, and it is to be hoped there are teachers in the school who for this reason will be glad to do some work with and for young minds and souls, which will involve at least a little self sacrificing. Alas! how little willingness, not to speak of desire, there is our so-called church work to participate in Christ's Passion, to brand our labors with the mark of any real crucifying of self.

No teachers are urged to come during the summer, but surely there are some with enough love for the Crucified to make them welcome an opportunity to do something where there is little chance for self-pleasing.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL PICNIC. Of course there will be our usual picnic, which we are looking forward to with such pleasure. Last year we had a great time with races and sports and varied amusements, and we trust we shall enjoy our coming time as much.

It is too early to have made any definite arrangements, but we can feel sure of having such an outing. Let us begin to pray that on this picnic some work may be accomplished with one or more souls for God.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT INSTRUCTION CLASS Every Wednesday night at 8.45 P. M., at the close of the evening service, the Curate has an Instruction Class for adults in the Parish Building A book is read in concert, with running comments by him and any members of the class who choose to make any remarks. The subject being studied is the portion of the book upon the Creed, and both leader and the class have been already benefited. Thirteen persons have been present every Wednesday so far. The class will be continued all summer if the members continue to attend.

REPORT

The following is the report of the parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop:

Baptisms—Adults, 8; infants, 22; total, 30. *Confirmed*—Males, 9; females, 20; total, 29. *Communicants added*—New, 24; by transfer, 8; died, 8; removed, by revision of list, 9; by transfer, 25; present number, 550. *Marriages*, 7. *Burials*, 13. *Public Services*—Sunday, 250; on the other days, 717; total, 967 *Celebrations of Holy Communion*, 285. *Sunday-school*—Officers and teachers, 25; scholars, 225. *Other Parish Agencies*—Industrial School: teachers, 11; scholars, 120; Mothers' Meeting: members, 40; Men's Guild, the male communicants; Woman's Guild, the female communicants; Young Men's Guild, S. John's: members, 26; Young Woman's Guild, S Mary's: members, 23; Chapter Brotherhood of S. Andrew: members, 6; Junior Brotherhood: members, 35; S. Agnes' Guild: members, 25.

Money Receipts—Offerings for all parish purposes, $5440.64; donations for church debt, $3754.44; offerings for purposes outside the parish, $342.65; investments, $499.70; other sources, entertainments, etc., $176.05; Sunday-school, $82.36; Woman's Auxiliary, $208.85; total, $10,504.09.

Expenditures—Parochial, current expenses (including salaries of clergy, music, fuel and lighting, care of church building and grounds and ordinary repair of same), $5,340.08; interest on mortgage, $473 50; payment of debts, $3500; support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools, $110.05; summer outings, $56.61; for the the poor, $260.62; miscellaneous, $676.52; total, $10.437.76.

Diocesan—Episcopal and Convention Fund, $156.30; Diocesan Missions, $124.05; Episcopal Hospital, $22.66; City Missions, $6.00; Sustentation Fund, $29.79; total, $338.80.

General Missions—General, $25.79; Foreign, $50.28; Domestic, $97.45; Indian, $18.75; colored people, $19.70; Prayer Book and Tract Societies, $15.00; United offering, $25.50; total, $252 47.

Total for all objects, $11,028.53.

Estimated value of two missionary boxes, $180.00.

Financial Condition.—Aggregate value of property of the parish, real and personal, $80,000: incumbrances: mortgage on the church edifice, parish building and ground, $7,500; other indebtedness, $1000; Endowment Fund, $9525.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor.

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" John Mason	Mr. John Barton

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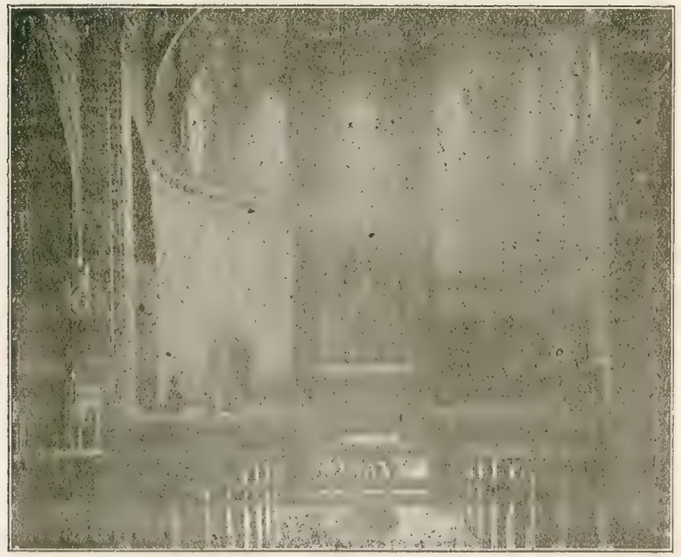

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THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A.M.

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SUNDAYS, WITH SERMON 10.30 A.M.
WEEK DAYS (Wednesdays and Fridays) 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M.
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WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St John's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Last Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, St. Mary's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Junior St. John's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.

Superintendent	THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent	MR. ALBERT C. HURST
Secretary	MR. CHARLES EDWARD PRATT
Librarian	MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist	MR. N. B. THAYER

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women — Miss S. E. GILPIN	3.00 P.M.
For Young Men and St. John's Guild — Miss M. J. GILBIN	3.00 P.M.
For the Junior Brotherhood — Miss HODGE	3.00 P.M.

MUSICAL SERVICES

We formerly always had in this parish a full musical service every Sunday afternoon and a plainer service in the evening, only a part of the choir being present. Last year we gave up the afternoon service and had a full musical service one Sunday in the month in the evening and only a partly musical service on the other Sundays. This year it is proposed to have a full musical service every Sunday evening, as there is no reason why we should not, as we now always have the full choir at night, and a service which is partly said and partly sung seems very incongruous. We know there are some persons who do not like intoning, which is recitation on a single note or with inflections. But its object is to make the service more beautiful and effective, as the object of all singing is to make the words uttered more touching, powerful, or pathetic. In large churches, too, it is necessary in order that all may hear, as the voice in singing will carry much further than it could in conversational tones. So too it secures order and symmetry. It is much better, for instance, in the parts in which the people join or make responses, that all should recite what is said together on the same note and at the same time, instead of one saying it in one tone and another in another, and some faster and some slower. And the full musical response in measure cadence is certainly much more telling and edifying than the mere confused murmur which is sometimes all that is heard in our churches.

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A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
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904 Clinton Street

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KALENDAR

October 1. Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity
" 6. Friday—Fast.
" 8 Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity
" 13. Friday—Fast
" 15. Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity
" 18. S. Luke, Evangelist
" 20. Friday—East
" 22. Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity
" 27. Friday—Fast
" 28. S. Simon and Jude
" 29. Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

Record for June, July, August and September.

BAPTISM—
George Edward Coleman
Edna May McLaughlin
Wm. Reppert McLaughlin
Donald Farquhar Barrett
Virginia Harriet Barrett
Anna Alvinia McCann
John Francis McIntyre — 7

MARRIAGES—
John Cooke Hirst and Maude Wilson Boyd
Wm. C. Howard and Frances A. Jones
John D. McLaughlin and Anna May Hawkes
Wm. Robinson Wilson and Essie Moore Shelton
Howard J. Hughes and Ida M. Smith — 5

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED—
Wm. Robert McLaughlin
Mrs. Elizabeth McLaughlin — 2
Transferred to S. Luke's Church, Altoona, Pa.—
Mrs. Isabella C. Clarke
Elmer White Clark — 2

DIED—
Mrs. Isabella Fortune Waterfield — 1

BURIALS—
Eliza Montgomery
Mrs. Esther Elizabeth Lardner
Robert Macartney
Helen Shaw
Mrs. Isabella Fortune Wakefield
Hugh Robert Parrish
Charles Fletcher Costen — 7

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses	$663 35
" the Debt Fund	709 42
" the Poor	21 52
" Schools	3 50
" Diocesan Missions	1 10
" General "	10
" Outing Fund	15 00
" Benevolent purposes	7 64
Of the Sunday School	5 93
Total	$1417 56

There are some, however, who object to intoning because they say that hymns only should be sung, not prayers But a large number of our hymns are prayers. And there is no more reason why music should not be used effectively in uttering prayers than in rendering praises to God. In fact, music can add enormously to the feeling that should be expressed in prayer, if it is appropriate and well rendered. Then others say that intoning is strained and unnatural, and is seldom well done. The last is true, because there are only a few persons comparatively who can sing well. But then, too, there are only a few who can read well. And it is very disagreeable to hear the service orated, delivered as one would deliver an oration. This is very commonly done. And it is disagreeable, too, to hear the service recited in a singsong of one's own, a habit any one is apt to fall into who has constantly to recite the same words. For these reasons, therefore, we personally prefer a musically rendered service.

In this parish the effort has been to please both those who prefer a musical, and those who like a simply read, service. The early Communions always are, of course, only read. In the middle of the day the Morning Prayer and Litany have always been read, and the second Celebration has been sung. In the afternoon we have had an entirely choral service, and then again at night one that was plainer, in which only the hymns and canticles were sung. But now that we have only one evening service it seems better to have that fully choral. And in order that it may not be too long and that the people may become familiar with and take part in the singing of the Psalms, it is proposed to use frequently, in place of the Psalms for the day, a few of the shorter selections of Psalms. We believe this will make the service more attractive and add to the pleasure of those who attend it.

PARISH NOTES

WINTER SERVICES —The daily morning and evening prayers recommence this month, together with the other weekday services which were suspended during September. The Sunday-school reopens its regular sessions, as well as the male and female Bible classes We trust both teachers and scholars will be prompt in re-beginning their attendance.

REPAIRS TO THE ORGAN.—During the summer the organ has been thoroughly repaired. This was absolutely necessary, as parts of it could not be used, owing to leaking in some of the valves and other results of wear. This cost $125, and it is impossible that it should be paid out of our ordinary income. We must ask for special contributions for the purpose. One gentleman has already given $25 towards the amount, one-fifth of the whole. Are there not others who will give the same or smaller sums towards it?

ST. MARY'S GUILD was most pleasantly entertained on June 26 by S. Margaret's Guild of Christ Church, Rev. Mr. Gilpin, Rector. The Guild re-opens with its devotional and business meeting second Tuesday of October.

THE MOTHER'S MEETING.—Money was kindly contributed toward some outings. There were two picnics to Chestnut Hill Nursery and a number of tickets to the nursery distributed. Several of the mothers with their families have been in the country.

The first Mothers' Meeting for the year of 1905–1906 will be held on the first Wednesday in October. We will welcome all the members More important than the meeting itself is the attending of the Wednesday evening service.

OMISSION OF SERVICE.—We regret very much that there should have been no early celebration of the Holy Communion on the second Sunday in September. It was due to a misunderstanding between the Rev. Mr. Dyer and the clergyman he supposed he had engaged to take his place. We trust such a thing will not occur again.

THE CLERGY.—During July and August the Rector and his family were at Capon Springs, West Virginia, where he officiated each Sunday except one when he was sick. The Curate took his holiday in September, spending part of it with his family at Atlantic City, the rest in going to the Thousand Islands, etc. Both have returned with renewed health and strength.

DEATH OF CARETAKER.—A figure long familiar in the church has disappeared in the death of Charles F. Costen. He was by profession a teacher, at one time a tutor in the Rev. Dr. Clemson's school at Claymont, Del. Afterwards for many years he conducted a private school of his own. Lately, his scholars falling off, the Rector permitted him to hold his school in our parish building, where he had a few pupils from time to time. For the last two years he has acted as one of the caretakers of the church. His death is a happy ending to a distressed and painful life. He was buried from the church on September 25th. May he rest in peace.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL PICNIC.—On Saturday, July 15, the annual picnic of the children of the school took place. The day was delightful, two cars were made to ring with the joyous shouts of the happy crowd, everybody seemed in a good humor, and the outing was a real success. In the afternoon the sports took place. There were six events for the men, seven for the boys, one for the little tots, one for the women, six for the girls, and two for the little girls. Besides receiving prizes of some intrinsic value the fun involved in it was great. So

exciting did it become that a considerable crowd of people from other picnic parties mingled with our own to enjoy the contests.

After the sports had ended ice cream came as a welcome refreshment, and soon after that we started for home, tired and and yet refreshed.

AN OUTING.—Thanks chiefly to the kindness of one person, fourteen children and several grown people (to care for them) enjoyed a steamboat ride and a day in the country. We went by water to Fairy Grove, leaving at 8.30 A. M. and returning at 8.30 P. M. A lunch in the open air, games with prizes, the various amusements to be found at such places, and a charming moonlight ride home made a day which we shall long remember with pleasure. To the kind lady who provided most of the money needed we return our very hearty thanks.

PRIZES FOR THE SUMMER SCHOOL.—On the last day of the Summer Sunday-school six medals were bestowed upon those who had earned them. While the school has not been large, it has really been helpful, and probably every one who attended enjoyed it. Each Sunday some Old Testament character was the subject of study, and how interesting they could be made was a revelation to some of us.

ATTENDANCE AT SUMMER SERVICES.—One encouraging feature of the summer has been the improved attendance this summer over last year. The Wednesday night services increased from 190 in the aggregate to 250; the early celebrations on Sundays from 117 to 173 and on weekdays from 106 to 168; while the other services have not increased in such proportion, they have more than held their own.

SS. SIMON AND JUDE'S DAY.—The ladies of the congregation will not forget that this is the anniversary day of our Women's Guild. All the female communicants of the parish are expected to attend the celebration of the Holy Communion that day, Saturday, October 28, at 10 A. M., and immediately afterwards the business meeting of the Guild is held, when the reports of the preceding year are read and the work for the coming year arranged. Let each woman in the parish take at least this much interest in her church as to be present on this occasion and acquaint herself with what is going on in it.

CHURCH DEBT FUND

We are glad to report over $1000 additional as subscribed to our church debt fund during the summer This brings the total now up to nearly $7,000, leaving us still $5,400 to raise before the end of November. Can it be done? Will not every one in the parish who has not yet given something to this fund do so before then? Will not our parishioners try and interest their friends as well in helping us? Cannot some of those who have already subscribed repeat or increase their subscriptions? And will not those who have subscribed, but not yet paid their subscriptions, do so as soon as they can.

We think we have done very well in raising as much as we have in the ten months since we began this effort, but we want to see the whole amount raised that our church may be entirely free from debt and solemnly consecrated to its holy purposes.

A large number of the mite boxes taken out last Lent have not yet been returned. We trust those who have them have been trying to fill them, and we hope to see them shortly come in.

The fund stands now as follows:

5—	$500 subscriptions		$2500 00
1—	250	"	250 00
15—	100	"	1500 00
1—	71 75	"	71 75
9—	50	"	450 00
1—	40	"	40 00
2—	30	"	60 00
26—	25	"	650 00
8—	20	"	160 00
2—	15	"	30 00
40—	10	"	400 00
72—	5	"	360 00
5—	4	"	20 00
1—	3	"	3 00
15—	2	"	30 00
34—	1	"	34 00
Odd amounts,			47 74
	Total,		$6606 49
Amount paid in,			$5405 97
Paid on account of mortgage,			$4500 00
Paid to the reserve fund,			600 00
Balance in hand,			305 97
Total,			$5405 97

As subscriptions are received in amounts of $500 they will be paid at once on account of the mortgage.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor.

The following were received since June 1st:

Miss Anabel Mrs. Ellis

THE CHOIR

The following music will be rendered during the month:

MORNING SERVICES

October 1st and 8th.

Te Deum in F. . . . *Henry Smart*
Mass in E flat . . *Battison Haynes*

October 15th and 22d.

Te Deum in G . . . *A. J. Holden*
Mass in E flat . . . *Cruickshank*

October 29th.

Te Deum in D . . . *J. T. Field*
Mass in E flat . . . *A. E. Eayre*

EVENING SERVICES

October 1st.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in F *S. S. Wesley*
Anthem, "Hark, Hark, My Soul" . *Shelly*

October 8th.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E flat *Simper*
Anthem, "Seek Ye the Lord" . *J. V. Roberts*

October 15th

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E *J. V. Roberts*
Anthem, "O, Jesus, Thou Art Standing"
Walter St. Clare Knodle

October 22d.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat
Villiers Stanford
Anthem, "I am Alpha and Omega"
Sir John Stainer

October 29th.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat
Villiers Stanford
Anthem, "Behold, the Day's Come"
Woodward

Walter St. Clare Knodle
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The Ascension News

VOL. XVIII. PHILADELPHIA NOVEMBER, 1905 NO. 8

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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SERVICES

Holy Communion.

EVERY SUNDAY . . 7.30 and 11.30 A.M.
HOLY DAYS . . . . 7.00 and 10.30 A.M.
TUESDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS, 7 A.M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH SERMON 10.30 A.M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M.
WEEKDAYS . . . . . 5 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) 8.00 P.M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.30 P.M.

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The Ascension News

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH

CLERGY

Rev. G. WOOLSEY HODGE, *Rector*.
334 South Thirteenth Street
Rev. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*.
1506 Pine Street.

WARDENS

FRANCIS S. KEESE
WILLIAM C. LLOYD

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

WALTER ST. CLARE KNODLE, A.A.G.O.

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St John's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Last Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, St. Mary's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Junior Brotherhood of S. Andrew	8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.

Superintendent	THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent	MR. ALBERT C. HURST
Secretary	MR. CHARLES EDWARD PRATT
Librarian	MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist	MR. N. B. THAYER

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women	2.45 P.M.
Miss C. W. HARE	
For Young Men and St. John's Guild	3.00 P.M.
Miss M. J. GILPIN	
For the Junior Brotherhood	3.00 P.M.
Miss HODGE	

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesday, Ladies' Aid	2.00 P. M.
Wednesday, Mothers' Meeting	8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class	10.30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society	10.30 A. M

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays	10.00 A.M.

A MISSION

The Rector has asked the Rev. Father Huntington, Superior of the Order of the Holy Cross, to hold a mission in this parish early in the coming year. The purpose of a mission is to stir up the devotion of the people and to bring into the Church those living in its neighborhood who are careless and indifferent. That it may accomplish its purpose there ought to be a very careful and thorough preparation made for it. Father Huntington is coming to spend the second Sunday in this month with us to explain to our people just what a mission is and how it should be prepared for. He will preach both morning and evening on that day, and we trust that all our parishioners will make a point of being present and hear what he has to say, that they may learn how they can and should aid in this effort to put new life and power into our parish.

Do not forget the date, November 12th, morning and evening. Father Huntington has a national reputation as a preacher, and every one will be glad to hear him irrespective of the question of the mission. We trust the church will be full.

WHAT SHOULD ONE GIVE FOR CHURCH SUPPORT?

The support of a church is like the support of a family. There are certain expenses which must be met for rent, food, fuel, light, etc. If there is not money enough for these the home must be given up or expenses reduced by taking a smaller house or in some other

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY
TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

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KALENDAR

November 1. All Saints.
" 3. Friday—Fast.
" 5. Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.
" 10. Friday—Fast.
" 12. Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity.
" 17. Friday—Fast.
" 19. Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity.
" 24. Friday—Fast.
" 26. Sunday next before Advent.
" 30. S. Andrew, Apostle.

Record for October

BAPTISM—
Mary Baker Cameron 1

MARRIAGES—
Harvey Wilson Hindermeyer and Gertrude Miller

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED—
From S. Elizabeth's Church, Philadelphia,
Bella Melrose Mucklow
Mary Fry Mucklow 2
Transferred to S. Matthew's Church, Philada.,
Mrs. Alice Keys
To S. Andrew's, West Philadelphia,
Mary T. Truitt 2

Communions of the Sick 3

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses	$208 55
" the Debt Fund	1505 03
" the Poor	23 38
" Schools	2 42
" Diocesan Missions	10
" the Year Book	2 25
" organ repairs	108 00
" Benevolent purposes	2 35
Of the Sunday School	6 37
Total	$1858 45

way. And it is only after these expenses are met that money can be expended for dress, entertainments, or other luxuries. So the house one lives in and the way one lives is dependent on one's income.

So in a church. If it is of a certain size and requires the services of one or more ministers, a choir, etc., there must be money forthcoming to meet these expenses. And how to raise that money is always the question. If a church is so fortunate as to be endowed, then it is safe, and there is no trouble about supporting it, as in case of a family that has property from which it derives an income. And it is much to be desired that all our churches should have at least some endowment, as that is the only way to protect them from changes in the population and the loss of those able to support them.

Where there is no endowment the plan largely resorted to for church support has been that of renting the seats. That enables the vestry of a church to fix the rate of the pew-rent at a sum sufficient to meet the necessary expenses. But there are great objections to this system. It turns the church, which should be looked upon as the home of all of every class and condition, into a private club-house of a certain class who are well enough off to pay the rent required. This limits the efficiency of the church and prevents its reaching and ministering to all classes, the poor, the solitary, and the indifferent.

The better and higher way is to have all seats free to any and every one, and support the church by voluntary offerings. Then what one gives is for the glory of God and the carrying of His work on earth and not simply as an equivalent for personal privilges.

But that these offerings may be sufficient for church support there must be conscientiousness on the part of the givers. It will not do for one to put in the plate any sum of money, no matter how small it may be, that one happens to have in his pocket. Each must give a fixed and due proportion to bear the common expenses, according to his ability. So each attendant of a church should ask himself what would be a fair amount for me to give, considering *my income and other expenses*. That should should be the test of what one ought to give. One dollar a week, $52 a year, would be a great deal for a person to give whose whole income was not more than $500 a year But it be a very little for one to give whose income is, say, $5,000 a year. Now, we notice a great disparity in the way in which people give to this parish. There are some persons whose incomes we know are limited, and who live in a very simple way, who give perhaps 25 cents each week—$13 a year—and there are others whose incomes we know must be a great deal larger and who live in a much more expensive way who do not give any more.

What proportion does $13 a year bear to what those people expend for dress, amusements, and luxuries of one kind and another? And is it right that they should spend so much on themselves and give so little for the support of that institution and those services which are of more consequence to the welfare and happiness of the individual and the community than anything else on earth?

Will not our people consider this and see if they cannot increase the amount they are giving for the support of their church. We are sure there are many who can and ought to do so. We have difficulty every year in making our ends meet, though the expenses of the church are fixed at a very moderate rate; the salaries paid the clergy, choir, etc., are much less in this church than in others similarly situated, and we ought to meet them freely and promptly. And we could do so if every one connected with the church would give his or her full share according to the means which they have.

PARISH NOTES

DONATION.—We have to thank again an unknown donor for another box of six long real wax candles for our altar which were recently sent anonymously to the church.

ORGAN REPAIRS.—We are glad to say that donations have been received in response to the appeal we made last month nearly sufficient to pay for the repairs we had to make to our organ.

OUR GUILDS.—The Rector will this winter take charge of S. John's Guild for young men, and the Curate act as Chaplain for S. Mary's Guild for young women. Miss Elsie Ashburner has become Superior of this guild in place of Miss Thompson, who may be obliged to leave the city for a time. Miss Anna Kirkpatrick has been elected secretary in place of Mrs. Harvey Hindermeyer, who has removed to New York.

At the business meeting held on October 25th a committee was appointed to procure a basket ball and arrange for games this winter. The young ladies seem quite enthusiastic at the thought of regular practice, and much pleasure is anticipated.

Another committee was appointed to select and begin preparations for a play later in the season. With the incoming of new members, of several of whom we already know, we shall have abundance of material for such an affair.

THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY of the Rev. Mr. Hodge's entrance upon the Rectorship of this parish will take place on the last Sunday of this month, November 26th. He will preach a sermon commemorative of the occasion on the morning of that day. He particularly requests all the parishioners to be present.

S. AGNES' GUILD.—This society of the smaller girls resumed its sessions on October 14th and began with nearly twice as many members as at the beginning last year. Miss Anna Epprecht is its Superior this year, and she will be helped by at least four assistants. Twenty-nine were present at the opening meeting, and since then a few more children have joined.

We need games suitable for girls, and if any who read this would kindly send us some that may be lying idly at home it would give pleasure to our young folks and help us in the work of our little Guild.

Heretofore we have purchased our games, but as our dues are only one cent a week we naturally have not a large fund upon which to draw. May we not look for some response to this suggestion? The need is not very urgent, but it would please and help the children if some reply were made.

WEDDING.—A very pretty wedding was held in the church on the evening of S. Luke's Day, October 18th, when one of our old guild boys and choirman, Mr. Harvey Hindermeyer, was married to Miss Gertrude Miller, long member and secretary of S. Mary's Guild. The bride was given away by her cousin, Mr. Jas. Dunlap, and attended by a maid of honor, two bridesmaids and four ushers. The church was quite filled by relatives and friends of both parties. We wish the bridal couple all happiness in the future.

CHURCH DEBT FUND

During October $1500 was paid on account of the church debt, and our subscriptions now amount to $7255. There still remains nearly $5000 to be raised and only this month in which to do it if the original scheme of paying off the debt on the completion of the twenty-fifth year of our Rector's service in the parish is to be carried out. To do this will require great exertion and interest on the part of every one connected with the church

We estimate that so far the subscriptions made represent only about *one-half* of the communicant members of the church, we have therefore some two hundred and fifty yet to hear from. If each one of these would give on an average $10 a price it would amount to *one-half* the amount needed. Some certainly could do this and many a great deal more, enough surely to make up the other half. Will not each do what he or she can and do it promptly, that the whole amount may be realized ahd our church at last be relieved from the burden of debt.

The fund stands now as follows :

5—	$500	subscriptions	$2500 00
2—	250	"	500 00
15—	100	"	1500 00
1—	71 75	"	71 75
14—	50	"	700 00
1—	40	"	40 00
2—	30	"	60 00
27—	25	"	675 00
9—	20	"	180 00
2—	15	"	30 00
47—	10	"	470 00
77—	5	"	385 00
5—	4	"	20 00
2—	3	"	6 00
15—	2	"	30 00
36—	1	"	36 00
Odd amounts,			52 27
		Total,	$7255 02
Amount paid in,			$6910 00
Paid on account of mortgage,			$6000 00
Paid to the reserve fund,			600 00
Balance in hand,			310 00
Total,			$6910 00

As subscriptions are received in amounts of $500 they will be paid at once on account of the mortgage.

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

The annual meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions of the Diocese of Pennsylvania will be held Friday, November 10th, in the church of the Holy Trinity, Nineteenth and Walnut streets. 10 A. M. Holy Communion, with address by the Bishop Coadjutor, of Pennsylvania, followed by addresses from prominent speakers. 12 M., Conference in Parish building. 1.30 P. M., lunch 3 P. M., other addresses in the church. All the ladies in the congregation are invited to attend these meetings.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

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The following were received since October 1st :

Mr. John H. Goodridge Miss Vogdes
Mrs. Joseph Jackson Mrs Darlington (2)

THE CHOIR

The following music will be rendered during the month :

MORNING SERVICES

November 5th and 12th

Te Deum in E flat . . *Dudley Buck*
Mass in E flat . . . *E. A. Eayre*

November 19th and 26th

Te Deum in D . . . *A. E. Fisher*
Mass in E flat . . . *Cruickshank*

Thanksgiving Day

Te Deum in D . . . *J. T. Field*
Mass in E flat . . *Battison Haynes*
Anthem, "O, Lord, How Manifold" *Jos. Barnby*

EVENING SERVICES

November 5th

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E *J. V. Roberts*
Anthem, "These are They that are Arrayed" *Stainer*

November 12th

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E flat *Simper*
Anthem, "The Lord is My Shephrrd" *Shaw*

November 19th

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat *Stanford*
Anthem, "Praise the Lord" . . *Bliss*

November 26th

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D *J. T. Field*
Anthem, "O Come Before His Presence" *Martin*

THE choirmaster would be glad to hear of boys who may be available for the choir. Boys are constantly needed to keep up the required number of singers, and it is often very difficult to find good boys. Boys from ten to twelve years of age are especially desired, and they may apply to the choirmaster on Wednesday afternoons at 4.30 or at one of the Sunday services, or the choirmaster will call if names and addresses are given to him.

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SUNDAYS, WITH SERMON 10.30 A.M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M.
WEEKDAYS . . . . . 5 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) 8.00 P.M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.30 P.M.

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The Ascension News

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH

CLERGY

REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE, *Rector*.
334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*.
1506 Pine Street

WARDENS

FRANCIS S. KEESE
WILLIAM C. LLOYD

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

WALTER ST. CLARE KNODLE, A.A.G.O.

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew . 8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, St. Mary's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Junior Brotherhood of S. Andrew 8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild . . . . . 7.45 P.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.

Superintendent . . . . . THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent . MR. ALBERT C. HURST
Secretary . . . . . MR. CHARLES EDWARD PRATT
Librarian . . . . . MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist . . . . . MR N. B. THAYER

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women . . . . . 2.45 P.M.
MISS C. W. HARE
For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN
For the Junior Brotherhood . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS HODGE

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Wednesday, Ladies' Aid . . . . . 2.00 P. M.
Wednesday, Mothers' Meeting . . . . . 8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class . . . . . 10.30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society . . . . 10.30 A. M

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

THE MISSION

It has been announced that a mission is to be held in this parish from March 2 to March 16, 1906, and we want to explain to our people what a mission is, what its purpose is, how and by whom it is to be conducted, and how to prepare for it.

A mission consists in a series of special services, sermons and instructions given by one or more clergymen, at various hours during each day of the week, and lasting for a week, two weeks, and even sometimes longer. Its object is to stir up the careless and indifferent, to draw to the church those who perhaps never go at all, or very seldom, to help and comfort those who have any special troubles, doubts, or spiritual difficulties, to instruct the young and old alike more thoroughly in the truths of the Christian faith, form and perfect Christian characters and enthuse them with earnestness and zeal in the service of their Divine Lord,

Of course these are the objects of all church services and sermons, what the parish clergy are trying to do all the time. But the fact that the same persons are trying to do the same thing all time makes it monotonous, When people hear constantly the same voice, saying substantially the same thing week after week and year after year it loses its effect. The people fail to listen to it and be profited by it, as they would be if some new man with a different way of putting things comes in, especially if that man is one who is a man of ability,

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY
TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS:
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KALENDAR

December 1. Friday—Fast.
" 3. First Sunday in Advent.
" 8. Friday—Fast.
" 10. Second Sunday in Advent.
" 15. Friday—East.
" 17. Third Sunday in Advent.
" 21. S. Thomas, Apostle.
" 22. Friday—Fast.
" 24. Fourth Sunday in Advent.
" 25. Christmas.
" 26. S. Stephen.
" 27. S. John Evangelist.
" 28. Holy Innocents.
" 29. Friday—Fast.
" 31 Sunday after Christmas.

Record for November

MARRIAGE—
Andrew Brown Robinson and Blanche Alvina Shaffer 1

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED—
From S. Elizabeth's Church, Philadelphia,
John Mucklow
From Grace Church,
Mary Emma Sappington
Martha Volz Sappington
From S. John's Church, Leavenworth, Kans.,
Mary Ellen Kirkpatrick
Elizabeth Thomson Kirkpatrick 5
Transferred to S. Martin's, Radnor,
Carroll Hodge
To Christ Church, Palmyra, N. J.,
Albert Julius Dahlman
Mrs. Helena Dahlman
To Church of the Holy Apostles
Mrs. Anna Maria Sterritt 4

DIED—
Andrew Roden 1
Communions of the Sick 2

BURIALS—
Mrs. Maria Rickets Young
Andrew Roden 2

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses	$455 65
" the Debt Fund	511 07
" the Poor	20 10
" General Missions	4 85
" the Episcopal Hospital	14 17
" Benevolent purposes	3 03
Of the Sunday School	7 72
Total	$1016 59

who has made a special study and practice of doing just this thing. And the multiplied services and crowds that are attracted, and the interest and enthusiasm which are thereby stirred up, often produce an effect which no one clergyman carrying on the ordinary services of the church possibly could.

This particular mission is to be conducted by some of the members of what is known as the Order of the Holy Cross. This is an order which was founded a number of years ago by the Rev. Mr. Huntington, a son of the late Bishop of Central New York, for the special purposd of doing just this sort of thing. The members of the order have no parishes, but they live together in a house on a piece of property which was given them at West Park, above West Point, on the Hudson River, New York. Here they carry on constant services, hold from time to time retreats for the clergy and others, and offer a refuge for those who are in trouble or want to retire for a while to a place where they may give themselves especially to prayer and discipline. But their chief business is this holding of missions, conducting quiet days, holding parochial retreats or preaching on various occasions. So that they are specialists in the work of arousing the indifferent, leading men to Christ and His Church, and instructing and building them up in the Faith. They are given the title of Father to distinguish them from the ordinary parochial clergy.

The special reason for having a mission in this parish is because the present Rector has been here a long time and he feels that while things have been running on very smoothly and a good work has been done, yet the people need to be roused up by a new voice and novel

methods Many of our people have moved to a great distance from the church and are very irregular in their attendance, and we fear in the performance of their religious duties, and they need to be recalled to a sense of their solemnity and obligation. Then there are a great many people in our neighborhood living in boarding-hou es and apartments who are not definitely connected with any church and seldom, if ever, attend church services. These we want to reach and make them, if possible, regular and interested church members.

That the mission may be a success all our members must be willing to work and to pray for it. Father Huntington laid great stress on this in the day he spent with us last month to tell the people about the mission. He wants every one who will do so to agree to say from now until it takes place a daily prayer on its behalf. A copy of this article, together with a form of prayer for the mission, will be sent to every member of the parish with a stub attached on which is the promise to use the prayer, the stub to be returned either by being placed in one of the alms-boxes in the vestibule of the church or sent by mail to the Rector.

Later a card will be prepared giving a list of all the services to be held. This will be sent not only to all our members, but distributed in all the houses in the neighborhood of the church. This the members of our Brotherhood of S. Andrew have undertaken to do.

All the services, as always in our church, will of course be free to every one, but the mission will involve considerable expense in printing, postage, advertisement, etc., and the mission preachers have no regular salaries or income, but depend for their support upon what is given them from time to time. So to defray these expenses we shall have a box placed in the vestibule of the church to receive offerings for the expenses of the mission, and the offering made at the week-day celebrations during the mission will be for the same purpose.

We trust that all will do everything they can to promote the success of the mission and that unceasing prayer may be made from now until it takes place that God may bless it to the bringing of many souls to Christ, reclaiming the wanderers, strengthening the weak, and the upbuilding our beloved church.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

As usual we ask for special offerings on Christmas day. It is only by a large offering at Christmas and Easter that we can hope to make up the average needed to meet our current expenses. Those especially who do not use envelopes must remember to make up by a large gift at these times for all the Sundays in the year when they contribute nothing through absence.

That our people may know exactly what we need to meet by the Christmas offertory we give here a detailed statement. Note of the church given to meet current expenses during the summer due the beginning of January, $500; on account of salary of Rector to December 1st, $250; interest on mortgage, $126.88. These items must be met by the Christmas offering, as the usual weekly receipts are only sufficient to meet the expenses for the month.

PARISH NOTES

THE Twenty-fifth anniversary of the Rector's coming to the parish was celebrated on November 26th. A large congregation was present, composed of many

of the former as well as present members of the parish. The chancel was handsomely decorated with palms through the generosity and kind thought of Mr. Arlington Moore, one of our old choir boys, now of a firm of florists at 1420 Columbia avenue. The Rector preached in the morning an historical sermon, giving some account of the parish from its inception in 1835, and especially of the last twenty-five years. In the evening he preached from the same text on which he had preached the first Sunday he entered on his rectorship, urging the people again, as he had then, to help him build further up and perfect the walls of our spiritual Jerusalem. The Rector received many congratulations and several very handsome testimonials of affection from some of the parishioners.

CHRISTMAS DAY celebrations of the Holy Communion at 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 and after Morning Prayer at 10.30.

SPECIAL PREACHER.—On the morning of December 17th we expect to have as preacher the Rev. Thomas E. Green, D. D., of Iowa, the Chaplain General of the Society of the Sons of the Revolution. He is a professional orator and we are sure will give us a fine sermon.

ST. AGNES' GUILD ENTERTAINMENT.—The little people of this Guild propose giving their annual entertainment on the evening of Tuesday, December 19th, at 8 P. M.

The purpose of the affair is first to interest the children and also to provide them (from the profits received) with a small fund out of which during the year to defray the necessary expenses of their society. This entertainment, in addition to their penny-a-week subscriptions, is the only source from which they receive any assistance whatever.

They are working hard in preparation and have a surprise or two in store for their friends. The price of admission will be ten cents. Please buy some tickets.

CHURCH DEBT FUND

During November $500 was paid on account of the mortgage, reducing it now to $4,000.

Our total contributions to this fund since we started it a year ago—all being free-will offerings—amount to something over $8,000. Though this is not all we undertook to raise, still it is two-thirds of the amount and a very good showing for a congregation in which there is as little wealth as there is here.

As the whole of the $12,000 we needed to free the church entirely from debt is not yet in hand the committee having the matter in charge have simply resolved to keep on at it until it is all raised, and their hope is that that may be accomplished during the coming winter, so that the church might be consecrated on next Ascension day, which would be a most appropriate time.

There are persons in the congregation who have not yet given to this fund, and if there are any who feel they cannot afford to give the lowest sum that was asked—$5—let them give $1, or even less if they cannot give that much. It will be noticed that a good deal has come in in sums under $5, and we should be glad to see more. Let every one in the congregation give *something*. Envelopes for the debt are sent out with every set of envelopes quarterly, and others can always be found in the rack near the door in the church; they can be filled and put on the plate at any offertory.

The fund stands now as follows:

5—	$500	subscriptions	$2500 00
3—	250	"	750 00
17—	100	"	1700 00
1—	71 75	"	71 75
15—	50	"	750 00
1—	40	"	40 00
2—	30	"	60 00
31—	25	"	775 00
9—	20	"	180 00
3—	15	"	45 00
53—	10	"	530 00
87—	5	"	435 00
5—	4	"	20 00
4—	3	"	12 00
20—	2	"	40 00
43—	1	"	43 00
Old amounts,			56 43
		Total,	$8008 18
Amount paid in,			$7417 16
Paid on account of mortgage,			$6500 00
Paid to the reserve fund,			600 00
Balance in hand,			317 16
Total,			$7417 16

As subscriptions are received in amounts of $500 they will be paid at once on account of the mortgage.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor.

The following were received since November 1st:

Miss Holbrook	Mr. Cameron
Miss Lloyd	Mrs. Milliken
Miss Bloomer	Mrs. Carmen
Mrs. Jensen	Mrs. Dallas
Mrs. Faught	Miss Hiller
Miss McKnight (3)	Mr. Samuel Milliken (2)
Miss Bryson	Mrs. Hawkins

THE CHOIR

The following music will be rendered during the month:

MORNING SERVICES

December 3d and 17th

Benedicti in G . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass in E flat . . *E. A. Eayre*

December 10th and 24th

Benedicti In G . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass in E flat . . *Cruickshank*

Throughout the four Sundays in Advent the Dies Iræ will be sung in place of the Gloria in xcelsis in the Mass (Hymn No. 36).

Christmas Day and Sunday after Christmas, December 31

Te Deum in D . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass, "St. Cecilia" . . *Gounod*

EVENING SERVICES

December 3d

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B Flat *Stanford*
Anthem, "Love Divine" . . *Stainer*

December 10th

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat *Stanford*
Anthem, "Send Out Thy Light" . *Gounod*

December 17th

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat *Stanford*
Anthem, "O, Jesus, Thou Art Standing" *Walter St. Clare Knodle*

December 24th

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in F . *Simper*
Anthem, "My Hope is in the Everlasting" (Tenor Solo) *Stainer*

December 31st

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D *J. C. Marks*
Anthem, "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks" . . . *W. W. Gilchrist* (Tenor Solo)

Walter St. Clare Knodle
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The Ascension News

VOL. XIX. PHILADELPHIA JANUARY, 1906 NO. 1

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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SERVICES

Holy Communion.

EVERY SUNDAY . . 7.30 and 11.30 A.M.
HOLY DAYS . . . . 7.00 and 10.30 A.M.
TUESDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS, 7 A.M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH SERMON 10.30 A.M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

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First Friday, Missionary Society	10.30 A. M

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

HERESY

In the Litany and some of our Collects we pray to be delivered from the sin of Heresy. What is it, and how is it a sin? Heresy means literally individual choice. It is the deciding for oneself and prefering to live and be guided by what we think best rather than by what God has revealed to us.

In some dozen places in the New Testament this is referred to as a sin. In one place S. Peter calls it "damnable," in another S. Paul calls it a "work of the flesh," and says an heretic is "to be rejected," and in a number of places exhorts Christians to be all of one mind, so that the divisions which result from heresy will not take place.

Now this does not mean that we are not to use our minds, to think or reason about the truths which have been revealed to us, or that we believe in certain dogmas without having sufficient grounds for doing so; but it means that no person or number of persons should venture to set up their individual opinion against that of the whole church, and to presume to judge of things which are beyond the range of human intellect. The Christian religion is not a human philosophy or discovery. It is something God has revealed to us, and in what we call the deposit of the faith are matters no human mind could ever have discovered for itself, and the test of what that faith is—the *general consent of all Christians*. Christ promised His continued presence to the whole church, that the Holy Spirit should lead it into

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KALENDAR

January 1. Circumcision.
" 5. Friday—Fast.
" 6. Epiphany.
" 7 First Sunday after Epiphany.
" 12. Friday—Fast.
" 14. Second Sunday after Epiphany.
" 19. Friday—Fast.
" 21. Third Sunday after Epiphany.
" 25. Conversion of S. Paul.
" 26. Friday—Fast
" 28. Fourth Sunday after Epiphany.

Record for December

BAPTISMS—
Adult, Adelaide Virginia Houseman, 1
Infants, Edward Hunter Dooley.
Reynolds Clark Mason.
Mary Helen Thompson. 3

MARRIAGE—
Frederick Uhlhoff and Marie Gray. 1

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED—
From S. Mark's Church, Philadelphia—
Josephine Teisseira Monges.
From Trinity Church, Shamokin, Pa.—
Mrs. Elizabeth Jane Fored 2
Transferred to S. Barnabas' Church, Kensington, Philadelphia—
David McCracken.
Mrs. Martha McCracken.
Mrs. Ann Catharine Hemphill.
John Neilson McCracken.
To S. John's, Lower Merion, Pa.—
John Lindsay.
Mrs. Sarah Ann Lindsay.
Jane Nelson Lindsay.
Andrew Lindsay.
Robert James Lindsay. 9

DIED—
Mrs. Mary Louisa Volmer. 1
Communions of the Sick 5

BURIALS—
William J. Stewart.
Mrs. Mary Louisa Volmer.
Edward Shuman. 3

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses	$891 35
" the Debt Fund	802 00
" the Poor	36 57
" General Missions	160 00
" Diocesan "	10
" Christmas Festival and Decorations	39 28
" the Mission	30
" Clergy Relief	1 00
" Benevolent purposes	2 42
At Rector's discretion	5 00
Of the Sunday School	7 85
Total	$1787 46

all truth, so it cannot be that the whole church should fall into error. Individuals may err, communities of Christians may err, but all Christians cannot agree to receive what is erronious, otherwise Christ's promise would fail.

And it is wonderful how the Christian faith has been preserved through the centuries, and all the changes in human thought and modes of conception, and the different races and kinds of peoples by which it has been received. The creed, which is all that is required in belief for admission into the church by baptism, dates back to the very times of the Apostles and has always and everywhere been received. The great symbol drawn up at the councils of Nicea and Constantinople has had the same universal acceptance. And so have all the essential truths and practices of our religion. What but the overruling Spirit of God and the fact that they are true and divinely revealed could have secured that unanimity?

And yet, in spite of this wonderful agreement among Christians in regard to the essentials of the Faith, there has always been this tendency to introduce heresy. It appeared even in the times of the Apostles, as S. Paul wrote to the Corinthians, "I hear that there are heresies among you," and he sharply condemns it. And from that time to this there have never ceased to be those who have not hesitated to set up their own opinions against those of the great body of the church, and to teach this or that peculiarity, or deny this or that doctrine and so cause division and sow seeds of doubt and uncertainty and thus draw people away from the Christian Faith and retard its progress among men.

The catalogue of heresies is a long one. The names of many of the early ones are now almost forgotten. They have lasted some a few years, some for centuries, and then died out, and new ones have arisen in their stead.

This is the case still. There seems to be no opinion, no matter how novel or absurd it may be, but some persons are ready to receive it. The last few years has seen the rise of new heresies, such as those of Christian Science and Dowieism, which have already grown to large proportions. When will men be ready to believe God rather than men, and when will they learn humility and not attempt to dogmatize about things which are beyond the powers of the human mind to grasp? Men talk about the dogmatism of the Church, but the Church only speaks on the authority of Him who was the wisest and the best who ever spoke, and its dogmatism is as nothing compared to the arrogancy of those who presume from a merely human standpoint to say what can or cannot be done in all the universe, of which we know so little.

Let us pray God, therefore, that we may be delivered from this tendency to depend on human choices, which are so unreliable and introduce such confusion among human faiths. Let us thank God that He has given us in the Catholic Faith which has never varied, all that is necessary, probably all that is possible for us to know, and let us hold fast to that faith and not be led aside by the vaporings and speculations of men, which are ever changing and have only human authority. Let us pray devoutly that we and the Church at large may ever be defended from the sin of heresy.

CHURCH DEBT FUND

It was with the deepest gratitude and thankfulness that all in the church on the last Sunday in December heard the announcement by the Rector that the total amount needed to pay the mortgage debt on the church had been contributed. This was made possible, first, by a donation of $500 from the Society for the Advancement of Christianity in Pennsylvania, made on the condition that all of the debt was paid; secondly, by a collection made by a lady of the congregation among her friends of $700; thirdly by an offer of an old and good friend of the parish of $250., provided three others would give the same. This was responded to on the same day by two others promising the like amount And, finally, on the Sunday morning after Christmas, just as he was about to enter the church, the Rector received a card from a gentleman attending the church, saying that he and his wife would be responsible for the remainder of the debt whatever it might be. This will enable us to cancel the entire mortgage on the property as soon as all the contributions made have been paid in. And the church being then free from debt can be consecrated. The heartiest thanks of the Rector and of the committee having the matter in charge are due to all those who have contributed towards bringing this result about.

This freeing of the church from the mortgage debt does not mean that we have raised all of the $12,000 we undertook to raise a year ago. Part of that was to pay off a floating debt we then had, which has now been paid, and part to make some very necessary repairs to our parish building. To make up the $12,000 we shall still need $900. We

trust this will be contributed so as not only to put us out of debt, but place our buildings in good state of repair.

PARISH NOTES

CHRISTMAS was a most beautiful day and was well kept in our parish. There were more communicants than last year. The congregation in the middle of the day was not large. But, then, it never is, as many who come to the early communions do not return again, and so many are kept at home by household festivities or preparations for them and many go away to spend the day with relatives and friends. The music was very good, though many regretted that we could not have had the *whole* of the S. Cecilia Mass.

Through the exertions of Miss Thompson, who has charge of our Mothers' Meeting, Christmas dinners were provided for twenty families, and toys and candies given to nearly fifty children. Miss Thompson returns her thanks to those in the parish who furnished her with the means to do this, and also to the children in Media, Pa., who sent a large box of toys, etc., to be distributed among some children in the city whose parents could not afford to buy toys for them

The offertory on Christmas was not, we are sorry to say, as large as it ought to have been and we need, to meet our immediate obligations. We require still about $300.00 to meet a note of the church for $500, due January 7th, for money we had to borrow during the summer. All other current obligations have been paid. Who will contribute towards making up this $300,00?

SUNDAY-SCHOOL FESTIVAL.—On Holy Innocents' Day the school held their Christmas festival. The Rector stated that the attendance was larger than for many years.

Mrs. Williams provided a most interesting exhibition by a gymnastic class.

Mr. Carroll Hodge kindly provided electrical decoration for the tree.

A present and a box of candy was given to every child and a pleasant evening was spent.

Before the entertainment a carol service was held in the church, with an addresses from the Rector and Curate.

ENVELOPES.—The Rector would like to know who it was to whom he recently gave No. 42, as he neglected to record the name.

Every one attending the church is asked to contribute to its support regularly through the envelope system. The Rector will give them to any applying for them after any service.

THE MISSION.—Last month copies of the form of prayer for the coming mission in the church were sent to every registered communicant by mail. If others would like to use it, they can get copies from the clergy or they can find them in the rack near the door.

It has been licensed by the Bishop of the diocese for use in the public services of the church until the mission is over.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.—It is a pleasure to state that so far the attendance at the school this season has been larger than last year. This is encouraging when we are conscious that attactions are being offered to children by the schools of the various denominations around us, which strongly appeal to a child's nature and yet cost far more money than is at all available for the school of the Church of the Ascension.

GIFTS TO THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—The assistant superintendent has provided each child of the school with an album in which to preserve the Perry pictures received in token of their attendance. The children are charged two cents each for them, which is a mere fraction of their cost.

Our secretary has generously offered to pay half of the cost of the Perry pictures, so that now we are able to give a picture a Sunday to each child, in place of one every two Sundays as formerly.

The assistant superintendent and secretary jointly have offered a Bible to the boy and to the girl who by the end of the season has brought to the school the largest number of new scholars.

The superintendent has offered a Bible to every child who recites to him the Catechism without missing one word. Already one girl has done so.

One of our little girls, Hattie Greer, has presented a number of story books to the library. We would be grateful for any suitable contributions.

Our Sunday-school organist presented a bunch of flowers to every child present on the Sunday after Christmas. He generously provided 100 bouquets for the school. We are very grateful to him.

The Curate is deeply grateful for more than a dozen gifts to him from various members of the school at Christmastide.

The Church received a gift of a very fine new mat for the vestibule of the church. The old one had been in use since the church was built.

INSTRUCTIONS TO S. MARY'S GUILD.—On the second Tuesday in each month their Director speaks to the guild at their monthly meeting in the church, and on the other Tuesdays their Superior is giving a course of instructions upon the Gospel according to S. John. An Office of Devotion is recited at every meeting. In these ways the guild is doing much more than merely providing weekly sport for its members.

GIFT FROM S. AGNES' GUILD.—The little ones of this guild presented to their Director as a birthday gift a handsome seal traveling-bag to be used as a vestment case for cassock, etc., when called away to preach or otherwise. He greatly appreciates it, not only because of its intrinsic worth and beauty, but far more as a token of their love.

GAMES FOR S. AGNES' GUILD.—In response to the suggestion last month Miss Anna Epprecht has sent to the guild one game and Mrs. Dr. Fenton has sent three. These new amusements will further brighten up the children's meetings, and so tend to bring more children within the reach of the Church's teaching and training.

Perhaps some other kind friends will remember us this month.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully acknowledged by the assistant editor. The following were received since December 1st :

Mrs. T. L. Smith	Miss Whitehouse
Miss Agnes Haynes (2)	Miss Sappington
Mr. W. W. Newmann	Miss Matilda Wurts
Miss Bessie Jennings	Miss Rhein

THE CHOIR

The following music will be rendered during the month :

MORNING SERVICES

January 7th and 14th

Te Deum in D . . . . *Field*
Mass in E flat . . . *Cruickshank*

January 21st and 28th

Te Deum in C . . . *Dudley Buck*
Mass in C . . . . *Berthold Tours*

EVENING SERVICES

January 7th

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E Flat *Simper*
Anthem, "We Have Seen His Star" . *Clare*

January 14th

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D . *Marks*
Anthem, "Brightest and Best" . *Parker*

January 21st

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D . *Marks*
Anthem, "Ho! Every One That Thirsteth" *Martin*

January 28th

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat *Simper*
Anthem, "O Come Before His Presence" *Martin*

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The Ascension News

VOL. XIX. PHILADELPHIA FEBRUARY, 1906 NO. 2

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Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH SERMON 10.30 A.M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M.
WEEKDAYS . . . . . 5 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) 8.00 P.M.

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THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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CLERGY

Rev. G. Woolsey Hodge, *Rector*.
334 South Thirteenth Street

Rev. H. Page Dyer, *Curate*.
1506 Pine Street

WARDENS

Francis S. Keese
William C. Lloyd

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

Walter St. Clare Knodle, A.A.G.O.

SEXTON

Wm. J. Morgan
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew . 8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, St. Mary's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Junior S. John's Guild . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild . . . . . 7.45 P.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M

Superintendent . . . . . The Curate
Assistant Superintendent . Mr. Albert C. Hurst
Secretary . . . . . Mr. Charles Edward Pratt
Librarian . . . . . Mr. George H. Fairchild
Organist . . . . . Mr N. B. Thayer

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women . . . . . 2.45 P.M.
Miss C. W. Hare
For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . . 3.00 P.M.
Miss M. J. Gilpin
For the Junior Brotherhood . . . . . 3 00 P.M.
Miss Hodge

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesday, Ladies' Aid . . . . . 2.00 P. M.
Wednesday, Mothers' Meeting . . . . . 8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class . . . . . 10.30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society . . . . 10.30 A. M

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

THE CONSECRATION OF THE CHURCH

Though the church has been in use for nearly twenty years it never has been Consecrated, because, according to the canons of the church in the diocese, no church can be Consecrated until free from debt. But now that we are at last happily in that condition the date fixed for this event is Thursday, February the 8th. The services for the day will be as follows: There will be celebrations of the Holy Communion on the morning of that day at 7 A. M. by the Rev. Wm. Bernard Gilpin and at 9 A. M. by the Rector. At both of these celebrations the Collect, Epistle and Gospel appointed in the Prayer Book for the Consecration of a church will be used, as well as at the service in the middle of the day.

The Consecration proper will be at 11 A. M., and will be performed by the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of the Diocese, and it is hoped the Bishop Coadjutor will be present as well. All the clergy of the Diocese will be invited to be present, and the front seats in the middle aisle will be reserved for them. They will assemble in the parish building, where, with the choir, they will form in procession and, if the weather permits, pass out into Broad street and enter the church by the main door, where the Bishop will be met by the Vestry of the church. If the weather should be inclement the procession will enter the church from the parish building and pass down the west aisle until it reaches the main entrance and go up the middle aisle. A hymn will be sung during the

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY
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KALENDAR

February	2.	Purification B. V. M. Fast.
"	4.	Fifth Sunday after Epiphany.
"	8.	Consecration of the Church.
"	9.	Friday—Fast.
"	11.	Septuagestma.
"	16.	Friday—Fast.
"	18.	Sexagesima.
"	23.	Friday—Fast.
"	24.	S Matthias.
"	25.	Quinquagesima.
"	28.	Ash Wednesday.

Record for January

COMMUNICANTS

Transferred to Christ Church, Germantown—
William Howard King.
Mrs. Mary Rorer King.
Mrs. Wilhelmina Coalston Stokes.
To Holy Trinity Church, West Chester—
Josephine McLaughlin.
To S. Elizabeth's Church—
Mrs. Elizabeth McGlue Neeley. 5

Communion of the Sick 2

BURIAL—
Theodore Spencer. 1

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses	$470 67
" the Debt Fund	8780 00
" the Poor	3 48
" General Missions	8 55
" Domestic "	1 00
" Foreign Missions	1 00
" Benevolent purposes	2 73
" the Schools	85
Of the Sunday School	6 65
Total	$4274 95

procession, which will be continued until the choir reach their places in the sanctuary. The clergy will open ranks and stand on each side of the middle aisle, while the Bishop passes up between them, reciting alternately with them Psalm xxiv. He will be followed by the Rector and Vestry, for whom places will be reserved in front of the clergy. When the latter have taken their places in the pews Mr. Francis S. Keese, the Senior Warden, will read the request for Consecration and present the Bishop with the certification that the church is free from all indebtedness, the satisfied mortgage and the deeds of the property. The latter is, by resolution of the Vestry, to be transferred to the Trustees of the Diocese to prevent any possibility of its encumbrance or alienation in the future. After this the Bishop will proceed with the Consecration according to the form in the Prayer Book, which is the next to the last service in the book. This will be followed by shortened morning prayer as it is there prescribed, and the celebration of the Holy Communion. The music for this will be Gounod's St. Cecilia Mass. The celebrant will be the Rev. H. Page Dyer, Curate of the parish, the Gospeller and Epistler will be two of the former Curates. The sermon will be preached by the Rector. It will occur immediately after the Nicene Creed, no break being made in the service, all present being expected to remain until the end. The order of service will be printed for the use of the clergy and congregation.

After the service a collation will be served in the parish building for the clergy present and the choir. The Rector will be glad to receive contributions towards defraying the expense of the collation and for the printing of the invitations and forms of service.

REPAIR OF THE PARISH BUILDING

In our last issue we announced that the amount needed to pay off the mortgage on our church had been raised. No sooner was the copy of the news issued than the Rector was enabled the very next Sunday to announce that the entire $12,000, we undertook a little over a year ago to raise, had been secured.

This enabled the vestry to pay the mortgage, which was satisfied of record January 13, 1906, and having also paid off the floating debt we had when we began the movement, $1000 was still left to repair the parish building. Estimates were at once procured and contracts made for doing the necessary work. This included putting an entire new roof on the building, as the old one had given a great deal of trouble through constant leaks, which disfigured the walls and ceilings. All the latter are being painted for the first time in oil, and all the walls wainscotted to the height of four feet to prevent the breaking of the plaster and disfiguring of the paint by the rubbing of the chairs, etc., against them. The large room in the second story is to be divided into two by a rolling partition, which will make the front room much more shapely, put all the gymnasium appliances, which are so incongruous with a Sunday-school room, in the back room, and give us the latter for an additional Bible class-room. And by rolling up the partition the whole can be thrown into one room as before when it is so desired. Advantage was also taken of the painting of the walls to introduce gas into the side walls and do away with the chandeliers. This will give much better light and there will be nothing to interfere with playing basket ball and giving entertainments. The exterior woodwork of the building and the fence on Kater street is to be repainted and the brick work repointed. The swinging doors in the vestibule of the church are to be covered with red leather and the walls there wainscotted and all the woodwork revarnished. In addition to this, the cross on the top of the flèche at the junction of the nave and choir which was broken off and blown down in a recent storm and the crown beneath it broken and bent, will be renewed and replaced. Thus the church and the parish building will be put in perfect order in time for the Consecration.

PARISH NOTES

RESIGNATION AND ELECTION OF VESTRYMEN.—At a meeting of the vestry of the parish on January 4th the resignation of Mr. John H. Mason was presented and accepted with much regret. This resignation was due to Mr. Mason's removal from the city and the impossibility of his attending the services of the church in the future. The vacancy was filled by the election of Mr. William P. Henszey, who has been attending the church for the last three winters and who has taken much interest in it.

THANKS TO THE COMMITTEE ON THE DEBT.—At the same meeting of the vestry a resolution was passed thanking most heartily the committee which was composed of ladies and gentlemen of the congregation for their labor and interest in securing the money necessary to pay off our debt, congratulating them on their success and discharging them from any further duty.

COMMITTEES OF THE VESTRY.—A committee was appointed by the vestry to assist the Rector in making the necessary arrangements for the consecration

of the church. It consists of the Rector's Warden Mr. Keese, Mr. John S. Newbold and Mr. John D. Henderson. The latter has kindly addressed all the envelopes for the invitations to the service. Committees to superintend the repair to the building and to prepare the deeds for the transfer of the property of the parish to the trustees of the Diocese were also appointed.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE DEBT.—The only additional contributors to the church debt fund since the list we printed in January were Mr. Alfred C. Harrison and Mr. Eckley B. Cox, Jr. All the subscriptions made have now been paid in excepting some small ones, amounting in all to $50.

ST. AGNES' GUILD TO KEITH'S.—On January 15th thirty-two of us went to see a really good show at Keith's. It was a pleasure to see how the little girls enjoyed their evening. Nothing occurred to mar our pleasure.

A GIFT TO ST. AGNES' GUILD.—Miss Schell kindly gave to the guild two games, which they will greatly enjoy.

ST. AGNES' GUILD'S GIFTS TO SUPERIORS.—The children of the guild took great pleasure in presenting to their four superiors, Miss Anna Epprecht, Miss Palmgrin, Miss Barker and Miss Milliken, a gift in commemoration of St. Agnes' Day. It took the form of a year's subscription to a magazine for each one of them, in recognition of their unfailing kindness and weekly attendance at the guild.

ATTENDANCE AT THE EARLY CELEBRATIONS.—It is a great pleasure to say that this winter the attendance at the 7 A. M. Celebrations in the week has almost doubled in number those of last year.

PLAY BY ST. MARY'S GUILD.—The members are working hard in preparation for two plays to be given on Tuesday, February 24th, at 8 P. M. A professional trainer is helping them in the study of their parts. The plays are entitled "A Cup of Coffee" and "Our Country Aunt." Twenty-five cents will be the charge for tickets. Music will add to the interest of the occasion.

ST. MARY'S GUILD ATTENDANCE.—A number of new members have recently joined and the attendance is larger and more regular than for years, and all connected with the guild are encourged.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT VOLUNTEER CORPS.—In recognition of their faithful attendance on Wednesday evenings, the Curate took five boys to Dumont's Minstrels on January 8th. Mr. Pratt, our Sunday-school secretary, who is with us every Wednesday night, joined us in our fun.

THE MISSION.—In another month the Mission will be upon us. We trust all are using daily the prayer for it. A goodly number of the prayer slips have been returned, but not nearly all that were sent out.

We hope all will not only pray for the success of the Mission, but work for it, by telling others about it and trying to bring to it those who are careless and indifferent or go nowhere to church. It is for these people especially that it is intended.

QUARTER'S ENVELOPES. — A new quarter's envelopes are sent out with the beginning of this month. The special envelope this quarter is for Diocesan Missions, for which this parish is apportioned $100. We look for this amount to be returned in the envelopes.

The Rector will be very glad to send a set of envelopes to any one in the congregation who is not yet using them. Every one attending the church is requested to do so, as its support is provided for in this way instead of by pew rents.

THE MOTHERS' MEETING.—On January 3d was held the yearly Christmas meeting and entertainment. Miss Peters and Miss Hodge very kindly gave to us a delightful concert which was much enjoyed. Miss Carman was prevented from helping us, which was regretted. Refreshments of ice cream and cake and coffee followed. The beautiful Christmas cake was the gift of a friend.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since January 1st:

Miss O'Harra	Mrs. Tait
Miss Massey	Miss Casey
Miss Walter	Miss Schell
Miss Dickerson	Mrs. Henszey (2)
Mr. W. H. Cope	Mrs. W. H. Cope

THE CHOIR

The following music will be rendered during the month:

MORNING SERVICES

February 4th

Te Deum in E flat . . *Dudley Buck*
Mass in F . . . *Berthold Tours*

February 8th (Consecretion Service)

Te Deum in D . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Jubilate in F . . . *Henry Smart*
Mass, S. Cecilia . . . . *Gounod*

February 11th, 18th and 25th

Benediciti in G . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass in A . . . *Dr. Garrett*

Ash Wednesday, February 28th

Benediciti . . . *Plain Song*
Mass in F . . . . *Stainer*

EVENING SERVICES

February 4th

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E flat *Semper*
Anthem, "Hark, Hark My Soul" . *Shelley*
Soprano, Baritone Solo and Chorus

February 11th

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat *Stanford*
Anthem, "Seek Ye the Lord" . *Roberts*
Tenor Solo and Chorus

February 18th

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D . *Tours*
Anthem, "In Thee, O God, Do I Put My Trust"
Baritone Solo *Max Spiker*

February 25th

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D . *Tours*
Anthem, "O for the Wings of a Dove"
Mendelsschn
Soprano Solo and Chorus from "Hear My Prayer"

The choirmaster would be glad to hear of boys who may be available for the choir. Boys are constantly needed to keep up the required number of singers, and it is often very difficult to find good boys. Boys from ten to twelve years of age are especially desired, and they may apply to the choirmaster on Wednesday afternoons at 4.30 or at one of the Sunday services, or the choirmaster will call it names and addresses are given to him.

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AND GOFFERING

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WESTMORELAND
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COAL

DRY HICKORY
OAK, PINE
WOOD

SAWED TO ANY LENGTH

Pine Knots and Kindling Wood,
Lehigh, Schuylkill and Wyoming Coal,
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The Ascension News

VOL. XIX. PHILADELPHIA MARCH, 1906 NO. 3

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET BELOW SOUTH ALL SEATS FREE

SERVICES

Holy Communion.

EVERY SUNDAY . . 7.30 and 11.30 A.M.
HOLY DAYS . . . . 7.00 and 10.30 A.M.
TUESDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS, 7 A.M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH SERMON 10.30 A.M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M.
WEEKDAYS . . . . . 5 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) 8.00 P.M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.30 P.M.

All the Seats are Free at all Services. God's House is open to all His Children

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The Ascension News

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH

CLERGY

Rev. G. Woolsey Hodge, *Rector*,
334 South Thirteenth Street

Rev. H. Page Dyer, *Curate*.
156 Pine Street

WARDENS

Francis S. Keese
William C. Lloyd

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

Walter St. Clare Knodle, A.A.G.O.

SEXTON

Wm. J. Morgan
2022 St. Albans Street

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Mondays, St John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew . 8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, St. Mary's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Junior S. John's Guild . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild . . . . . 7.45 P.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M

Superintendent . . . . . The Curate
Assistant Superintendent . Mr. Albert C. Hurst
Secretary . . . . . Mr. Charles Edward Pratt
Librarian . . . . . Mr. George H. Fairchild
Organist . . . . . Mr N. B. Thayer

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women . . . . . 2.45 P.M.
Miss C. W. Hare
For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . . 3.00 P.M.
Miss M. J. Gilpin
For the Junior Brotherhood . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
Miss Hodge

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Thursdays, Embroidery Class . . . . . 10.30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society . . . . 10.30 A. M

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

THE MISSION

The Mission we have been so long looking forward to is at last upon us, and we pray God it may accomplish the good for which it is intended. We have tried to make all due preparation for it, we have kept it before the minds of our people, we have asked all to pray daily for its success, and lately we have had placed in shop windows and on fences everywhere in the neighborhood of the church, and in those parts of the city where a number of our people live, a placard announcing it and inviting all to come to it. In addition to this, the men of our Brotherhood of S. Andrew and S. John's Guild and some of our ladies have been leaving at the different houses in the neighborhood cards of invitation with the hours of services. Two thousand of these have been distributed. And we shall publish it more or less in the daily papers.

The Mission will be conducted by Fathers Huntington and Sill. The services will be as follows:

Daily, on the week days, at 6.15 and 7 A. M. Holy Communion with five-minute talks called "The Watch Word."

10 A M.—Morning Prayer with Instruction.

3 P. M. (March 5–10) Address to Women.

4 P. M.—Children's Mission.

5.15 P. M.—Evening Prayer.

7.45 P. M.—Mission Intercessions.

8 P. M.—Mission Sermon.

On Sundays March 4th and 11th:

7.30 A. M.—Holy Communion.

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS :

Single Copies, by Mail, 50 Cents a Year

KALENDAR

March 4. First Sunday in Lent.
" 7. Ember Day.
" 9. Ember Day.
" 10. Ember Day
" 11. Second Sunday in Lent.
" 18. Third Sunday in Lent.
" 23. Annunciation of Blessed Virgin Mary.
All days in Lent are to be observed as Fasts.

Record for February

BAPTISMS—
Charlotte Elizabeth Kelsoe
John Weir Walls 2

COMMUNICANTS
Received from the Church of Ireland—
Margaret Austin
Received from the Church of Scotland
Mrs. Elizabeth Slater 2

BURIAL—
Samuel McClay

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses	$412 74
" Consecration Expenses	106 75
" the Poor	10 82
" Diocesan Missions	7 10
" Domestic Missions	17 35
" Foreign Missions	5 00
" General Missions	2 00
" the Missionary Box	65 50
Of the Sunday School	6 39
Total	$636 96

10.30 A. M.—Morning Prayer and Sermon.

11.30 A. M.—Choral Celebration

3 P. M.—Children's Mission.

4.30 P. M.—Choral Evening Prayer and Sermon.

7.45 P. M.—Mission Service, Sermon and Instruction.

There will be no choir at the night services. The singing will be congregational, a special Mission hymn book being used, copies of which will be provided, but are not to be taken away from the church, as they will be needed there every day. There are also special cards with hymns for the children's service.

Those wanting to see the Fathers personally can do so after any service.

We trust all our people will try not only to profit by the Mission themselves by attending as many of the services as they can, but tney will try and aid it by bringing to it as many others as possible, especially those whom they know who do not go to church at all or are very indifferent and careless in performing their religious duties.

This Mission is not, like some others which are being held in this city, simply an appeal to the emotions, relying upon a sudden impulse to govern all the future life. It is an effort to arouse men indeed out of their forgetfulness of the importance of religion, to which we are all so liable, but its chief aim is to instruct men, leading them to the use of the sacraments and observance of the rules of the church. Nor is it an intemperate denunciation of all the innocent pleasures of life, demanding men to return to a Puritanical strictness the world has long since outgrown, but its design is to strengthen them to live godly, righteous

and sober lives, observing true temperance in all things—speech included.

If our people will look upon it as a special opportunity given them for their own uplifting, and as a means by which they can bring a blessing to others, they may be able to influence others to attend it, we are sure it will do great good.

As we have said before, all the advertising, printing, books, etc., together with the remuneration which the Fathers should receive, and they live entirely on the free-will gifts which they receive from those for whom they minister, will amount to a considerable sum. Two alms-boxes in the vestibule will be marked for "expenses of the Mission," and all the offerings at the early celebrations on the week days will be devoted to this purpose. On the last day of the Mission a large thank offering should be made, which we trust will be sufficint to meet all the expenses and yield a handsome honorarium to the missioners.

THE CHURCH CONSECRATED

At last our church is free from debt and solemnly consecrated and set apart to be always devoted to the worship and service of Almighty God.

The day of the consecration proved most auspicious; one day, or a few hours later, the weather would have been disastrous and kept many away. As it was the church was crowded, though many additional seats had been put in the aisles. There were two Bishops and about seventy-five clergymen in the procession. Many more were in the church. The Bishop Coadjutor was prevented by illness from being present Everything went off smoothly. The Procession was interspersed with banners, the choir singing the hymns "Blessed City Heavenly Salem," and "Christ is Made the Sure Foundation" from the time it left the parish building, passed along Broad street and entered the church until it reached the chancel. The Vestry met the Bishop at the entrance of the church and joined the procession up the middle aisle, sitting in front of the clergy. The Gospeller and Epistler were vested in the ancient Deaconal garments prescribed by the Prayer Book of the Church of England, which were borrowed for the occasion, as, not having enough clergymen in the parish to act as those ministers in the celebration ordinarily, we do not possess them. The music of the service was beautifully rendered by our choir, which was only slightly augmented for the occasion.

The Rector's sermon was a setting forth of the principles and objects he had in view in the building and conducting the church. It was printed in full in the *Church Standard* of February 24th. The Rector has a number of extra copies he will be glad to give any members of the congregation who would like to have one.

The clergy present, members of the choir and servers were bountifully entertained after the service at a collation served in the Parish building.

The Rector returns his thanks to the members of the congregation who subscribed towards the expenses of the Consecration, the greater part of which has now been provided for.

PARISH NOTES

CONFIRMATION.—Owing to the Mission our annual Confirmation will take place later this year than usual, as it was thought better not to begin the Instructions for Confirmation until after the Mission closed. The Bishop has ap-

pointed the evening of Wednesday, April 25th, for the purpose

The Instructions will begin on Monday, March 19th, at 4 P. M., in Parish building by the Rector, and on Wednesday, March 21st, after the 8 P. M. service in the church by the Curate and continued on the succeeding Monday afternoons and Wednesday evenings until the Confirmation. It is hoped that all the adults in the parish, who have not yet been confirmed, no matter what their age, will present themselves at this time. Confirmation admits to the Holy Communion, and no Christian should live without regularly receiving that as Christ commanded.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—There was placed on the altar and used for the first time on the day of the consecration a new piece of silver plate for the altar service. It is a pyx or box to hold the altar breads It is on a stand about as high as a chalice with a cover surmounted by a cross which serves for a handle. It is a memorial to Mrs. Julia deVeaux Peters, who was a member of this parish. She died about eighteen months ago. It is presented by members of her family. We are grateful, too, for some additional coal orders for the poor.

We should also acknowledge the obligation of the church to Mr. F. C. Botwight, one of our choir men, for doing part of the carpentering work in renovating the Parish building, and also to Mr. McGarrick, another member of the choir, for repairing the tiles in the church. Master Harry Hurst, one of our choir boys, painted the signs for the Mission.

LENTEN SERVICES.—During Lent the services will be the same as in former years, except that during the Mission the daily evening service will begin at 5.15 P. M. in order to allow time for the Children's Mission at 4 P. M., and on the two Sundays of the Mission there will be Choral Evensong at 4.30 P. M., with a sermon, instead of as usual at 7.45 P. M., as the Mission sermon will be preached then.

ST. JOHN'S, SR., GUILD RECEPTION.—On February 19th this guild gave a reception in union with the St. Mary's Guild. Twenty-nine persons attended, an orchestra furnished good music, and a pleasant evening was spent in dancing and other amusements. Ice cream and cake were the refreshments.

ST. AGNES' GUILD RECEPTION.—It was a merry evening when, on February 17, forty five members of the guild and their friends met for a reception. A dozen boys accepted invitations from some of the little girls, and a well-behaved and happy company they were. Ice cream and cake were served plentifully and ended a meeting which was full of innocent joy. A happy fact was that, with scarcely an exception, every member of the guild who was present at the reception was also present at the celebration of the Holy Communion the following morning.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL MITE BOXES.—The children this Lent will be asked to give their Lenten offering to the Rev. W. C. Clapp, who is working in a lonely spot in the Phillipine Islands under Bishop Brent. The money will help him in procuring necessities and will also cheer him with the consciousness that friends far away remember him.

A Mission will be preached to the children, as well as to the grown people, every day during the stay of the Holy Cross Fathers. It will begin daily at 4 P. M., and a notice has been sent to every child who has been a member of the School at any time during the past three years.

Prizes, pictures, medals, etc., will be given to children earning them, and those who attend will probably never forget Father Huntington and Father Sill and the lessons they will teach.

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

A Quiet Hour, followed by the Church Women's Conference, will be held in the Parish building of the Holy Trinity Church, Twentieth street near Walnut, on Thursday, March 22, at 10 A. M.

Conductor of Quiet Hour.—Rev. Nathaniel S Thomas.

Topics of the Conference:

"The Right Use of the Gift of Speech," Mrs. Mary M. Armstrong.

"The Influence of Companionship," Mrs. Bolton.

"The Loss of the Sense of Responsibility," Miss Margaret Shearman.

"Prisoners and their Claims Upon Us," Mrs. Charles Whelen.

A SUCCESSFUL FREE CHURCH
St. George's, New York City

The Rev. Wm. S. Rainsford became rector of St. George's parish in 1883. He was then thirty-two years of age, of splendid physique and in robust health. When he assumed his charge the church was practically without a congregation; with limited facilities for parish work; with small endowment; and with a reputation in the diocese that was little more than a tribute to a memorable past. He lays down his charge after twenty-two years of exhausting labor, impaired in health by the burden of a care of 7000 souls; with the endowment fund increased to $300,000; with a parish building complete in accommodation and equipment, and which is a model of successful and useful operation; with a deaconess house, a trade school, and a seaside cottage; with an official force of twenty men and women, an army of volunteer workers unsurpassed in numbers, intelligence, and devotion; and with a reputation acquired for the parish as extended as American Christianity.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since February 1st:

Mrs. Grosholz
Mrs. Barrett
Miss Rosseau
Miss Barrington
Miss Pitcher
Mrs. Parish
Mrs. J. H. Mason
Miss Alice M. Preston
Miss A. H, Chamberlaine
Miss Alice Young

THE CHOIR

The following music will be rendered during the month:

MORNING SERVICE THROUGHOUT MONTH

Benediciti in G . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass in D . . . . *Woodward*

EVENSONG

March 4th, 4 30 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat *Stanford*
Anthem, "Incline Thine Ear" . *Himmel*

March 11th, 4.30 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D
J. Christopher Marks, Jr.
Anthem, "Abide With Me" . *Joseph Barnby*

March 18th, 7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D . *Tours*
Anthem, "Sun of My Soul" . *Bullard*

March 25th, 745 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D . *Tours*
Anthem, "O, Jesus, Thou Art Standing"
Walter St. Clare Knodle

Walter St. Clare Knodle
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and SIGHT SINGING
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334 South Thirteenth Street

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Assistant Superintendent . MR. ALBERT C. HURST
Secretary . . . . . MR. CHARLES EDWARD PRATT
Librarian . . . . . MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist . . . . . MR N. B. THAYER

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First Friday, Missionary Society . . . . 10 30 A. M

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

RESULTS OF THE MISSION

The Mission we were so long looking forward to has been held and we are now in a position to estimate to some extent its results. In the numbers attending it, in the interest excited and the effect produced on many in the parish, it was certainly successful. It is estimated that at all the services put together there was an attendance of about seven thousand. Of course this did not mean seven thousand different persons, for many attended all or most of the services. But it gives some idea of the extent of the influence exerted.

Everyone was delighted with the missioners and their methods. There was a freedom from all effort after excitement or sensationalism, yet evident earnestness and sincerity. The Fathers did not spare themselves in their efforts to make the mission accomplish all it could and to secure for it lasting results. From 5 A. M. each day until after 11 P. M. they were working incessantly, frequently not giving themselves time for their meals. They each had their own special gifts, one affecting one class of people, the other another. Their methods of dealing with the children were especially interesting, not only riveting the attention of the children so that most of them were sorry when the Mission was over, but from fifty to a hundred grown people attended each day the Children's Mission and were greatly edified by it.

We are sure that many people were deeply touched and affected by the ser-

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EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS :

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KALENDAR

April 1. Passion Sunday.
" 8. Palm Sunday.
" 9. Monday before Easter.
" 10. Tuesday before Easter.
" 11. Wednesday before Easter.
" 12. Maundy Thursday.
" 13. Good Friday.
" 14. Easter Even.
" 15. Easter.
" 16. Monday in Easter week.
" 17. Tuesday in Easter week.
" 20. Friday—Fast.
" 25 S. Mark, Evangelist.
" 27. Friday—Fast.
" 29. Low Sunday.
All days in Lent are Fasts.

Record for March

BAPTISMS—
Margaret McFadden
Mary Brusster Lloyd
George Thomas Lloyd
Helen Elizabeth Lloyd
Florence Lamont Lloyd — 5

CONFIRMATION—
Leonard Graeme Taylor — 1

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED—
First communion—
Adelaide Virginia Housemau
Mary Florence Brodie — 2
From All Saint's Church—
Alexander Lincoln Boggs
From the Church of Canada—
Emily Willis — 2
Transferred to the Church of the Holy Apostles—
Mrs. Mattie Jamison Quigley — 1

BURIAL—
Arthur T. Stewart — 1

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses	$378 21
" the Mission Expenses	268 62
" Diocesan Missions	18 75
" General Missions	15
" Domestic Missions	1 00
" Consecration Expenses	25 00
" the Poor	9 20
" Benevolent Purposes	1 40
" the Prayer Book Society	5 00
Of the Sunday School	2 98
Total	$710 31

mons and instructions they heard, and we trust the good seed found lodgement in many hearts where perhaps it would never otherwise have fallen and will bring forth much fruit. Our only regret in regard to it is that many of our parishioners whom we had hoped would have been benefitted by it never came to a single service, and that we did not reach all those persons living near the church who seldom, if ever, go to church at all. The lament of the church over the world is the same as that of our Lord Himself over the men of His own generation, "ye will not come to Me that ye might have life."

We were glad, however, to see many at the services who had not been in church for a long time, or had been very irregular, and we trust it will be the beginning of a new life and joy to them.

In response to many requests for it the Rector decided to continue the daily Eucharist which had been held during the Mission for the rest of Lent, and so far it has been very well attended, from ten to nineteen being present every day. The attendance at the early Communion on Sundays has been also largely increased; fifty-six were present on the morning of the last Sunday in March.

What the permanent results of the Mission will be it is yet too early to say; in fact, it will never be known in this world. Hearts may have been touched, lives affected, results produced which will never be revealed until the last day.

Our earnest prayer is, that all who had the privilege of attending the services and listening to the instructions will try to profit by them and fulfil in their lives the teaching they have received. We hope to see the regular attendance at the church increased and the spiritual earnestness of our people heightened. There is a great deal that our parish could do if our people were as faithful and devoted and liberal as they should be. And we trust the holding of this Mission may be the occasion of increasing in our people all those characteristics.

We should not cease using the prayer that the benefits of the Mission may be fully realized, on until Easter, to which time the Bishop of the Diocese licensed it.

PARISH NOTES

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—On the first Sunday in Lent there was used for the first time a very beautiful new silk embroidered chasuble made by the Altar Chapter of our Woman's Guild, on which they have been working for a long time. The materials were provided by Miss Elizabeth S. Gilpin and the members of the Bible Class, a very handsome gift to the church. This now gives us two chasubles, a handsome and a plainer one, for each of the principal seasons of the church year.

There was received last month another box of large wax candles for the altar and a large blotting-pad for the Vestry from a "Lover of the Church." We return our thanks to the unknown donor. Fifteen books were received for the parish library. A new set of violet coverings for the altar ornaments during the Passiontide and twelve linen purificators and six lavabo napkins were also presented.

HOLY WEEK services will be as in other years, 7 A. M, daily celebration, 10 A. M. Morning Prayer and second celebration with address, except on Good Friday, 5 P. M. Evening Prayer, and 8 P. M. sermon. The Rector will preach on Tuesday. Thursday and Friday evenings on S. Peter, Judas Iscariot and S. John as types of different characters of men. The Curate will preach on the other evenings.

On Good Friday there will be the description of the Stations of the Cross for the children at 9.30 A. M. by the Rector. At 11 A. M. there will be Morning Prayer and the Litany, followed by the singing of the Reproaches and the preaching of the Cross until 3 P. M.. The latter will be given by the Rt. Rev Leighton Coleman, D. D., Bishop of Delaware.

EASTER DAY.—There will be celebrations of the Holy Communion at 6.30, 7.30, 8 30 A. M., in addition to that in the middle of the day. A special Easter offering is asked from every one attending the church. We should on that day raise at least a thousand dollars, as the church owes two notes of five hundred dollars, due shortly after Easter for money it had to borrow during the summer to meet its current expenses. This may seem a large amount in view of the fact that we have now got rid of our mortgage debt. But it must be remembered that that has only recently been paid and that we had to make the two semi-annual payments of interest in June and December last, almost the same amount as formerly. It is in the coming year that we shall feel the relief of the mortgage being paid, though as we were always running behindhand in order to pay the interest our people must remember that they must give just as liberally as ever to enable us to meet our ordinary expenses.

In addition to this special offering we still need to make up the $100 asked for from this parish for Diocesan Missions.

Offerings for the Easter flowers may be placed in the almsboxes in the vestibule of the church, which are so marked, or given to Miss Parmelee, the treasurer.

CONFIRMATION.—Instructions preparatory to Confirmation are given on Mondays at 4 P. M. by the Rector and after the evening service on Wednesdays by the Curate. Will not *all* the adult members of the congregation not yet confirmed attend one or both of these series of instructions? The opportunity is given

them now of entering the full communion of the church. Ought they to deny themselves that privilege? The opportunity may never come to them again.

The Confirmation will be on the evening of Friday, April 27th, not that of Wednesday the 25th, as announced last week.

THE UNITED OFFERING.—The Bishop has appointed Wednesday, May 2d, at 10.30 A. M., in the Church of the Incarnation, at Broad and Jefferson streets, as the time and place for the second annual Presentation service of the united offering of the Women Auxiliary of this Diocese. It is requested that those who have mite boxes and all who will contribute will send their offerings to Mrs. G. Ashley Faught, the Parish Treasurer, 1430 Spruce street, on or before April 28th.

LENTEN PREACHING.—The Rector is preaching during Lent, in addition to his services in the Parish, in S. Michael's Church; Germantown; Christ's Church, Sixth and Venango streets; Trinity Church, Southwork; S. Martin's, Oak Lane; S. Philip's, West Philadelphia; S. Peter's Church and S. David's, Manayunk. The Curate preaches in the Church of the Transfiguration, S. Thomas; Christ Church, Sixth and Venango streets; S. Alban's, Olney; S. Mark's, Hammonton, N. J. He also takes the three hours sermon on Good Friday in S. Jude's, Brooklyn, N. Y.

S. MARY'S GUILD.—It is proposed to make S. Mary's Guild a branch of the Girl's Friendly Society. A representative of the society visited the guild one evening last month and explained the purposes of the society, but a probation of three months must be served before the branch can be established.

THE MOTHERS' MEETING.—Miss Thompson reports number of articles returned this month finished to one of our hospital, 120. For especial Lenten work the members of the Meeting will do additional hospital sewing and also make a contribution for a small number of articles to be sent by the Foreign Branch of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Boys' School at Cuttington in Africa.

By a stated monthly contribution through the kindness of some of our friends in the parish all expenses will be met until the summer, when we will greatly need an outing fund.

An entertainment is to be given in the New Century Drawing Room for the benefit of this Fund on the evening of April 25th, tickets for which may be obtained from the Misses Hodge.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL EASTER ENTERTAINMENT.—It will be held about the second week after Easter, the precise date to be announced later. The Girls' Bible Class will give a short play and various songs and recitations will be added.

MITE BOXES OF THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—The children seem to be working in earnest with their boxes, with which they are trying to raise money to be sent to the Rev. W. C. Clapp, of the Philippine Islands. Real work is being done by him and his associates among the uncivilized Bontoc natives, and yet they are happy and contented even amid such surroundings. It is to be hoped a generous offering will be made to him.

THE ST. AGNES' GUILD AND FR. SILL.—The little people were delighted and edified by a visit of Fr. Sill to the Guild during the Mission. He congratulated them upon their attendance every Sunday at the Blessed Sacrament and tried to deepen their love for their Savior and His Cross and Passion.

ST. JOHN'S JUNIOR GUILD—From ten to twenty little boys meet every Thursday night for an Office of Devotion and an Instruction in their religion. We are studying in a brief and modified form what the Confirmation Class is learning. After the Instruction they have their fun in the gymnasium under the guidance of an instructor. They are looking forward to Spring sports.

WANTED—A piece of linen for new cottas for the choir. The ladies of the Altar Guild will make them up if some one will give the material.

THE ROLLING PARTITION in the large Sunday-school has been put up, and it is very satisfactory, dividing it into two good-sized rooms, or permitting it still to be used as one if desired.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since March 1st:

Mrs. Wm. Drayton	Mrs. H. Christian
Mrs Wirgmann (2)	Mrs. Thomas Neilson
Mrs. C. H. Laughlin(2)	Miss Peters
Mrs. C. F. Leaming	Mrs. Stuart Tait

THE CHOIR

The following music will be rendered during the month:

MORNING SERVICES, 10.30.

Passion Sunday, April 1st.

Benedicite in G . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass in D . . . . *Woodward*

Palm Sunday, April 8th.

Benedicite in G . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass: Kyrie, Sanctus, Agnus Dei and Benedictus, from Schubert in B flat.
Creed in F . . *Henry Smart*

Easter Day and Low Sunday, April 15th and 22d

Te Deum in D . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
By request.
Mass: "S. Cecilia" . . *Gounod*
By request.

2d Sunday after Easter, April 29th.

Te Deum in D . . . *J. T. Field*
Mass in D . . . . *Woodward*

Good Friday, April 13th, 11 A. M. to 3 P. M.

Morning Prayer, Litany, Reproaches, and "Three Hour" Service.

EVENING SERVICES, 7.45 P. M.

April 1st.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in F *Semper*
Anthem, "Incline Thine Ear" . *Himmel*

April 8th.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D *J. C. Marks, Jr.*
Barifone Solo, "Jerusalem" . *Parker*

April 15th, Easter, and April 22d.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat *Stainer*
Anthem, "Break Forth Into Joy" . *Bamby*

April 29th.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat *Stanford*
Anthem, "The Lord is My Strength" . *Smart*

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The Ascension News

VOL. XIX. PHILADELPHIA MAY, 1906 NO. 5

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TUESDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS, 7 A.M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH SERMON 10.30 A.M.
WEEK DAYS . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M.
WEEKDAYS . . . . . 5 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) 8.00 P.M.

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SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.30 P.M.

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The Ascension News

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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CLERGY

REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE, *Rector*.
334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*.
1506 Pine Street

WARDENS

FRANCIS S. KEESE
WILLIAM C. LLOYD

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

WALTER ST. CLARE KNODLE, A.A.G.O.

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew . 8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, St. Mary's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Junior S. John's Guild . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild . . . . . 7.45 P.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.

Superintendent . . . . . THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent . MR. ALBERT C. HURST
Secretary . . . . . MR. CHARLES EDWARD PRATT
Librarian . . . . . MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist . . . . . MR N. B. THAYER

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women . . . . . 2.45 P.M.
MISS C. W. HARE
For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN
For the Junior Brotherhood . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS HODGE

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesday, Ladies' Aid . . . . . 2.00 P. M.
Wednesday, Mothers' Meeting . . . . . 8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class . . . . . 10.30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society . . . . 10.30 A. M

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

SCHISM

We spoke lately of the sin of Heresy. There is another sin associated with it and which naturally flows from it, and which, with it, we pray to be delivered from in the Litany and Collects, that is Schism. What is it? How is it a sin? Who commit it? The word schism comes from a Greek word meaning "to cut." It signifies, therefore, the cutting up or making a division in a body. This is most distructive unless, in a material body, a diseased part is cut off to save the rest. The same might be true in a body politic or a church. Heretics sometimes have to be cut off from the general body of believers to maintain its purity. Any other division of a physical or political body destroys, or at least weakens it. "A house divided against itself cannot stand." If a state is rent by revolution or dissension it will fall. In our country during the civil war it was thought right and necessary to expend thousands of lives and millions of money to maintain the integrity of the Union. Had the doctrine of secession prevailed, that any state or number of states might secede from the Union and set up a separate government or governments, the United States, instead of being as it is to-day a great, prosperous, world power, would have been broken up into a number of small principalities, waring with each other, weak and without influence in the world. The same is true of the church. Schism is the sin of rending the one Body Christ founded and breaking it up

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
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TERMS :

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KALENDAR

May 1. SS. Philip and James.
" 4. Friday—Fast.
" 6. Third Sunday after Easter.
" 11. Friday—Fast.
" 13. Fourth Sunday after Easter.
" 18. Friday—Fast.
" 20. Rogation Sunday.
" 21. Rogation day.
" 22. Rogation day
" 23. Rogation day.
" 24. Ascension day.
" 25. Friday—Fast.
" 27. Expectation Sunday

Record for April

BAPTISMS—

Etta Baxter.
Louisa Baxter.
Norman Thorn.
Mrs. Margaret Boggs (Adult)
John Lattress, Jr. "
Earl Harold Partridge "
Mary Elizabeth Bonsach "
Eliza Nellins Linton "
Thomas Henry Hunter " 9

MARRIAGE—

Francis Jeanknotte Seddinger and Mary Anna Bennett 1

CONFIRMATIONS—

William Boggs
William Reppert McLaughlin
John Lattress, Jr.
Powell Fenton
George Thompson Tait
Henry Thomas Hunter
Earl Harold Partridge
Mrs. Margaret Boggs
Mrs. Margaret Campbell Brodie
Mrs. Frederica Nassua Hoffman
Mrs. Harriet Anna Willer
Mrs. Elizabeth McLaughlin
Elizabeth May Smythe
Anna Elizabeth Willis
Blanche Yates
Isabella Ramsey Hutchinson
Doris Fenton
Florence Gertrude Monahan
Eliza Nellins Linton
Harriet Virginia Greer
Mary Elizabeth Bonsack
Adelaide Virginia Houseman
Rosina Zellar Frank 23

COMMUNICANTS ADDED—NEW—

William Platt Pepper, Jr.
George Thompson Tait
Powell Fenton
John Lattress, Jr.
Mrs. Harriet Ann Willer
Doris Fenton
Mary Elizabeth Bonsack
Blanche Yates
Eliza Nellins Linton
Rosina Zellar Frank
Anna Elizabeth Willis
Florence Gertrude 12

Received from Church of the Mediator—
Mrs. Elizabeth Potts

From the Transfiguration, New York—
Mrs. Julia Redner Belville

From St. Luke's and the Epiphany—
Mrs. Margaret Johnson
John Hutchinson Atkinson

From the Church of Canada—
Miss Elizabeth Atkinson 5

Transferred to Church of Good Shepherd, Rosemount—
Arthur Van Harlingen
Mrs. Bessie B Van Harlingen
Martin Van Harlingen 3

DIED—

Adelaide Mealey 1

Communions of the sick 5

BURIAL—

John Hill Martin
John West Rulon 3

OFFERINGS

For current expenses (including Easter offering),	$1389 54
" the Poor	42 53
" Diocesan Missions	45 35
" Domestic Missions	33 65
" Foreign Missions	25 40
" Indian Missions	19 15
" Colored Missions	14 65
" the United Offering	17 00
" Ladies' Aid	11 10
" Mothers' Meeting (for the year)	135 85
" Ladies' Aid	9 75
" Altar Fund	108 45
" Schools	50
" Industrial School	5 00
" California sufferers	13 25
" General Mission	1 10
" Flowers	66 00
" Prayer Book Society	6 00
" Benevolent purposes	4 90
At Rector's discretion	5 00
Of the Sunday School	8 86
" " for Missions	29 79
Total	$1992 72

into innumerable small organizations, teaching different doctrines, striving with and hindering each other, bringing the religion of Christ into contempt and making it powerless to convert the world.

It is a sin not only because of these manifest results, but because the Scriptures and the creeds never speak of but *one* Church. It is "*the* church," or "My Church." The only divisions

spoken of in Scripture are teritorial divisions. S. Paul sharply rebukes the Corinthians because he hears "there are divisions among them, one says he is of Paul another of Apollos," and asks whether they "were baptized into the name of Paul," and says "there is but *one* Body" as there is but one Lord, and tells them "to see that there be no schism among" them, and writing to the Romans tells them to "mark them which cause divisions among them and avoid them."

This tendency to schism among Christians, which thus appeared even in the times of the Apostles, has continued ever since. It is the result of heresy. Men set up their own opinions and follow their own choices and then separate themselves from their fellow Christians who do not agree with them. And this has done, and is doing to-day, more to cause weakness to, bring discredit upon, and hinder the spread of the Christian religion, than anything else.

There were many smaller schisms in the early church, some of which were subsequently healed, but others have continued to this day in the different sects in the East. The first great schism was that between the East and the West, dividing the Church into what was known as the Greek and Latin churches. This was chiefly brought about by the usurpations and claim of the Bishops of Rome to universal jurisdiction over the whole church. This was never acknowledged in the East and finally led to its complete separation from the West. This led later to the separation of the Church of Rome from that of England. In that schism England did not cut itself off from the rest of the Catholic Church. It was Rome which excommunicated England unless it would acknowledge the supremacy of the Pope. And to-day any Roman Catholic priest or layman may be received into any Anglican church, but Rome will not receive us unless we accept her peculiar teachings.

It was the same cause, together with certain corruptions which had sprung up in the church, and the gross immorality of many of the clergy, which led to the general reformation in the West. But in breaking away from Rome the Protestants generally seem to have lost all idea of the sin of schism, and so have gone on dividing and subdividing themselves into all sorts of differing organizations. This, being wrong, has been the weakness and the curse of Protestantism, and has done so much to bring all religion into contempt and make men think it a matter of small importance or mere choice and fancy. And as so many of these divisions have lasted now for centuries, it is very hard to make men realize that there is anything wrong in them or that one Christian body is to be preferred to another.

But as a rebel or a secessionist who would destroy his country is to be condemned, so is a schismatic. We do not say that they who have been born and brought up in these different organization, and have never been taught nor realized that there should be but one Catholic Church, are guilty of the same conscious sin as they who first cut themselves off from the great body of the Church, but we say the thing itself is sinful and destructive of the power and influence of the Church, and our constant effort should be to arouse our brother Christians who are divided into all the different sects to a realization of that fact,

and do all we can to restore to the Church the priceless and essential note of unity.

And let us pray constantly that the Good Lord would deliver us, and Christians generally, from the spirit of self-sufficiency and arrogancy which leads to division and deliver us from the sin of Schism.

To my Rector and Fellow Parishioners:
CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

DEAR FRIENDS:

To everyone interested in the beautiful gift and testimonial presented to me by the Rector on Easter day, I wish to express my heartiest thanks, and can assure you that I highly appreciate, not only the watch itself, but the kind words which came with it, and back of it all, the kind thoughts that prompted the giving.

Very faithfully yours,
WALTER ST. CLARE KNODLE.

PARISH NOTES

EASTER.—Our Easter was a good deal spoiled by the rain, especially early in the morning. Still, nearly three hundred communions were made, which is about our average at that festival. The church was decorated as usual and the choir rendered the S. Cecilia Mass very well. The offerings for the day amounted to nearly the $1000 asked for. $500 of this was the very generous donation of one of our vestrymen. So it took the gifts of all the rest of the congregation to equal his. And even this, we are sorry to say, does not pay up all our expenses to May 1st. Our expenses during the past year have been very heavy. Not only had we to pay the interest on the greater part of the mortgage for the year, but we began the year with a deficit, and the Consecration of the church and the Mission both entailed expenses which were not fully made up by special subscriptions, and only about half of the $100 we paid for Diocesan Missions was received through the special envelopes. But we hope with our debt paid, and without these extra expenses, we shall do better in the year to come. What is needed to make our ends meet is large and regular offerings from each member of the congregation. There are many, we fear, who do not give the equivalent of what they would pay as a pew rent in another church.

GIFTS.—A number of lilies were sent to the church for Easter in addition to the contributions in money. S. Agnes' Guild for little girls presented a new cut-glass cruet for the Altar. Some friends of the Curate presented him with a new cassock and biretta. A number of persons, about one hundred in all, contributed towards purchasing a gold watch and chain for our choirmaster and organist, Mr. Knodle, in recognition of his faithful and acceptable services to the parish. 250 Manilla envelopes were given for the Sunday-school roll cards. In addition to these gifts the Vestry has raised the salary of our sexton as a testimonial of their appreciation of his services.

VESTRY ELECTION.—Those members of the Vestry whose terms expired on Easter Monday were re-elected, and Mr. Keese and Mr. Lloyd were continued as Wardens. Mr. Keese, Dr. Neilson and Mr. Newbold were elected as delegates to the Diocesan Convention. They also represent the parish in Convocation.

FOUND.—A very handsome copy of the Prayer Book of the Church of England, with hymns ancient and modern, bound in red, was found in the church. It will be given to anyone who claims it.

ASCENSION DAY.—On Ascension Day, May 24th, there will be at 7 A. M. an early plain Celebration, at 10 30 A. M. Morning Prayer and Choral Celebration, 5 P. M. Evening Prayer, and at 8 P. M. shortened choral service with anniversary sermon by the Rector. As this is our special parish festival, the name day of the church, we trust all our people will take part in it and attend as many of these services as they can. On the following Sunday night there will be the annual Guild service, and on Monday the 28th, our Parish Tea. We hope to see all our parishioners together socially on that occasion in our renovated parish building.

OUR ANNUAL CONFIRMATION took place on the evening of April 27th. Twenty-three were confirmed from the parish and two from S. Simeon's Church. This was about our average number. But we can never help thinking on such occasions of how many more there are in the parish who ought to be confirmed, and how sad it is that they neglect to receive it and thus deprive themselves of the great blessing it would be to them.

CHURCH POSTAL CARDS.—We have had printed a number of postal cards with pictures of the exterior and interior of the church on them. They are sold for the benefit of the church, two for five cents. Apply to the Verger for them.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since April 1st:

Miss Brodie (2) — Miss Hofmann
Miss C. W. Hare — Miss Sarah Wilson
Misses Epprecht

THE CHOIR

The following music will be rendered during the month:

MORNING SERVICES, 10.30. A. M.

May 6th

Te Deum in E flat . . *Dudley Buck*
Mass in F . . . . *Tours*

May 13

Te Deum in D . . . *J. T. Field*
Mass in F . . . . *Tours*

May 20th

Te Deum in D . . . *A. E. Fisher*
Mass in D . . . . *Woodward*

May 24th (Ascension Day)

Te Deum in E flat . . *Dudley Buck*
Mass in E flat . . . . *Eayre*

May 27th

Te Deum in G . . . *A. J. Holden*
Mass in E flat . . . *Eayre*

EVENING SERVICES, 7.45 P. M.

May 6th

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat *Stanford*
Anthem, "I Will Mention Thy Loving Kindness" . . *Sullivan*

May 13th

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D *J. T. Field*
Anthem, "O Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem" *J. C. Knox*

May 20th

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D *J. Christopher Marks, Jr.*
Anthem, "O Come Before His Presence" *Martin*

May 24th (Ascension Day)

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat *John Stainer*
Anthem, "King all Glorious" . *Barnby*
Te Deum in D . . *Henry Farmer*

May 27th

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D *J. T. Field*
Anthem, "Hark, Hark My Soul" . *Shelley*

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and SIGHT SINGING
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The Ascension News

VOL. XIX. PHILADELPHIA JUNE, 1906 NO. 6

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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SUMMER SERVICES

Holy Communion.

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HOLY DAYS . . . . 7.00 and 10.30 A.M.
DAILY EXCEPT THURSDAYS 7.00 A.M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH SERMON 10.30 A.M.
WEEK DAYS (Wednesdays and Fridays) 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) 8.00 P.M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.30 P.M.

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The Ascension News

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH

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Rev. G. Woolsey Hodge, *Rector*.
334 South Thirteenth Street

Rev. H. Page Dyer, *Curate*.
1566 Pine Street

WARDENS

Francis S. Keese
William C. Lloyd

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

Walter St. Clare Knodle, A.A.G.O.

SEXTON

Wm. J. Morgan
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, St John's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, St. Mary's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Junior S. John's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P.M

Superintendent	The Curate
Assistant Superintendent	Mr. Albert C. Hurst
Secretary	Mr. Charles Edward Pratt
Librarian	Mr. George H. Fairchild
Organist	Mr N. B. Thayer

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women	2.45 P.M.
Miss C. W. Hare	
For Young Men and St. John's Guild	3.00 P.M.
Miss M. J. Gilpin	
For the Junior Brotherhood	3 00 P.M.
Miss Hodge	

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesday, Ladies' Aid	2.00 P.M.
Wednesday, Mothers' Meeting	8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class	10.30 A.M.
First Friday, Missionary Society	10.30 A.M

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays	10.00 A.M.

ANNIVERSARY SERMON

We regret that owing to the season of the year when Ascension day occurs there is never the attendance at the anniversary service that we should like to see. We, however, print the substance of the Rector's sermon for the benefit of those who were not present that night. He dwelt first on the ground for gratitude we have this year in celebrating our parish festival in the fact of the church being at last free from debt and solemnly consecrated and set apart for the permanent worship of God and benefit of His servants, thanking each and all who had contributed or worked towards attaining that end.

After reading the annual report of the Parish for the year ending May 1st he pointed out that there had been two more baptisms, two more marriages and seven more burials than during the previous year. Six less had been Confirmed. It was disappointing that the Mission had not resulted in bringing more to Confirmation. Over eighty persons had been personally notified of the Confirmation by the clergy and urged to present themselves, but of these only twenty-three had done so. Forty-two persons had been added to the communicant list during the year by Confirmation and by transfer from other parishes, and the same number of names had been removed from the list owing to death, transfer, or because in the judgment of the clergy they had ceased to be communicants, or had removed without giving their address.

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

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KALENDAR

June 1. Friday—Fast
" 5. Whitsun Day.
" 4. Whitsun Monday.
" 5. Whitsun Tuesday.
" 6. Ember Day—Fast.
" 8. Ember Day—Fast.
" 9 Ember Day—Fast.
" 10 Trinity Sunday.
" 11. S. Barnabas.
" 15 Friday—Fast.
" 17. First Sunday after Trinity.
" 22. Friday—Fast.
" 24. Nativity of S. John Baptist.
" 29. S. Peter, Apostle.

Record for May

BAPTISMS—
Mrs. Hannah Cooper (adult) 1
William Macauley (infant)
Katharine Regina "
Theodore Noorigian " 3

COMMUNICANTS ADDED—NEW—
Mrs. Margaret Campbell Brodie
Mrs. Eliza Jane Butts
Mrs. Margaret Boggs
William Boggs
Thomas Henry Hunter 5
Removed by transfer to S. Mary's Church, Wayne, Pa.
May Bertha Miller. 1

DIED—
Mrs Eliza Jane Butts 1

Communions of the sick 3

BURIALS—
Adelaide Woodruff
Mrs. Eliza Jane Butts
James May 3

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$418 14
" the Reserved Fund	100 00
" the Poor	30 80
" Schools	6 00
" Diocesan Missions	60
" Benevolent purposes	3 13
" the Parish Tea	7 00
" Choir outing	5 00
" California sufferers	1 50
Of the Sunday School	4 44
Total	$576 61

This indicates very fairly the condition of the parish, that we hold our own, but that, owing to removals from the neighborhood, we lose about as many as we gain each year.

There were only four deaths among our communicants during the year: Miss Mary Macauley, formerly a most devoted and hard-working member among the children; Mrs. Wakefield, an elderly and patient sufferer; Mrs. Volmer, a member for twenty-five years coming to the church from a great distance, and Miss Mealey, also a member for many years. May they rest in peace.

The Sunday and Industrial Schools and the different Guilds and Mothers' Meeting have all been maintained at about the same average of membership and work accomplished. But all these agencies could be largely increased if we had more workers and larger resources for them, and the Rector urges all in the Parish to emulate the life of our Blessed Lord in taking some part in carrying on these good works.

In regard to the financial report it is to be noted that the receipts were nearly $5000 more than in the previous year. This was chiefly owing to the special gifts for the payment of the debt on the church, but actually receipts for current expenses were some $800 more than the previous year, though this included special contributions for the Consecration expenses and for the Mission. But the amounts given for missionary purposes and raised by the women's societies and the Sunday-school were slightly larger than in the year before, showing that the gifts for the church debt did not diminish the offerings for the ordinary work of the church.

The great progress made by the Parish in the year was the payment of the mortgage and the improvement of the Parish building, over $1000 having been expended for this purpose, putting it in very good condition. Another cause of thankfulness was in the two weeks' Mission held by the Holy Cross Fathers. The attendance each day was excellent, and its benefits were carried far and wide, as many came from other parishes. The effect on our own people was good, as shown especially in the increased attendance at the early services both on Sundays and weekdays. If more persons were not brought into the church from the neighborhood that was doubtless due to announcement of the services not having been as widely distributed as they should have been, though some 4000 cards of invitation were printed and distributed in various ways.

After reviewing the past year the Rector exhorted the people not to feel that because the church was now free from debt there was no need of further effort on their part. A live church should always be growing and making progress. The chief needs to which we should devote ourselves were (1) the increase of the endowment of the church in order to insure its being carried on always under all circumstances and to enhance its efficiency. This could probably chiefly be accomplished by persons remembering it in their wills, which it is hoped that all who can will certainly do. (2) Improvements should be made in the church. While we were in debt it did not seem right to expend money in this way, but now that the debt is paid there are certain things which should be done. We should have a stone altar and reredos worthy of the church, the tower should be completed, a rood screen erected, the remaining windows filled with handsome glass. All these are opportunities for memorial gifts. (3) The Parish building should be enlarged to give more room for work, sexton's quarters, etc. (4) We need more workers. Two clergymen cannot do alone all that should be done in a parish situated and conducted as ours is. (5) To do all this we need more means. Every one attending the parish should contribute regularly and liberally to its support. Because the seats are not rented people should be more liberal in their gifts. And that they may do it systematically they should use the envelopes, which will be sent to all applying for them.

We are devoutly thankful for the progress made in the past year and earnestly pray that it may continue in the year to come.

PARISH NOTES

THE ASCENSION was kept as usual in our parish as our special parochial festival, but occurring again this year so late in the season the attendance was not as good as in some previous years. The Rev Mr. Richsecker preached an excellent sermon at the morning service and the Rector the anniversary sermon in the evening. The Rev. Dr. Gummey, of Germantown, preached before the parish Guilds on the Sunday evening following. The night of our Parish Tea was a pouring rain, so that not more than half the usual number of persons were present. But quite a nice entertainment was provided, after an address by the Rector and another from the Curate, there was singing by some present and former members of the choir and recitations by Miss Carmen and Miss Florie Anderson. The supply of refreshments was abundant and everything of the best. We are much indebted to Mrs. John Mason, who had the general direction of everything, and to the other ladies who assisted her and worked hard in making the necessary preparations.

SUMMER SERVICES.—There will be no change in the services of the church during the summer, except that the

daily prayers will be discontinued during July and August and the daily celebration during September, when the Curate will be absent on his holiday. And we trust our people will realize the privilege and necessity of performing their religious duties as much in the summer as in the winter.

CHILDREN'S OUTING.—Our Sunday-school children are counting as usual in having a picnic during this month. This is the only glimpse some of our children have of the country, and we are anxious this year to give them a real good excursion, not simply to the park, where many of them can go by themselves, but somewhere to a distance. This will take money. Any willing to contribute to this treat for the children can send their contributions to one of the clergy or any of the officers of the Sunday-school.

MOTHERS' MEETING.—The entertainment given for the benefit of the Mothers' Meeting last month realized about $250 after paying all expenses. This will provide outings for some of the mothers during the summer and carry on the work of the meeting next winter.

ST. AGNES' GUILD PICNIC.—On Saturday, June 9th, the children of the guild expect to spend a part of the day on a picnic. One purpose of the occasion is that we may enjoy the country together, and another is that we may gather flowers for the closing session of the Sunday-school on June 10th. Ice cream and cake will be served upon our return to the Parish building.

CLOSING SESSION OF THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—On June 10th the School will close its regular session at 4 P. M. It will be a floral affair. Over forty first prizes and ten second prizes will be distributed, besides some honorable mentions. Our friends among the congregation are invited to be with us at that time.

SUMMER SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—While the regular sessions of the School close on June 10th, such of the teachers and scholars as care to do so will meet every Sunday at 3 P. M. for a short session of singing and instruction. It will so continue until September.

ST. AGNES' GUILD AT KEITH'S.—On May 4th six adults and twenty-seven little girls went to Keith's Theatre and enjoyed the show. They met at their Director's house and we formed quite a procession as we wended our way to Chestnut street. Few people enjoyed the evening more than did our company.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CHOIR TO DUMONT'S MINSTELS.—The little volunteer choir of Wednesday nights went together to see the minstrels on May 7th. We had good seats and nothing occurred to mar our enjoyment of the most amusing programme. After the entertainment was over we adjourned to the Automat and refreshed ourselves with a modest feast.

GIFT TO MISSIONS.—Twenty-nine dollars and fifty-nine cents is the children's offering to date to the Rev. W. C. Clapp's work in Bontoc, P. I. It has already been sent, and we are glad to have part in the teaching of those uncivilized people as to God's Ancient Church and truth.

THE CHILDREN'S OUTING.—It is to be hoped that special attention will be paid to the Rector's request for contributions to the outing fund for the Sunday-school children this summer. With all of the schools about us offering all sorts of attractions to the children of the neighborhood it is too bad for us to have to limit our annual outing to merely a five cent ride to Fairmount Park. For years this has been all we have been able to do.

Will not some of those who read this paper send us a little money that we may take the children on a boat ride or something of the sort? Please do it for the children's sake.

REPORT

The following is the report of the parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop:

Baptisms—Adults, 9; infants, 23; total, 32. *Confirmed*—Males, 7; females, 16; total, 23. *Communicants added*—New, 21; by transfer, 21; died, 4; removed, by revision of list, 7; by transfer, 31; present number, 550. *Marriages*—9. *Burials*—20. *Public Services*—Sunday, 263; on the other days, 707; total, 970. *Celebrations of Holy Communion*, 341. *Children Catechised*—Times, 108. *Sunday-school*—Officers and teachers, 24; scholars, 230. *Other Parish Agencies*—Industrial School: teachers, 9; scholars, 94; Mothers' Meeting; members, 40; Men's Guild, the male communicants; Woman's Guild, the female communicants; Young Men's Guild, S. John's, members, 26; Young Woman's Guild, S. Mary's: members, 23; Chapter Brotherhood of S. Andrew: members, 6; Junior Brotherhood: members, 35; S. Agnes' Guild: members, 25.

Money Receipts—Offerings for all parish purposes, $6225.26; donations for church debt, $8054 34; offerings for purposes outside the parish, $356 80; investments, $628.78; other sources, sales, $178.55; Sunday-school, $95.93; Woman's Auxiliary, $242.25; total, $15,785.11.

Expenditures—Parochial, current expenses (including salaries of clergy, music, fuel and lighting, care of church building and grounds and ordinary repair of same), $5646 47; interest on mortgage, $372.38; payment of debts, $7534.12; support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools, $93.65; for the poor, $354.32; miscellaneous, $600.42; total, $15,973 00.

Diocesan—Episcopal and Convention Fund, $161.41; Diocesan Missions, $121.40; Episcopal Hospital, $14.17; Sustentation Fund, $35.27; total, $332.25.

General Missions—General, $16.90; Foreign, $61.69; Domestic, $115.55; Indian, $20.15; Colored people, $19.15; Prayer Book and Tract Societies, $17.50; United offerings, $29.60; total, $280.54.

Total for all objects, $16,585.79.

Estimated value of two missionary boxes, $165.00.

Financial Condition—Aggregate value of property of the parish, real and personal, $80,000; incumbrances: mortgage on the church edifice, parish building and ground, none; other indebtedness, $500; Endowment Fund, $9525.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since May 1st:

Mrs. Rufus Smith
Mrs. John Mason
Mrs. Kilhund
Miss McInhenny
Miss Griffiths
Mr. John Barton
Mr. H. L. Kelly

THE CHOIR

The following music will be rendered during the month:

MORNING SERVICES, 10.30. A. M.

June 3d

Te Deum in D . . . . *Fisher*
Mass . . . *Merebecke and Eayre*

June 10th

Te Deum in E flat . . *Dudley Buck*
Mass . . . *Merebecke and Eayre*

June 17th and 24th

Te Deum in B flat . . . *Barnby*
Mass . . *Merebecke and Cruickshank*

EVENING SERVICES, 7.45 P. M.

June 3d

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E flat *Simper*
Anthem, "O for a Closer Walk With God" *Foster*
Tenor Solo and Chorus

June 10th

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E flat *Simper*
Anthem, "I am Alpha and Omega" *Stainer*

June 17th

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in F . *Simper*
Anthem, "Hark, Hark, My Soul" . *Shelley*

June 24th

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in F . *Simper*
Anthem, "How Many Hired Servants?"
From "The Prodigal Son" *Sullivan*

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SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.30 P.M.

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THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH

CLERGY

REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE, *Rector*,
334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*,
1506 Pine Street

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WILLIAM C. LLOYD

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SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

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Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew . 8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Junior S. John's Guild . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild . . . . . 7.45 P.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.

Superintendent . . . . . THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent . MR. ALBERT E. HURST
Secretary . . . . . MR. CHARLES EDWARD PRATT
Librarian . . . . . MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist . . . . . MR N. B. THAYER

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women . . . . . 2.45 P.M.
MISS C. W. HARE
For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN
For the Junior Brotherhood . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS HODGE

THE MISSIONARY THANK OFFERING

At the last General Convention of the Church, held in Boston in 1904, it was resolved to reassemble in 1907 in Richmond, Va. This decision was reached largely because next year will witness the three hundredth anniversary of the first permanent settlement of English-speaking people upon this continent—at Jamestown, in 1607. Our forefathers brought with them their church, and next year we will commemorate the first celebration of the Holy Eucharist in English in this country. The far-reaching importance of this event impelled our delegates at Boston not only to hold their next convention as near as possible to Jamestown—the scene of that historic service—but also to recommend to the men of the Church a means of setting forth their gratitude for the transmission of their great inheritance in the Anglican branch of the Catholic Church.

No one can fail to feel deep thankfulness to God and a sense of pride in the growth and development of that seed of truth planted three hundred years ago. But that it has been incommensurate with the growth of our great nation is undeniable. Only one of about sixty people one meets on our streets rejoices in the precious heritage which is theirs by right. Special causes have operated to produce this lamentable condition. Careful thought and earnest prayer have been devoted to ascertaining the present chief cause for our Church's apathy in the face of perhaps the greatest opportunity since the time of the apostles

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS:
Single Copies, by Mail, 50 Cents a Year

KALENDAR

October 5. Friday—Fast.
" 7. Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity.
" 12. Friday—Fast.
" 14. Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.
" 18. S. Luke Evangelist.
" 19. Friday—Fast.
" 21. Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.
" 26. Friday—Fast.
" 28. SS. Simon and Jude.

Record for June, July, August and September

BAPTISMS—
Walter Louis Hemphill
Charles Ritser
James Michael Culbertson
Rosewell Hammond Mauser
Frank Ernest Mauser
Elizabeth Catharine Bell
Esther Adelaide Wilson — 7

MARRIAGES—
Emanuel Dyers and Amelia Vetters
Millard Freeman Sewell and Helen Sydney Dismars
Willis A. Howell and Bessie R. Winter
Franklin Albert Pilling and Edith Margaret Nelson — 4

COMMUNICANTS ADDED—
NEW—
Earl Harold Partridge
Isabella Ramsey Hutchinson — 2
By transfer from the Church of England—
Lillian Seager — 1

COMMUNICANTS TRANSFERRED—
To S. Paul's Church Philada.—
James Henry Ferguson
To the Chapel of the Prince of Peace, Philada.—
Raymond Harper and
Mrs. Caroline Emma Harper
To Trinity Church, New Rochelle, N. Y.—
Wentworth G. Hare — 4

BURIALS—
James Alexander Roden
Charles J. String — 2

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$570 63
" the Poor	20 11
" Schools	7 60
" Outing Fund	29 01
" Diocesan Missions	10
" Benevolent purposes	6 42
" Holy Cross School	15 00
Of the Sunday School	6 77
Total	$655 64

—for truly the world at heart differs but little from Roman times. The best opinion ascribes our weakness to a lack of concerted effort. Our people do not move as a unit. The advantages of our system of parishes, to a large extent self-sustaining and independent, are not to be gainsaid, as it seems peculiarly suited to the individualistic spirit of modern times, but undoubtedly we have lost the drive and push which mark the more highly organized and centralized bodies both of churches and business world. We have but to look at our nation's history to appreciate what can be accomplished by a persistent and continuous recognition of the fact that in unity there is strength. Particularly the men of our Church are unorganized as members of the whole Church, and it is to effect this organization that the Missionary Thank-Offering has been planned. The idea primarily of one of our fellow-churchmen in Philadelphia, the convention enthusiastically endorses it. Every man in the congregation of the Church of the Ascension should have received this summer some pamphlets describing in detail the object of the M. T. O. and the method of operation, together with a letter appealing for assistance in making the movement a success in our parish. The time has now come to put our shoulders to the wheel and to unite, not only as fellow-members of this parish, but as laymen of the Church at large, to show our appreciation of our common inheritance in English Christianity. The name of every man in every parish in our whole country has been secured. The roll-call of the Church is on file. This is something. The next thing to do is to quicken those names into life and get a tangible expression from each person of personal gratitude. There is no greater mistake than to think of this movement solely as a money-making scheme. If the men of the Church are aroused, the money will be forthcoming, but the far more important feature is the lining up of the men to present a solid front to the world at large. It has seemed peculiarly fitting that, as we are commemorating the transmission to us of our Faith, the money contributed, in gratitude for the blessings secured by that Faith, should be devoted to the furthering of our already magnificent efforts to inform the heathen world of the One True God we worship. But mindful of the varying interests each man has, the money contributed can be designated for special objects. When we recall the all-important part the Chuch plays in our lives—Baptism, Confirmation, Marriage and Burial, not to mention the constant infusion of life through the Holy Communion—it seems impossible to think that any man could fail to find a specific instance for which he would wish to thank God for the blessings procured through his Church. No man, however, can have a memory which does not reveal a wife or child, parent or friend to whom in some trying period the Church has not come with its message of peace. Let that be his inspiration for this public act of gratitude. Not money only, but a determination to line up with his fellow-churchmen as a witness to the Faith once for all delivered to the Saints. It should not be necessary for the committee to hunt out every male parishioner of the Church of the Ascension, and in a face-to-face interview try to interest him in this movement. It should be spontaneous. From now on, meetings will be held—not only parochial but diocesan—as on Nov. 8th at the Academy of Music, when every opportunity will be afforded for the men of the Church to unite and organize. Addresses will be made by those at the forefront. Enthusiasm will be aroused, and in October, 1907, on the scene of that humble little service on Jamestown Island, three hundred years ago, a testimonial will be presented bearing witness to the presence with His Church of the Almighty God. Under His guidance all things are possible. Let us do our plain duty.

JOHN S. NEWBOLD,
Chairman of Parochial Committee.

PARISH NOTES

MOTHERS' MEETING.

The members of the Mothers' Meeting enjoyed two picnics in the summer. The first was when a party was made up to go to "The Country Nursery," Chestnut Hill, in July. Lunch and tea was taken there, all having a pleasant day. A number of tickets were given to us for the Nursery, and besides this day, many other smaller parties have picnicked at "The Nursery." Several of the children have been able to spend a week at Chestnut Hill.

The second excursion was a delightful one down the river, on August 15—an hour on the river and a trolley ride through some beautiful country, and we were at our destination, roaming through the woods, picking the wild flowers, a row on the lake and a safe return, a day we all enjoyed.

Several of our families have also been out for a week or two in the country.

ST. AGNES' GUILD EXCURSION.—Through the kindness of several friends of the children this Guild enjoyed an excursion to the above park. They had

their difficulties, for on their intended day the rain poured down at the hour for departure, so we could not go. Later in the day the rain stopped and ten of us spent the rest of the day at Chamounix.

But on August 18th we made another attempt, and a bright, beautiful day was granted us. Twenty-five children and friends took the fascinating ride up the Delaware, and a bright, cloudless day was spent in the Island grove and rowing on the river. Again we had our races, etc., with prizes, a small fund distributed for amusements, and again we reached home all safe and sound.

CLOSING FEAST OF THE JUNIOR ST. JOHN'S GUILD.—On June 7th, twenty-nine boys, three girls and twelve men gathered at the closing meeting of this Guild. Games which boys love, energetic but not quiet, filled the evening till refreshments were announced. Miss Maria Gilpin, the boys' good friend, honored us with her presence.

CLOSING FEAST OF ST. AGNES' GUILD.—Just one month after the above festivities the little girls also had some farewell fun. Forty-four of the children and their friends spent a happy evening together, and were sorry to realize that this was their last meeting for four months.

CLOSING SERVICE OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.—On Trinity Sunday, June 10th, the last session of the School for the season was held, about 125 persons being present. Thirty-nine first prizes, 11 second, and seven honorable mentions were awarded. Mr. Hurst, the Assistant Superintendent, and Mr. Pratt, the Secretary, gave a finely bound Bible to each of two children as rewards for bringing new scholars. The School presented to each of the four officers—Messrs. Hurst, Pratt, Thayer and Fairchilds—a book of Church Instruction, and Mr. Hurst, in the name of the School, presented to the Rev. Superintendent a beautiful Waterman fountain pen.

On the afternoon before the above service the St. Agnes' Guild, with some older people, altogether 25 in number, went into the neighborhood of Chestnut Hill and gathered large quantities of flowers. These were formed into a floral arch at the head of the middle aisle and added to the beauty of the children's service.

SUNDAY SCHOOL EXCURSION.—The School had its first real excursion for many years on Thursday, July 12th. About 100 went to Burlington Island by steamer. About five hours were spent on the water, and a delightful sail it was. At the Island a small amount of money was given to each child with which to enjoy some of the many amusements. We also had a series of sports, for which a large number of prizes were given. A ravenous appetite made our lunch seem delicious, and we reached home about 9 p. m., tired and satisfied.

WINTER SERVICES.—The full routine of winter services are resumed with this month, daily early communion at 7 A. M., morning prayer at 10 A. M., evening prayer at 5 P. M., Wednesday evening service at 8 P. M., and all the different young people's guilds resume their meetings. Let all our parishioners use and take part in these services and associations and see what a live and prosperous parish we can have.

MEN'S THANK OFFERING.—A letter with tracts explaining object of this movement has been sent to all the men connected with the parish and a meeting of all the men will soon be called to take action in the matter.

ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN'S GUILD.—We want to see all the ladies of the congregation at the annual business meeting of our general Women's Guild on Monday, October 29, the day after SS. Simon and Jude's day, after the 10 A. M. prayers. Then we hear the report of the past year and make our plans for the coming winter.

TELEPHONE.—We have had a pay telephone put in our parish building. This will be a great convenience to those wanting at any time to communicate with the clergy, choir master or sexton, or wanting to know about hours of services or other meetings in the church or make engagements for baptisms, marriages, burials, etc. The number is Spruce 3253 A.

REOPENING OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.—On Sunday, October 7th, the school will resume its sessions. Mr. Hurst will be our Assistant Superintendent and Mr. Pratt our Secretary. We expect to have a few new teachers, and some rearrangement of the present ones.

INCREASED INCOME.—We need very much a larger income to meet our current expenses, and we believe our people could and should give more than they do. We expect that there are some who do not give as much as they would be required to give if the pews were rented. A year ago we called the attention of our people to this, and were much gratified by a number of our contributors increasing, some doubling, the amount they gave through the envelopes. Are there not others who will do the same?

RESUMPTION OF GUILDS.—The St. John's Junior Guild will begin again on Thursday, October 11th, and the St. Agnes' Guild on Saturday, October 13th.

Miss Gilpin will be with us still in the former, and the same Superior and her assistants in the latter.

The first meeting of the Girls' Friendly will be held on the third Tuesday, October 16th.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since June 1st:

Mrs. T. B. Allen Mrs. Ellis

THE CHOIR

The following music will be rendered during the month:

October 7th, 10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in E flat . . *Dudley Buck*
Mass in E . . *Woodward*

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in F . *Simper*
Anthem—"Seek Ye the Lord"
J. Varley Roberts

October 14th, 10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in D . . *J. T. Field*
Mass in E flat . . *Cruickshank*

7.45 P. M,

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E
J. Varley Roberts
Anthem—"Hark, Hark My Soul" *H. R. Shellen*
Baritone Solo and Chorus

October 21st, 10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in G . . *Holden*
Mass in D . . . *Woodward*

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nune Dimittis in D
J. Christopher Marks, Jr.
Aufhem—"O How Amiable are Thy Dwellings"
Barnby

October 28th, 10.30 A. M.

Te Deum in D . . *A. E. Fisher*
Mass in C . . . *King Hall*

7.45 P. M.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat
Villiers Stanford
Anthem—"O for the Wings of a Dove"
Mendelssohn
Soprano Solo and Chorus

Walter St. Clare Knodle
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The Ascension News

VOL.. XIX. PHILADELPHIA NOVEMBER, 1906 NO. 8

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
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EVERY SUNDAY . . 7.30 and 11.30 A.M.
HOLY DAYS . . . . 7.00 and 10.30 A.M.
DAILY EXCEPT THURSDAYS 7 00 A.M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer.
SUNDAYS, WITH SERMON 10.30 A.M.
WEEK DAYS (Wednesdays and Fridays) 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.
SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) 8.00 P.M.

Children's Service.
SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.30 P.M.

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The Ascension News

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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CLERGY

REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE, *Rector*.
334 South Thirteenth Street
REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*.
1506 Pine Street

WARDENS

FRANCIS S. KEESE
WILLIAM C. LLOYD

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

WALTER ST. CLARE KNODLE, A.A.G.O.

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St John's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P.M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid	3.00 P.M.
Wednesdays, Mothers' Meeting	8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class	10.30 A.M.
First Friday, Missionary Society	10.30 A.M

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P.M

Superintendent	THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent	MR. ALBERT E. HURST
Secretary	MR. CHARLES EDWARD PRATT
Librarian	MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist	MR N. B. THAYER

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women, Miss C. W. HARE	2.45 P.M.
For Young Men and St. John's Guild	3.00 P.M.
Miss M. J. GILPIN	
For the Junior Brotherhood	3.00 P.M.
Miss HODGE	

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays	10.00 A.M.

MEN AND THE CHURCH

We spoke last month of the movement to secure from the men of the church a great thank-offering for the establishment of the Church in this country. But we hope that this movement is going to do a great deal more than secure one large offering for missionary purposes. We hope it is going to do a great deal to arouse the men of the church to a greater realization of their obligation and duty to it. There is no more alarming sign of the times than the very large neglect of the church by men generally. It is a common observation among all denominations, except possibly the Roman Catholics, that but few men comparatively belong to, or even, attend church. All our congregations are chiefly made up of women. What does that mean? That men have lost their faith in God, and a future life, that they no longer believe in the Christian religion? If so, then they will soon lose their faith in all morality and virtue, for there is no basis or sure sufficient motive for the practice of virtue but religion. We freely admit that there are many moral and good men who are not members of the church, but they are such because they have had a religious training. But what about their children, if they give them no such training and convey the impression by their own conduct that religion is a matter of no importance at all?

If religion is worth anything, it is the most important concern of life both for men and women. The latter may be more

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KALENDAR

November	1.	All Saints.
"	2.	Friday—Fast.
"	4.	Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity.
"	9.	Friday—Fast.
"	11.	Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity.
"	16.	Friday—Fast.
"	18.	Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity.
"	23.	Friday—Fast.
"	25	Sunday next before Advent.
"	29.	Thanksgiving.
"	30.	S. Andrew—Fast.

Record for October

BAPTISMS—
Lillian May Kehler.
Winfield Scott Smith.
Edward Kepler McCann. 3

MARRIAGES—
James Bernard Murphy and
Mrs. Marguerite Portal
Arthur Waterman and
Clarabel Frances Barton. 2

COMMUNICANTS ADDED—
NEW—
Harriet Virginia Greer.

BURIALS—
Edith Brewer Conger.
Franklin John White.
George Ash 3

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$152 72
" the Poor	38 84
" Men's Thank Offering	5 00
" Sunday and Industrial Schools	2 87
" General Missions	1 55
" Year Book	1 15
" Benevolent purposes	2 61
Of the Sunday School	4 05
Total	$208 79

sensitive to its claims, because their natures are more delicate and appreciative, and they are guided more by their instincts which recognize its value and necessity. But the man needs it as much, or more. He leads a more exposed life, has greater temptations, and has greater responsibilities, and so requires the help and guidance and protection which only the ordinances of religion can give. It is of no use to say that a man can have religion without making any profession of it or using its ordinances. That is like having the kernel of a nut without its shell, the fruit of a tree without its stem and roots and branches, or a man being a patriot or a friend without even acknowledging himself as such.

There is a most extraordinary delusion among men nowadays on this subject, in the apparent utter indifference of intelligent, practical men to the church and its claim and privileges. But we cannot believe it will last. The absolute necessity of religion will assert itself and make itself felt as it always has. But it may not be until many have learned by bitter experience the mistake they have made in ignoring it, and the progress it should make in the world has been long retarded and set back by their neglect and unfaithfulness. Let every sensible man consider whether he and the world can afford to be without a religion, whether there is any possible substitute for it, whether there is anything else which has such power to protect human nature from the evils to which it is exposed and do so much to make human life and human relationships beautiful and sweet and prosperous, and whether amid all the religions or philosophies ever presented to the world there is any which can be compared in its perfection and efficiency to that which we call Christianity? Of course, if any man can show that the Christian religion is a delusion and a fraud, let him in the name of God do everything he can to rid the world of it. But it is not something that can be ignored. If true, it demands the obedience and all the love and devotion a man can give. And every wise man will decide the question for himself whether it be true or false and act accordingly. If it is false, of course it has then no claim upon him, and he should do everything he can to make its falsehood evident to the world. But if it is true, he will want to gain all the good he can from it and discharge all his obligations towards it as he would towards the country which has brought him forth and nourished and protected him.

Every man who appreciates what the church of God is will (1) belong to it, (2) learn what it teaches, (3) receive its sacraments through which its blessings are given, (4) regularly attend its services to render his bounden duty to God, to gain the benefits they can be to him, and to influence others by his example; (5) he will contribute regularly to its support as he pays taxes to the state, the amount he gives being as generous a portion of his income as he can spare from what is required for the support of himself or family or other claims there may be upon him; (6) he will, by his life, always try to show forth the principles of his religion and bring them to bear upon others; (7) he will take an active interest in all the affairs of the church, trying in every way he can to make it as strong and efficient as possible to carry on its beneficent work in the world.

The church is suffering terribly to-day from the lack of men in her ranks, from the need of their interest and help in all her concerns. Of course, it will require effort and sacrifice for men to do their duty to the church. But are they not the greatest and most beautiful virtues, and are our men willing to confess that they are lacking in them, and so be content to sink down into mere indolent, selfish, sensuous animals, swayed as they will be then only by passions and tempers? Let our men be virtuous, and virtue will bring its own reward.

Truly religious men will not only be blessings to their families and to the community, but their own lives will be infinitely better, brighter and happier than they can be without religion.

PARISH NOTES

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—One of our ladies has worked with her hands two kneeling mats for the sanctuary, which were much needed.

Forty-three new books have been presented to the Sunday School library and to the parish library, also eighty-five old school books of various kinds, which may prove useful to some who are wanting to study.

Linen is needed for new cottas for the choir.

WINTER WORK.—All our departments of work re-begin with this month. The Mothers' Meeting on Wednesday evenings, the Embroidery Class on Thursday mornings, the Ladies' Aid on Wednesday afternoons, and the Industrial School on Saturdays after morning prayer, and the monthly missionary meetings on the first Friday of each month. All the women in the parish who are willing to take any part in our church work can certainly

find the opportunity in one or other of the activities, and we want help in them all. The chief missionary work this month is the making up of the annual missionary box which we want to send off before Christmas.

And will not all our people at this time of the year, when they are overhauling their wardrobes, remember that we can dispose of in the parish almost anything they have to give away—even to old shoes, carpets or furniture. Any having bundles to send to the church, if they will 'phone to the sexton—Spruce 3253 A—he will call for them.

Any fruit sent to the church for Thanksgiving Day decorations will be distributed afterward to the sick.

ENVELOPES for another quarter are sent out this month. And again we ask *every* one connected with or regularly attending the church to make use of them in giving to its support, which secures their giving regularly and lets the vestry know what it can depend on, taking the place of a pew rental. The special benevolent envelope this quarter is for general missions, towards which every one should contribute. There is also a special offering for Christmas. We depend on the special offerings at Christmas and Easter to make up for the small amount which is received during the summer months, when so many are away, and the receipts are so small. We need $800 to meet notes of that amount, due in January, for money we had to borrow to carry the church through the summer.

MEN'S THANK-OFFERING FUND.—A mass meeting of men in the interest of this fund will be held in the Academy of Music on the evening of November 8th. Addresses will be made by the Bishop of Chicago, the Bishop Coadjutor of New York, and Mr. George Wharton Pepper, of this city. The music will be by a combined choir of men and boys, our own choir being included. We hope all the men connected with our church will be present.

ST. JOHN'S GUILD.—The Junior Guild expected to begin its sessions for the season in the early part of October, but was prevented from doing so. Its first meeting will be the first Monday in November. We are to have a professional trainer for the boys at their weekly meetings. The Senior Department of the Guild will meet this winter on Thursday evenings, and the Juniors on Monday evenings.

The Seniors are organizing a basketball team.

ST. AGNES' GUILD OPENING.—At the first meeting of the Guild thirteen girls and their Superior and her assistants, with the director, were present and began their Guild work for the year. They said their office, received their instruction and spent the rest of the evening in play and fun. A Book of Games, just published, had been procured and was used. Three of the older children, Emily Stewart, Edna Carrigan and Gertrude Monahan, who had been faithful last year, were appointed as helpers to the Superiors, both at the meetings and also at the celebration of the Holy Communion in the church.

A CHESTNUT HUNT.—The St. Agnes' Guild had planned to go on a chestnut hunt on Saturday, October 20th, but continuous rain prevented. Not to be outdone, we determined to go on another Saturday, and did so on October 27. Because we were disappointed in our country outing, we determined to have an impromptu feast. So one of our friends gave us some cake, another gave us some money, and we had a fine time that evening. After our office and instruction, nineteen children, four officers and five visitors made the parish building resound with mirth and enjoyed the ice cream and cake.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.—On Sunday, October 7th, the school resumed its sessions. Three new teachers have joined us, Miss Florence Brodie, Miss McKnight and Miss Clinton. We are glad to welcome them among us.

In accordance with the latest theories of Sunday School management, the school has been much more largely put into the hands of the lay officers. The Curate has resigned into the charge of the Assistant Superintendent and the Secretary, Mr. Hurst and Mr. Pratt, the actual working and management of the school. The Curate reserves to himself the instruction of the teachers' class and the catechising of the school every Sunday at the close of the session, as well as the appointment of teachers and officers; but the laymen are expected to attend to all the details of practical management. It has worked well so far.

WOMEN'S GUILD.—The annual business meeting was held on October 29th about twenty ladies were present. After the reading of the reports and arranging of the work for the coming year, Mrs. John Mason addressed those present urging upon them the necessity of working for the endowment of the church. Now that the parish is out of debt this is the most pressing need we have. The church ought to have an endowment of at least $50,000. We have about $10.000 of this now. To accumulate that sum will, of course, require time, but a start should be made. The ladies took up the idea at once and $11 was subscribed on the spot. It was also decided to have a Christmas sale for the same purpose, arrangements for which were made on the spot. See notice below.

A CHRISTMAS SALE

For the benefit of the Endowment Fund of the parish will be held in the Parish Building on Thursday, November 22d, from 2 until 10 P. M. Contributions are earnestly requested from every member of the church. Articles not sold will be returned to the donors. Contributions either of money or articles may be sent to Miss Lydia Smith, 309 S. Hicks Street. Home-made cake and candy can be sent to the church on the morning of the day of the sale.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since June 1st:

Mrs. Darlington	Mr. George Wharton
Miss Vogdes	Mrs. G. M. Dallas
Mrs. Richard Biddle	Miss Anabel

THE CHOIR

The following music will be rendered during the month:

November 4th, 10.30 A. M.
Te Deum in G . . . *Holden*
Mass in E flat . . . *Eayre*
7.45 P. M.
Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B flat *Stanford*
Anthem—"O For the Wings of a Dove" *Mendelssohn*

November 11th, 10.30 A. M.
Te Deum in G . . . *Holden*
Mass in E flat . . . *Eayre*
7.45 P. M.
Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E *J. Varley Roberts*
Anthem—"Abide With Me" . *Barnby*

November 18th, 10.30 A. M.
Te Deum in D . . . *Field*
Mass in D . . . *Woodward*
7.45 P. M.
Magnificat and Nune Dimittis in E flat *J. E. West*
Authem—"In the Cross of Christ We Glory" *Howe*

November 25th, 10.30 A. M.
Te Deum in C . . . *Buck*
Mass in E flat . . *Cruickshank*
7.45 P. M.
Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D *J. Christopher Marks, Jr.*
Anthem—"O Come Before His Presence" *Martin*
Tenor Solo and Chorus

THANKSGIVING DAY—November 29th
Te Deum in C . . *Dudley Buck*
Mass . . . *Gounod*
Anthem—"O Lord, How Manifold" *Barnby*

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The Ascension News

VOL. XIX. PHILADELPHIA DECEMBER, 1906 NO. 9

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HOLY DAYS . . . . 7.00 and 10.30 A.M.
DAILY EXCEPT THURSDAYS 7.00 A.M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A.M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M.
DAILY . . . . . 5.00 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) 8.00 P.M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH SERMON 10.30 A.M.
DAILY . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.30 P.M.

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334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*.
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SEXTON

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GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St John's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P.M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid	3.00 P.M.
Wednesdays, Mothers' Meeting	8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class	10.30 A.M.
First Friday, Missionary Society	10.30 A.M

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P.M

Superintendent	THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent	MR. ALBERT E. HURST
Secretary	MR. CHARLES F. BOTWRIGHT
Librarian	MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist	MR N. B. THAYER

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women (Miss C. W. HARE)	2.45 P.M.
For Young Men and St. John's Guild (Miss M. J. GILPIN)	3.00 P.M.
For the Junior Brotherhood (Miss HODGE)	3.00 P.M

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays	10.00 A.M.

THE ENDOWMENT OF CHURCHES

To carry on the work of the Church, there must be buildings, and those not mean and insignificant, but of such appearance and adornment as shall set forth and teach the great purposes for which they are erected. These must be heated and lighted, and they require attendants to take care of them. Then there must be ministers, who have to be trained and educated to discharge their duties, and they must give their whole time to it. They cannot support themselves; they must be provided for. So organists and choirs are required. And there is a missionary and eleemosynary work, which should be carried on in connection with every parish. And all these things require money. How is it to be provided?

In some countries, where the Church is established, funds are provided for it by the State, its ministers are paid as the officers in the army and navy, or as schoolteachers are paid. But here, where there is no connection between the Church and State, this is impossible. So all churches have to rely on voluntary contributions raised in one way or another.

One method resorted to is that of supportng churches by pew rents for their current expenses, with collections for all charitable purposes. But this is very objectionable, as it practically turns the church into the private club of those who can afford to enjoy its

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

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KALENDAR

December	2.	First Sunday in Advent.
"	7.	Friday—Fast.
"	9.	Second Sunday in Advent;
"	14.	Friday—Fast.
"	16.	Third Sunday in Advent.
"	19.	Ember Day—Fast.
"	21.	S. Thomas. Ember Day—Fast.
"	22.	Ember Day—Fast.
"	23.	Fourth Sunday in Advent.
"	25.	Christmas Day.
"	26.	S. Stephen.
"	27.	S. John Evangelist.
"	28.	Holy Innocents—Fast.
"	30.	Sunday after Christmas.

Record for October

BAPTISMS—
William John Rogers 1

COMMUNICANTS ADDED—
NEW—
Jean Reeves

" Removed—
By transfer to S. Andrew's Church, Philada.—
Marie Louise Reyer
To S. Andrew's, West Philadelphia—
Rebecca Bryson 2

DIED—
John Lattress, Jr. 1

BURIALS—
Daniel Webster Shelley
George Davis 2

Communions of the sick 3

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$408 47
" the Poor	6 40
" General Missions	18 60
" Men's Thank Offering	2 00
" Altar linen	5 00
" Year Book	25
" Sunday and Industrial Schools	2 85
" Episcopal Hospital	21 26
" Bishop Whitaker Memorial	3 11
" Benevolent purposes	30
Of the Sunday School	4 99
Total	$449 16

benefits. It makes it almost impossible for a church to carry out the Lord's command to bring every creature within His fold; it makes the poor man feel that there is no place for him, that he is not wanted there; and many, even in moderate circumstances, find it impossible to go on the terms required.

Another way to support a church is that which we use in this parish, that called the envelope system, by which each regular attendant is asked to give a stated sum, according to his ability, without demanding any special privileges or a reserved seat. This secures the freedom of the seats and equal rights for all. But both of these systems depend upon the financial ability of the people who at a given time happen to be attending a church. If a few even of the wealthier people die or move from the neighborhood and give up their pews or contributions, the revenue decreases, the church goes down, and often has to be torn down and moved to a wealthier neighborhood, though the place where it was may be that in which there is the greatest poverty and irreligion, and so where the church is most needed

The only way to guard against these contingencies and secure the work of the Church being carried on permanently and efficiently is to have our churches endowed. This is done universally in the old country They never think there of building a church without making some permanent provision for its support. And in many places in this country, we are glad to say, this is being done now. Many of the older churches in this city could not be

maintained now if it were not for their endowments. Persons attached to certain parishes give or leave to them by their last wills capital sums, which are invested as a permanent fund, and the interest of which only is used for their support. This protects the parish from the vicissitudes to which it would otherwise be subjected, and prevents the possibility of its being taken away from a neighborhood where perhaps it is most required and can do the most beneficent work.

We are glad to say we have the beginning of such a fund in this parish, about $10,000, but it as as yet utterly inadequate to answer the purposes of such a fund. Will not those of our members who can afford to do so make from time to time contributions towards it or remember it in their last wills? We should suppose that anyone who has been contributing regularly towards the support of a church would like to feel that that work will be carried on after he has departed, especially if it is in a parish where he knows the absence of his contributions will be greatly felt. Will not all who have the ability to contribute towards such a fund think of this, so that gradually an endowment may be accumulated sufficient to maintain our church efficiently and permanently?

PURCHASE OF CHRISTMAS GIFTS

The Consumers' League of Philadelphia asks us to impress upon all our people the necessity of buying their gifts for Christmas *before* December 15th, thus lessening the heavy strain upon the employees in the shops. Will not all try to do this?

MEETING ON BEHALF of the MEN'S THANK OFFERING MOVEMENT

A free stereopticon exhibition illustrative of the history of the American Church will be given in our Parish Building on Thursday, December 20th, at 8 P. M., by the Rev. Llewellyn N. Caley. The Rev. John B. Harding, Rector of S. Mark's Church, Frankford, and Mr. John S. Newbold, chairman of our Parochial Committee, will also make addresses.

All our parishioners, male and female, are invited to be present, but the presence of the men is especially desired.

PARISH NOTES

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—There was received during November a long mirror in gilt frame for the ladies' workroom in the parish building, a long mirror in walnut frame for the clergy vestry room, another small mirror, an eight-day clock for the choir room, a door-mat, a piece of oilcloth, and enough carpet to cover the vestry room and the floor under the stalls in the chancel, a number of magazines for the current month, and church papers; painting of a section of the church by the architect, Mr. Charles M. Burns, also a number of coal orders and some provisions for Thanksgiving day.

DECORATION OF THE CHURCH.—Now that our parish is free from debt, we can more properly than we could before do something towards the further decoration of our church. We still need a really handsome altar and rood screen, and there are a number of the windows which are lacking rich glass; there are

three large ones in the chancel still to be filled and a great many in the clerestory story. Are there not those in the church who would take pleasure in having one or more of these filled as a memorial to some dear one? There is no place to put such memorials better than a church, enriching it and making it attractive, and where they can be seen and enjoyed by so many.

THE FAIR held last month, though but little notice was given of it, proved very successful. The proceeds amounted to over $230. This will form a nucleus of an endowment fund for the parish in order to provide for its efficient and permanent support. It will be placed by the Vestry in the hands of Trustees, so as to prevent the possibility of its being used for any other purpose. We trust it will rapidly grow by gifts and bequests until it amounts to a very considerable sum.

We heartily thank all the ladies of the parish who worked or contributed articles for the fair, and especially Mrs. John Mason, Miss Lydia Smith and Miss Helen Hodge, who formed the committee which had the matter in charge, and to whose energy and hard work the success was due.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES.—There will be celebrations of the Holy Communion on Christmas day at 6.30, 7.30 and 8.30 a. m., as well as in the middle of the day, in order to give all an opportunity to make their Communion on that great festival. The music at the choral celebration and on the following Sunday will be Gounod's S. Cecilia Mass.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING.—As usual, we have to depend on the special offering on Christmas day to pay the money we have to borrow in the summer to meet our expenses when so many are out of town and our receipts are so small. Two notes of the church, given for this purpose, one for $500 and one for $300, are due early in January and should be provided for in this way. Can we not make the offering the $800 needed? We can if every member of the parish will give liberally. We trust they will.

THE GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY has organized for its winter work. In addition to Miss Ashburner, the Branch Secretary, the following have been elected officers:

SENIOR CHAPTER.—Chairman, May Moreland,; Secretary, Ida Trice; Treasurer, Lillie Gill.

JUNIOR CHAPTER.—Chairman, Rosina Frank; Secretary, Anna Graham; Treasurer, Emelia Klofach.

The society had a separate table of its own at the fair, and made over $25 for the expenses of the society. Its meetings are held every Tuesday evening. Classes in elocution and voice culture have been formed.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.—A new Secretary is welcomed in the school in the person of Mr. C. F. Botwright who began his labors on November 18th. Already his efforts in behalf of the school have produced results. We are sorry to have lost the efficient help of Mr. Pratt, who has resigned as Secretary.

Prizes.—Prizes of five dollars, a Bible, a Prayer Book and Hymnal have been offered to the children bringing the most new scholars before the close of the season.

New Teachers.—We are glad to number among our staff of teachers Mrs. Herman. She has an interesting class of little girls.

St. Agnes' Guild.—The Guild kindly remembered its Director on his birthday, presenting him with a fine umbrella.

St. John's Jr. Guild.—An average attendance of eighteen has been its record during November. Before the physical training each meeting, they are studying some things concerning the Lord's Prayer, as well as saying a brief Office together. Mr. Snoke is doing well as a trainer.

Candy Party.—Through the efforts of our Superintendent, Mr. Hurst, and the help of Mr. Greer and daughter, a most entertaining candy party took place on November 16th. Taffy pulling and games and gifts of candy made the evening pass happily. All the teachers worked faithfully, and it was a great success.

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The following were received since November 1st:

Mrs. Bonnet	Mrs. Hiller
Mrs. Klofach (2)	Mrs. Hawkins
Dr. T. R. Neilson	Mr. Nagle (2)
Mr. H. B. French	Mrs. Millikin
Miss Bloomer (2)	Miss Lloyd
Miss Carpenter (2)	Miss Holbrook

Miss Whitehouse

THE CHOIR

The following music will be rendered during the month:

December 2d, 10.30 A. M.
Benedicite in G *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass in D . . . *Woodward*

7.45 P. M.
Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E flat *J. E. West*
Anthem—"Send Out Thy Light" . *Gounod*

December 9th, 10.30 A. M.
Benedicite in G . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass in E flat . . *Cruickshank*

7.45 P. M,
Magn ficat and Nunc Dimittis in E flat *West*
Anthem—"Behold the Day's Come" *Woodward*

December 16th, 10.30 A. M.
Benedicite in G . *Walter St. Clare Knoele*
Mass in E flat . . . *Eayre*

7.45 P. M.
Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D *J. Christopher Marks, Jr.*
Anthem—"Awake Thou That Sleepest" *Allen*

December 23d, 10.30 A. M.
Benedicite in G . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass in E flat . . *Cruickshank*

7.45 P. M.
Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in E *J. Varley Roberts*
Anthem—"The King of Love My Shepherd Is" *Gounod*
(Baritone Solo)

CHRISTMAS DAY AND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

December 30th, 10.30 A. M.
Te Deum in D . *Walter St. Clare Knodle*
Mass—S. Cecilia . . . *Gounod*

December 30th, 7,45 P. M.
Special Musical Service
Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in B. flat *Stainer*
Anthems—1. "Now When Jesus was Born" *Stevenson*
2. Hallelujah Chorus" *Handel*

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Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P.M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid	3.00 P. M.
Wednesdays, Mothers' Meeting	8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class	10.30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society	10 30 A. M

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M

Superintendent	THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent	
Secretary	MR. CHARLES F. BOTWRIGHT
Librarian	MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist	MR N. B. THAYER

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women	2.45 P.M.
MISS THOMPSON	
For Young Men and St. John's Guild	3.00 P.M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN	
For the Junior Brotherhood	3.00 P.M
MISS HODGE	

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays	10.00 A.M.

POSTURES IN WORSHIP

It is natural that Christians should observe certain postures and acts in their worship of God indicative of their sense of appreciation of its solemnity. Just as in our intercourse with our fellows there are certain forms we invariably use, such as rising from our seat, taking off the hat, shaking hands, which we consider absolutely essential to good manners, so surely when we approach Almighty God we should assume such attitudes and perform such acts as will express our realization of who He is and of our relationship towards Him.

The most universal attitude and use by devout persons in prayer have been those of standing or kneeling. Standing was probably the oldest form and that which was thought particularly appropriate on Sundays, that of kneeling, indicating only penitence seemed out of place on a festival occasion. Some of the old canons of the church actually forbade kneeling on the Lord's day. To this day standing is the universal use in the Greek church, interspersed with numerous prostrations at the more solemn parts of the service, that is, kneeling so as to touch the forehead to the ground. So our priests always stand at the altar, kneeling only at the confession and prayer of humble access and before and after receiving the elements. But kneeling has become with us the general attitude of the people during all prayers and throughout all the Communion service, except during the reading of the Epistle and Gospel, the reci-

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
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KALENDAR

January 1. Circumcision.
" 4. Friday—Fast.
" 6. Epiphany
" 11. Friday—Fast.
" 13. First Sunday after Epiphany.
" 18. Friday—Fast.
" 20. Second Sunday after Epiphany.
" 25. Conversion of St. Paul—Fast.
" 27. Septuagesima.

Record for December

BAPTISMS—
Hugh Shaw
Hannah Margaret Conklin 2

COMMUNICANTS ADDED—
NEW—
By transfer from St. Paul's School, Concord, N. H.—
Lloyd Preston Carpenter
From the Church of the Advocate—
Harry Leonard Kinzle
From the Holy Comfortor, West Philadelphia—
Mrs. Fannie C. Beerwood
Removed by transfer to St. Paul's Church—
Sidney Brown Conger
Mrs. Annie Forbes Conger

BURIALS—
Anna Clifford Griffith 1

Communions of the sick 5

OFFERINGS

For current expenses (including Christmas offering)	$1026 44
" the Poor	68 82
" Sunday and Industrial Schools	2 10
" General Missions	4 30
" Men's Thank Offering	254 00
" Bishop Whitaker Memorial	5 55
" Christmas decorations and Sunday-school Festival	44 10
" Episcopal Hospital	10 00
At Rector's discretion	5 00
Endowment Fund	5 00
Benevolent purposes	2 10
Of the Sunday School	5 90
Total	$1489 46

tation of the Creed and singing of the Gloria in Excelcis or hymn in the thanksgiving after the Communion. And this act should be really performed, a mere leaning forward or bowing of the head is a poor substitute for it. It is like one making a feint at rising up when a stranger enters a room without really doing so. It is strange that men who are punctilious in performing acts of courtesy to their fellow-men should not be equally so in approaching Almighty God.

Another very ancient act in prayer is that of stretching out the hands as if calling down a blessing from heaven. Thus Moses held up his hands when he prayed that the Israelites might prevail, and Solomon, when he knelt before the altar, stretched out his hands towards heaven. The heathens used the same attitude. We find ancient sculptures and pictures of men praying in that position. So it is a very old and universal attitude for Christian priests to stand at the altar in the same way, with their hands raised.

As kneeling is with us the attitude for prayer, reception of the sacraments, etc., so standing is the position assumed for praise. It is certainly more reverential than that of lolling in one's seat, as some do. So it is appropriate for the solemn profession of our faith in reciting the Creeds, at the reading of the Holy Gospel, in the Communion office, at the administration of baptism and confirmation, at marriages, etc.

Some Christians who have not been accustomed to these acts do not understand them and object to the worship in our churches, because, they say, we are always getting up and down. But it is simply good manners to do so. And we cannot understand how any can think it is more reverent or appropriate to go into a church and sit down and never move from that position for prayer or praise or any other act from one end of the service to the other. And the large neglect of worship altogether among so many we cannot but think is largely due to their having been taught first that all outward acts and forms are of no importance. As we all are composed of soul and body we naturally use the one to express the feeling of the other, and are helped by doing so.

PARISH NOTES

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—The church received a very acceptable Christmas gift of the largest and most handsomely bound edition that is printed of the new marginal Bible set forth by the last General Convention, and also a new altar service, similarly bound. The Rector also received coal orders for four and a half tons of coal for the poor.

RESIGNATION OF CHOIRMASTER.—We regret to announce that Mr. Walter St. Clare Knodle, who has been our organist and choirmaster since May, 1900, has resigned to take a similar position in the Church of the Incarnation, at Broad and Jefferson Streets, where he has a larger organ and a higher salary than we are able to give. We cannot wonder, therefore, that he leaves us, though we regret to lose him, as his services have been very satisfactory.

His place has been supplied by the appointment of Mr. Philip F. Alburger, for some years organist of Grace Church, Haddonfield, N. J. He is very highly recommended and we trust will be able to keep up the standard of music we have always maintained. He enters on his position as early this month as he can get away from his present engagement.

THE ENDOWMENT FUND.—At the meeting of the Vestry, in January, it was determined to transfer the Endowment Fund of the church to the Pennsylvania Company for Insurance on Lives and Granting Annuities, to be held and invested by them, and the income only paid to the church. This gives us the capital of that company as security for the safe keeping of the fund and prevents the possibility of its being used by the Vestry for the payment of current expenses.

The Vestry also directed that hereafter the offerings on Ascension Day be devoted to this fund, and that an extra envelope be printed and sent out each year with the envelopes for that quarter for this purpose, so that those who cannot attend the services on Ascension Day can make a donation to the fund at some other time, or send it to the church that day by mail. Thus continual additions will be made to the fund, and we hope it will receive them from bequests as well. The future surroundings of the church are so uncertain that this fund is absolutely essential for its preservation.

MEN'S THANK-OFFERING MEETING.—The lecture on the American Church, illustrated with stereopticon views, by the Rev. Mr. Caley, and the address by the Rev. Mr. Harding at the meeting held last month, on behalf of the men's thank-offering movement, were most instructive. We regret very much that a larger number were not present to profit by it. But the night being bad, and the time so near Christmas, and the fact, we think, that the impression got abroad that only

men were expected to be present, combined to make the attendance very small.

We are glad to announce that $261 have already been sent to the Treasurer of this fund from members of this parish, but we hope to send a great deal more, as every man in the parish is asked to give something. If donors will send their contributions directly to the Rector, it will save personal solicitations on the part of the committee.

SPECIAL PREACHERS.—The Rev. J. Saunders Reed, formerly Rector of Trinity Church, Materford, New York, will preach on the morning of the Epiphany on behalf of the general missions of the church, and we expect to have the pleasure of having Father Sill, one of our mission preachers of last year, spend Sunday, January 20th, with us. He will preach both morning and evening, and we are sure all those who listened to him and Father Huntington with so much pleasure last year, will be very glad to see and hear him once more.

The Bishop of Wilwaukee preached on the evening of December 30.

GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY.—On Sunday evening, December 30th, the Bishop of Milwaukee held an admission service for our Girls' Friendly Society and admitted the secretary, a married branch assistant and six members. Others will be admitted later in the year.

THE CHRISMAS OFFERING amouted to just $550. This was some $25c more than last year or the year before. We regret, however, that it was not larger still, as a gentleman in the congregation offered to give $300 if $1000 could be raised before the end of the year to wipe out all the indebtedness the church had to contract for during the summer to carry on the services when so many were out of town. It is a disappointment that the church could not have availed itself of this offer.

CHRISTMAS DINNERS.—Through those interested in the Mothers' Meeting a number of Christmas dinners were distributed at the Parish House on Monday afternoon before Christmas. Besides the dinners, kind friends out of town as well as in the city had sent toys and books and some clothing.

To all contributing many thanks are given for their kind and generous gifts. We know of no more successful nor happy Christmas than was enjoyed this year by the members of the Mothers' Meeting and those interested in its welfare.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.—On the evening of Holy Innocents' Day, December 29th, the Christmas carol service and entertainment of the school was held.

A professional magician was engaged for the amusement of the school, candy and presents were distributed, and Santa Claus was on hand to distribute them. Parents and friends of the children were present, and all had a pleasant evening.

Miss Maria S. Gilpin was the recipient of a handsome cut-glass vase from the members of her class, Miss Helen H. Hodge of cut flowers from her class, and the assistant superintendent presented each member of the school with a calendar for the new year with the name of the Ascension on it.

GIFTS TO THE CURATE.—The Curate returns his thanks to over two dozen members of the congregation for gifts which he highly appreciates, among them being a revolving desk chair with leather fittings. This, with a set of roll-top letter files also received, will make bis study more complete and comfortable.

RESIGNATION OF MR. HURST—We regret very much to announce the resignation of our assistant superintendent of the Sunday School, Mr. Albert E. Hurst, on account of his removel from the city to take a business position near Pittsburg. We shall miss him very much in the Sunday School, and also as a member of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew in which he was most active. We wish him every success in his new work.

YOUNG WOMEN'S BIBLE CLASS.—Miss C. W. Hare having resigned the charge of this class, Miss C. L. Thompson has been appointed in her place.

A SOCIABLE.—On December 6th the St. John's Guild and a portion of the Girls' Friendly Society met together for a dance. About fifty persons were present, including visitors, and all enjoyed the occasion.

The music and refreshments were provided by friends not members of the above organizations.

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY MEETING

The Epiphany meeting of the Pennsylvania Branch of the Woman's Auxiliary will be held in the Church of the Holy Trinity, Walnut and 19th Streets, on Thursday evening, January 24th, at 8 o'clock. Addresses will be made by the Rev. B. L. Ancell, of Soochow, China, Rev. James J. Chapman, of Kanazawa, Japan, and the Rt. Rev. James H. Darlington, of the Diocese of Harrisburg.

OBLIGATION OF MISSIONS

In the deliberate view of the whole Church missions are no longer a side issue, or something outside the business of the parish, but pre-eminently its main business, and should be taken hold of by the Vestry as a recognized part of the working plant, just as they generously provide for their clergy, their sexton, their fuel and light and repairs. To give to missions is not a charity. It is the duty of each Christian man, woman and child to meet his or her share in the great campaign fund which has for its object the victory of God's militant hosts, over the world's sin and sorrow, the preaching of the Gospel to every creature as our Divine Master bade us. —*From Bishop Talbot's Convention Address, 1905.*

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since December 1st:

Mr. Goodridge	Mrs. R. Gilpin
Miss White (2).	Mrs. T. L. Smith
Mrs. Jos. Jackson (2)	Mrs. Carmen
Miss Barrington	Miss Jennings

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The Ascension News

VOL. XX. PHILADELPHIA FEBRUARY, 1907 NO. 2

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THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer.
SUNDAYS, WITH SERMON 10.30 A.M.
DAILY . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.
SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M.
DAILY . . . . . 5.00 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) 8.00 P.M.

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334 South Thirteenth Street
REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*.
1506 Pine Street

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FRANCIS S. KEESE
WILLIAM C. LLOYD

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

PHILIP F. ALBURGER

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
1022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew . 8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild . . . . . 7.45 P.M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
Wednesdays, Mothers' Meeting . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class . . . . . 10.30 A.M.
First Friday, Missionary Society . . . . 10.30 A.M

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P.M.

Superintendent . . . . . THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent . MR. CHARLES F. BUTTWRIGHT
Librarian . . . . . MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist . . . . . MR N. B. THAYER

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women . . . . . 2.45 P.M.
MISS THOMPSON
For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN
For the Junior Brotherhood . . . . . 3.00 P.M
MISS HODGE

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

ACTS OF REVERENCE

There are certain acts which Christians have very universally used in their worship. One is the bowing of the head whenever the name of Jesus is mentioned in the service. This is enjoined by one of the canons, or laws, of the English Church. It is to express our sense of how dear that name is to us to show that we feel Christ should be worshipped, and as a reparation, as it were, for the blasphemy of those who take that name in vain.

Some also bow in the Gloria Patrie and at other times when the Blessed Trinity is mentioned, or when God is spoken of as worshipped. Some kneel in the Creed at the words "and was made man," to testify their appreciation of the infinite condescension and goodness of God in coming to earth and taking upon Him our nature.

Another act which has been used from the very earliest times is that of making the sign of the cross. As every nation has its flag and insignia, so the Christian Church naturally took as its great sign the form of the cross, that instrument of torture which the Blessed Son of God voluntarily assumed for the love of man.

What sign could more forcibly set forth the essence of Christ's religion, his willing sacrifice for man, and the necessity of every follower of Christ being ready to suffer as God calls upon him to do or he has the opportunity of doing for others. So it has ever been regarded as the great standard of the Christian faith. It is held aloft where all may see it on

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KALENDAR

February 1. Friday—Fast.
" 2. Purification B. V. M.
" 3. Sexagesima Sunday.
" 8. Friday—Fast.
" 10. Quinquagesima Sunday.
" 13. Ash Wednesday.
" 17. First Sunday in Lent.
" 20. Ember Day.
" 22. Ember Day.
" 23. Ember Day.
" 24. S. Matthias. Second Sunday in Lent.
All days in Lent are Fasts.

Record for January

BAPTISMS—
Mrs. Luke Irene Hemphill 1

COMMUNICANTS ADDED—
NEW—
By transfer from S. Luke's Church, Norfolk, Va.—
Virginia Taylor Picket
From All Saints' Church—
William Thorn
Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Whitehouse
Mary Virginia Whitehouse 4
Transferred to S. James' Church, Kingsessing—
Mrs. Jane Bryan Casey
Transferred to the Church of the Holy Trinity—
Mrs. Rebe Morrison
Transferred to Christ Church, Riverton, N. J.—
Walter St. Clare Knodle 3
Communions of the sick 1

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$536 51
" the Poor	17 96
" General Missions	15 12
" the Schools	50
" the Clergy Relief Fund	2 00
" Bishop Whitaker Memorial	1 00
Benevolent purposes	3 35
Of the Sunday School	6 64
Proceeds of sale for the Endowment Fund	5 50
Total	$589 58

the top of our church spires and domes. What more striking way could there be of teaching the Christian faith, and what it requires, than by that object high in the air, glistening in the sunlight or standing immovable amid clouds and tempest? So we blazon it over our altars, or elevate it on a great screen, called the Rood screen, at the entrance of our chancels, that it may be ever kept before the eyes of worshippers and they thus taught that they cannot hope to approach God's altar without being willing to pass beneath it. So the sign of the Cross has been used by the clergy in certain acts, as the consecration of the elements in the sacraments, in pronouncing absolution or giving benedictions, or marking the persons of those baptized, confirmed, anointed or ordained. The first English prayer book directed it should be used on these occasions, and all English prayer books do so in the act of baptism.

In the Roman Church it is used by the priest and his assistants an innumerable number of times during the course of the mass. But our Church shows its usual moderation and discrimination in retaining its use on occasions which have a deep significance without employing it so frequently as to make its use seem merely mechanical.

So devout Christians often mark this sign upon their own persons. It is a prayer or consecration or placing oneself beneath the divine protection by a sign. Doubtless it has been used superstitiously in this way, looked upon as a charm which would in itself bless or protect one irrespective of the state of the heart or the conduct of one's life. And there are those who have a great repugnance to seeing it so used as if it

only meant that. But this is very uncharitable. Different persons have different ways of expressing their devotion, and each should have liberty to act as they choose. No one should find fault with or mock those or assume that they are not sincere, who use such signs.

Another act of reverence Christians perform is that of bowing to the altar when they pass it, or kneeling in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. As we teach our children in our public schools to salute the national flag, as soldiers present their arms to it, or as the peers in the British House of Parliament bow to the vacant throne of the king when they pass before it. So surely may Christians salute the sign of their faith, or that which serves as the throne of our Divine Lord in our churches, the altar whereon He vouchsafes to us His sacramental Presence, or that Presence itself.

The true rule in regard to all these things is that which was laid down in the Prayer Book of King Edward VI: "As touching, kneeling, crossing, holding up of hands, knocking upon the breast, and other gestures they may be used or left, as every man's devotion serveth without blame."

But as a general thing it is best for those attending a church to do as the clergy and choir do, as they set the standard which should be observed in that church. If individuals set up a standard of their own it introduces confusion and is distracting to persons who do not understand it. We should follow the apostolic injunction of doing all things decently and in order, that all may be edified.

CONFIRMATION

The Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese will visit this parish for the purpose of conferring Confirmation on the evening of Tuesday, March 19th, and we trust that every adult attending the church who has not yet received that blessing, and the Holy Communion to which it admits, will not let this opportunity pass without receiving it. The Church teaches that all should be Confirmed as soon as they are old enough to understand and have been sufficiently instructed in regard to the obligations of the Christian life. Not to receive it is not only to deprive oneself of great privileges, but to fail in the discharge of manifest duty. There can be no reason which can justify its being deferred to some other time—which may never come. The opportunity is offered now and should be embraced by all.

Instructions preparatory to confirmation will be given every Sunday at 4 P. M. in the Guild Room in the Parish Building by the Rector, and after the evening service on Wednesdays by the Curate, beginning with the first week in February, and it is hoped that all thinking of being Confirmed will, if possible, attend *both* these courses of instruction.

PARISH NOTES

LENT begins this year with the thirteenth of this month. There will be no additional services, but the boys of the choir will sing at the daily evening prayer at 5 P. M., and on Fridays there will be a lecture. On Ash Wednesday there will be services as on Sundays at 10.30 A. M., morning prayer, Litany and Penitential service, with sermon, followed by a choral Celebration. The Wednesday evening service at 8 P.

M. during Lent will consist of the Penitential service with appropriate instruction.

THE ENDOWMENT FUND of the parish has now been placed in the hands of the Pennsylvania Company for Insurance on Lives and Granting Annuities, so that the Vestry cannot henceforth have any control of it except as to the expenditure of the income. The deed of transfer constitutes two funds, one to be known as the Johnson fund, which amounts to $9525, the income to be used as directed under the will of the donor, Mr. Benjamin Johnson, the other to be known as the General Endowment Fund. In this there is now deposited $230, the amount raised by the ladies in October. This will be increased by all offerings made on Ascension Day or through the envelopes which will be issued next quarter for this purpose and by whatever gifts or legacies may be received for it from time to time. The income of this fund can be used by the Vestry for the general expenses of the church.

ELECTION OF VESTRYMAN.—Much to the regret of the Rector and Vestry Mr. William P. Henszey resigned from the Vestry in December, owing to the fact that he is in the city and so able to attend meetings of the Vestry for so short a part of the year. At the January meeting Mr. Walter M. Newnam was elected to fill the vacancy. Mr. Newnam has been a member of the parish for some twenty-five years and a constant attendant and supporter of it during that time, and is most interested in and devoted to its interests. We are sure he will be a valuable addition to the Vestry.

DIOCESAN MISSIONS.—The special benevolent envelope this quarter is for Diocesan Missions, that is for the general work of extending and maintaining the the church, in the new and poorer sections of the Diocese. The city and country surrounding it is rapidly growing in population, so new churches need constantly to be built. And there is a great and increasing fie d for real missionary work in the older parts of the city, so we should all contribute liberally to this purpose. The Rev. Francis M. Taitt, Dean of the Convocation of Chester, will preach on the subject on the morning of March the 17th, and all the offerings at that service, outside of the envelopes, will be given to that object. The parish is expected by the Convocation to contribute this year for Diocesan Missions $125 and we trust at least that sum will be then realized.

LENTEN WORK.—The Ladies Aid will work during Lent as usual for a benevolent purpose and they invite all the ladies in the congregation to meet with them on Wednesday afternoons. They will be glad also to receive donations of money or material for this work.

KEITH'S THEATRE AND THE GUILDS.—St. Agnes Guild (19 of us) went there on January 25th and St. John's Jr. Guild expect to go within a short time. What a happy time we had and how encouraged the performers would have been, if they had known of our enthusiasm. It does one good to make children so thoroughly happy.

Both of these chidren's Guids have their weekly meeting, with a devotional office, an instruction by their director and nearly an hour of fun, and they have been so regular and well behaved that they thoroughly deserve a treat.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT INSTRUCTION CLASS.—This class, held at the close of the Wednesday night service, has recently increased in size, about 18 adults having attended the last few meetings. We are reading together Wescott's "Catholic Principles" and find it instructive and interesting. 9.30 p. m., our closing hour seems to come too soon. We would be glad to welcome new members, *provided* they undertake to come with considerable regularity. It is a conversational affair sitting around a large table, and everybody talks who cares to do so. Sometimes during our hour we have gone over several pages of the book and sometimes only a few lines.

FR. SILL AT THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.—The children were much pleased at a visit from Father Sill on the Sunday he preached here; the loving and cordial way in which they rose and bid him goodbye showed their affection for him. He referred to the Children's Mission of a year ago, which he and Father Huntington preached and which many of the present children then made.

A NEW ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT.—Mr. Botwright has come to our relief and taken the position of Assistant Superintendent, vacant since our loss of Mr. Hurst. He is not a stranger to us and has already won the regard of the children.

A NEW ORGANIST AND TEACHER.—Since our loss of Mr. Thayer, who has been so faithful and efficient for so long a time and whom we greatly miss. Mrs. Harris has been kindly playing for us and we hope she will stay with us as our Sunday School Organist a long while. She will also take charge of the class of little boys, which has been without a teacher since they lost Mr. Hurst much to their sorrow. We are grateful to Miss Mary Hodge for taking double duty during this interval.

NOTES OF "MOTHERS' MEETING".—Too late for the last Issue of "The News" was any account of "The Christmas Meeting" on Wednesday Evening, January 2nd. Miss Schubert most kindly played for us on the Guitar, giving some beautiful music as did also Miss Louise Hodge at the Piano. We also thank Miss Carmen, whose recitations we always enjoyed. Afterward refreshments were served, Ice Cream, Cake, Tea, Coffee and Fruit.

Through the kindness of a friend of "The Mothers' Meeting" on one very cold night before Christmas the members enjoyed a little impromptu Oyster Supper.

The members of the Meeting made a Christmas Gift of $3.00 toward the Missionary work of the Rev. Mr. Littell in Canton, China. This means forfeiting by each member the payment of a week's sewing. Last year the same amount was given to a Boys' School in Africa.

Friday Afternoons, by the meeting of the few mothers who can attend at that time and those interested, many necessary things are accomplished at the finishing off of garments, working button holes, etc, also getting together and packing up the sewing to be returned to the Hospital.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

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The following were received since January 1st :

Miss McKnight	Miss M. F. Sappington
Mrs. W. Wilson	Miss Schell
Mr. Keese (2)	Miss Dickinson
Miss Goodman (2)	Mrs. Jensen
Miss Macartney (2)	Mrs. Eckert (4)
Miss Wurts	Miss Casey
Miss Preston	Mr. W. M. Newnam

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The Ascension News

VOL. XX. PHILADELPHIA MARCH, 1907 NO. 3

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DAILY EXCEPT THURSDAYS 7 00 A.M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer.
SUNDAYS, WITH SERMON 10.30 A.M.
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Evensong.
SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M.
DAILY . . . . . 5.00 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) 8.00 P.M.

Children's Service.
SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.30 P.M.

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Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M

Superintendent . . . . . THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent . . . MR. F. C. BOTWRIGHT
Librarian . . . . . MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist . . . . . MR N. B. THAYER

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Women . . . . . 2.45 P.M.
MISS THOMPSON
For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN
For the Junior Brotherhood . . . . . 3.00 P.M
MISS HODGE

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

ACTS AND EXERCISES OF DEVOTION

The Church requires her members during this season of Lent to give themselves to special "acts and exercises of devotion." What is meant by that? What can it be but to use more frequent and earnest prayers, meditation, self-examination, reading of Scripture and devotional books, fasting, almsgiving, self-denial, engaging in good works, doing acts of benevolence and charity. These are things which Christians ought to engage in at all times as far as they can, But the season of Lent is a time especially set apart for them, when people are called upon to give up their ordinary pleasures, and occupations even as much as they can, and assiduously devote themselves to doing special acts and exercises of devotion for the cultivation and perfection of their own spiritual lives, the doing good to their fellow men and advancing the cause of Christ among men. If Lent is faithfully used in that way it will be a blessed season to individual souls who thus use it, and a means of blessing to the world.

How then can these acts be best performed? We answer, first, by more frequent church-going. We have more frequent services then in our churches and at unusual hours in order to provide these opportunities. Of late there have been special noon-day services held in some central church for the benefit of those who can only get off from their offices and shops for a short time at that hour. They are used, however, largely by those who go to them simply on ac-

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
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KALENDAR

March 3. Third Sunday in Lent.
" 10. Fourth Sunday in Lent.
" 17. Passion Sunday.
" 24. Palm Sunday.
" 25. Annunciation B. V. M.
" 26. Tuesday before Easter.
" 27. Wednesday before Easter.
" 28. Maunday Thursday.
" 29. Good Friday.
" 30. Easter Even.
" 31. Easter.

All days in Lent are Fasts.

Record for February

BAPTISMS—
Wm. Henry Reeves (adult)
Anna Maria Hurlbrink 2

MARRIAGES—
Andrew Lindsay and
Emily Albertina Krumm
Grover Van Camp and
Florence Maria Good 2

COMMUNICANTS ADDED—
NEW—
Mrs. Frederica Nassua Hoffmann
By transfer from S. John's Church, Lower Merion—
Andrew Lindsay 1
Transferred to the Church of the Holy Apostles—
Sarah Wilson
Ellen Wilson
Emily Margaret Wilson
Ann Wilson Kirkpatrick
Mary Ellen Kirkpatrick
Elizabeth Tomson Kirkpatrick
To S. Paul's Church—
Cornelius Ferguson
Mrs. Matilda Ferguson 8
Communions of the sick 1

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$360 84
" the Poor	12 92
" General Missions	2 37
" Diocesan Missions	13 92
Benevolent purposes	2 70
Of the Sunday School	5 48
Total	$398 33

count of their novelty and variety instead of going to their own parish churches, where the services are longer and better adapted to devotion. The devotion in the noon-day services is very brief, the address being the chief attraction. Let our people, who can do so, go to their own churches for the purpose of real prayer, for themselves and for intercession for others.

Another way to perform these acts is by using our churches more for private prayer. In the old country you can scarcely ever enter any of the great churches without seeing persons there engaged in private devotion. And it is certainly a very beautiful and must be a profitable habit. Our churches are coming more and more to be left open at all times for this purpose, but they are not used as much as they should be. The Church of the Ascension has been kept open daily ever since it was built, and we frequently see not only our own people, but strangers in it, kneeling, saying their prayers. But there ought to be a great many more to do so than there are.

Another thing we want to recommend to our people is the use not only during Lent, but at all times, of some book of devotion. Our Prayer Book, as admirable as it is, is intended for public services—Common Prayer. But we should pray also by ourselves and it is hard to do this aright without aid. So all should have and use, daily if possible, some such book as "The Treasury of Devotion" by the Rev. T. T. Carter. It can be had at the Church Book Store, Walnut and Camac streets. Such a book will be invaluable in directing and helping one to pray aright. Then in Lent take up some special devotional book for reading—say a chapter every day.

So let your attendance and reception of the Holy Communion be more frequent during this season. No form of devotion can be fuller or more helpful than that. And let your preparation for reception be more careful. See too what acts of real self-denial and sacrifice you can be capable of, especially those by which others can be benefited. Let your almsgiving be something which costs you something and proportionate to the worthiness of its objects. We all spend too much on ourselves and our pleasures and self-indulgences, and too little for those objects by which real good, spiritual and temporal, might be done to others. There is a vast amount of want and suffering in the world we do little or nothing to relieve. There is nothing so startling as to notice the disproportion between what men spend for drink and pleasure and what they give for charity.

There is another act of devotion frequently performed in the old country, but seldom among us, except by the Roman Catholics—that is, the visiting of different churches for purposes of devotion. Most of our principal churches have something in them, or some association, which is calculated to stir up devotion, and can be profitably visited. Such churches in this city as Christ Church, S. Peter's and Old Swedes, with their historical associations and their graveyards around them, and such churches as the Evangelists, S. Stephen's, S. Mark's, S. Elizabeth's, S. James', the Advocate, and S. Mary's, West Philadelphia, and S. James the Less, and S. Luke's, Germantown, are either very beautiful and churchly themselves or have some beautiful adornments in them calculated to arouse the devotional spirit. Such a habit, too, would make people familiar with the history and lead them to take an interest in parishes other than their own.

Let all our people see that in some of these ways they discharge this duty which the church "requires" of all—of performing special acts and exercises of devotion during Lent.

PARISH NOTES

S. AGNES' GUILD ENTERTAINMENT.—On February 11th, the Guild gave its annual entertainment, consisting of songs, drills and recitations. Mr. Chester F. Myers and Miss Sanborn kindly assisted, adding much to the brightness of the evening. Wilbur & Co. supplied gratuitously chocolate cakes, served to the audience at an interval in the programme. We are under obligations to the kind friends who sent the money for tickets, although unable to attend in person.

STEREOPTICON VIEWS FOR SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—An exhibition of views of a missionary character was given to the Sunday-school on the evening of St. Valentine's day, February 14th. A number of the children were present and the views were interesting and instructive.

S. JOHN'S, JR., GUILD.—It is in a flourishing condition, the attendance at the last meeting being 22, which is not much above the average. Mr. William E. Linton is training the little boys in gymnastics after they have recited their office and received their weekly instruction. Monday nights are a useful and happy time for the boys.

A RULE OF LIFE FOR THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—The children to the number of 48 have undertaken to keep a simple

priest's rule this Lent, having signed the card upon which it is printed with the attesting signature of their teacher and pastor. Every time they break one of their three promises they punch a pinhole in the card, and every Sunday they show it to their teacher. At Easter they will show it to their pastor.

Perhaps some who read this will remember the children in their prayers that they may keep their rule.

CONFIRMATION will be administered by the Bishop Coadjutor on the evening of Tuesday, March 19. Instructions are being given by the Rector every Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock in the Parish Building and by the Curate on Wednesdays after the 8 P. M. service. All desiring to be Confirmed, who have not already done so, should give in their names at once.

HOLY WEEK.—The services in Holy Week will be as in other years: Celebration daily at 7 A. M. Morning Prayer, with short address and second celebration, at 10 A. M. Evening Prayer at 5 P. M. and sermon on the Passion each night at 8 P. M. On Good Friday there will be a children's service at 9.00 A. M., Morning Prayer and Litany at 11 A.M., followed by the singing of the Reproaches and the preaching of the cross from 12 to 3 P. M. This will be interspersed, as usual, with singing of hymns, during which those who do not feel like remaining during the whole time can enter or leave the church. The Rector will conduct this service.

It is hoped that every one in the congregation will avail himself of these many opportunities of observing this most solemn season in the church year and which has such power of speaking to and affecting human souls.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS—On Good Friday the children, as usual, will sing the Stations at 9 A. M. It is a reverent and instructive devotion, impressing upon those who make it the reality of our Lord's way of sorrows and bitter passion The grown people will profit by takIng part in it,

The Three Hours' Service is chiefly preaching; the service of the Stations is chiefly devotion. It lasts less than an hour and is largely sung.

EASTER DAY.—There will be celebrations at 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 A. M., in addition to the service in the middle of the day. Children's Easter service, with presentation of their Lenten offerings at 3.30 P. M.

Easter Music.

Easter anthem—"Christ Our Passover"
Wiegand

Te Deum - - *Dudley Buck*
Mass in A - - *Sir John Stainer*

Evening.

Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D
Christopher Marks

Anthem—"Break Forth Into Joy"
Sir Joseph Barnby

EASTER OFFERING.—We shall need an offering on Easter day as large as that we asked for at Christmas—$1000—to meet all indebtedness up to the end of our financial year. Now that we have no mortgage debt let us see if we cannot, for the first time in our history, come out with all our expenses for the year paid and no debt of any kind against it. If every one in the parish will give generously we are sure it can be done. We ask all to compare what they give in the course of the year towards the support of the church with what they would have to pay in another church where the pews are rented, and see to it that they give as much, without demanding the selfish equivalent of a reserved seat, which turns the church into a private club instead of God's house for all men. If what you give Sunday by Sunday is not equal to a pew rent make up the average by your Easter offering

DIOCESAN MISSIONS.—As we announced last month, all the offerings on Sunday, March 17th, outside the envelopes, will be for Diocesan Missions, for which this parish is asked this year to contribute $125. Let us see that that amount is raised by the collection that day. The Rev. Mr. Taitt, Rector of S. Paul's Church, Chester, Dean of the Convocation of Chester, will preach on the subject of Diocesan Missions at that service.

EPISCOPAL AND CONVENTION FUND.—This parish is assessed for this fund $160.22 and for the Sustentation Fund, $34.72. We ought to have special offerings for these funds, as our ordinary weekly offerings are not sufficient to meet them.

MEN'S THANK OFFERING.—The chairman of our parochial committee for this fund proposes to send a personal letter to each male member of the congregation asking him to make some gift to this great fund which is to be raised as a thank offering in commemoration of the three hundredth anniver,ary of the introduction of Christianity into this country. We trust it will be responded to by all. Let each man feel he has some share in this even though the amount he can give is small.

HOUSE OF THE HOLY CHILD.—Our Ladies' Aid Society are working this Lent for this Home, of which Miss Edith Wharton Dallas, one of our parishioners, is the foundress and secretary. The Rector has also received a letter from Miss Dallas suggesting that the parish, or some one in it, might like to contribute a sum sufficient to support the home for one day—$10. Will anyone offer to do so?

SPECIAL SERMONS.—In addition to their work in the parish the Rector is preaching this Lent in Christ Church and S. Michael's, Germantown; S. Mary's, Burlington, and S. David's, Manayunk, and later in S. Luke's, Germantown.

The Curate is preaching a course of sermons every Wednesday afternoon at the Church of the Annunciation. He will also preach the Passion at the Three Hours' Devotion on Good Friday at St. Timothy's Church, Roxborough. In addition he preaches, at St. Paul's, Perkiomen; St. Mark's, Hammonton, N. J.; St. Thomas's, Philadelphia; St. Paul's, Chester; St. Andrew's, Barmouth, Va.

WANTED—A large musical hymnal for the organ. It is difficult for the organist or whoever plays the organ to see the small hymnals used by the choir. Will any one present one to the church? They cost five dollars.

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Mrs. Bonsach (2)	Miss Anable
Miss Lavinia Smith	Miss C. W. Hare
Mrs. Rhein	Mrs. Henszey (2)
Mr. and Mrs. Cope (2)	Miss Palmer
Mr. and Mrs. Pepper (2)	Mrs. String

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Superintendent	THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent	MR. F. C. BOTWRIGHT
Librarian	MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist	MR. N. B. THAYER

BIBLE CLASSES

For Women — MISS THOMPSON	3.45 P.M.
For Young Men and St. John's Guild — MISS M. J. GILPIN	3.00 P.M.
For the Junior Brotherhood — MISS HODGE	3.00 P.M.

CONFESSION IN THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

When S. John the Baptist came preaching we are told the people were baptized of him, "confessing their sins." When the apostles began their preaching the same result followed. S. Paul says, "With the mouth confession is made unto salvation." S. James says, "Confess your faults one to another." In other words, it is not sufficient to *feel* sorry for sins, but they should be *confessed*. It is what we exact from our fellow-men when they have sinned against us, we expect them to acknowledge they have done us wrong.

In the early church this confession of sins was made openly before the whole church. And to this day among the Methodists and others, it is the practice in their experience and other meetings for penitents to give detailed public statements of the sins they have committed. But this has been found not to have an edifying effect either upon the hearers or confessors. In some cases it has led to grievous scandal and injury. So it was soon found advisable to substitute private, for this public confession, before a suitable church officer appointed for the purpose, and for some time in the history of the church certain priests called Penitentiaries was set apart for this special purpose of hearing the confessions of penitents. Later on it became the custom for all priests to hear confessions. But all such confessions were voluntary,

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS :

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KALENDAR

April 1. Monday in Easter week.
" 2. Tuesday in Easter week.
" 5. Friday—Fast.
" 7. Low Sunday.
" 12. Friday—Fast.
" 14. Second Sunday after Easter.
" 19. Friday—Fast.
" 21. Third Sunday after Easter.
" 25. S. Mark, Evangelist.
" 26. Friday—Fast.
" 28. Fourth Sunday after Easter.

Record for March

BAPTISMS—

Joseph Wintroff Mauser (adult)
Edna May Mauser (adult)
Alonzo Philip Speeche (adult) 3
Infants—
Florence Roosevelt Hall
Edward Harrison Hall
Joseph Jefferson Smith
Walter George Bryson
Catharine Elizabeth Engel 5

CONFIRMED—

Mrs. Elizabeth Everline
Mrs. Catherine McDonald
Mrs. Catherine Stewart
Mrs. Virginia Gertrude Speeche
Mrs. Elizabeth Frank
Mrs Annie Phipps
Mrs. Eva Selfridge Shaw
Ida Lea Everline
Felicie Maria Portal
Lillian Blanche Stewart
Emily LeCompt Parker
Sadie Smith
Edna May Crumley Mauser
Anna Graham
Samuel Neil
Lewis Henry Toal
Bernard Toal
Francis Joseph Toal
James Stuart Tait
Henry Albert Ritsert
John Miskey Strong
Charles Jacob Zahn
Joseph Wintroff Mauser
Alonzo Philip Speeche 24

COMMUNICANTS ADDED—

By transfer from S. Mark's Church—
Sarah Spangler Early
By transfer from S. Stephen's Church, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.—
Lester Pursell 2

NEW—

William James Potts
John Miskey Strong
Samuel Neil
Bernard Toal
Francis Joseph Toal
James Stuart Tait
Mrs Annie Phipps
Mrs. Catherine Stewart
Mrs. Catherine McDonald
Mrs Elizabeth Frank
Mrs. Eva Selfridge Shaw
Ida Lea Everline
Felice Marie Portal
Anna Graham
Lillian Blanche Stewart
Edna May Mauser 16

Transferred to S. Paul's Church—
Sarah Plunket

To S. Elizabeth's Church—
Mabel Marie Smith 2

DIED—

Joseph Donaldson Marshall
William James Potts 2

BURIALS—

Joseph Donaldson Marshall
William James Potts 2

Communions of the sick 3

OFFERINGS

Current expenses, including Easter offering,	$1023 98
For the Poor	16 98
" Diocesan Missions	45 62
" General Missions	10
" Flowers	39 36
" Prayer Book Society	11 09
" Music	10 00
" Missionary Thank Offering	12 09
" Sunday School	19
" Benevolent purposes	4 50
At the Rector's discretion	5 00
Of the Sunday School	6 43
Of the Sunday School missionary mite chests	30 61
Total	$1205 68

unless a person was known to have committed some great crime, in which case he could not be received back into the communion of the church unless he had made, or it was certified that he had made, a confession of his sin and had served a term of penance. Gradually, however, the custom sprang up of all Christians making confession to some priest at regular times, especially before receiving the Holy Communion. But it

was not made obligatory that they should do so in the Western church until the thirteenth century. And that is the rule in the Roman Catholic Church to-day. No Roman Catholic can receive the Holy Communion without first making confession to a priest and receiving absolution.

This rule was abolished in the Church of England at the Reformation. But private confession was not forbidden or abolished. On the contrary, in the exhortation to be read before the stated times of communion, the priest is made to say to the people, after describing to them how they should prepare themselves to receive the sacrament, "if any of you, who by this means cannot quiet his own conscience, but requireth further comfort or counsel, let him come to me, or to some other minister of God's word and open his grief; that he may receive such godly counsel and advice as may tend to the quieting of his conscience, and the removing of all scruple and doubtfulness, together with the benefit of absolution." And in the office for the visitation of the sick, the priest is directed to move the sick man to a particular confession of his sins if he has aught on his conscience and a special direct, personal form of absolution is provided for such cases. We have a similar provision in our office for the visitation of a prisoner, where the priest is to exhort him to a "particular confession" of his sins. So the doctrine of the necessity of confession of sins and of the authority of priests to pronounce absolution is taught in the Prayer Book, by a form of general confession of sin, together with a declaration of absolution to be said "only by a priest," being put in the daily morning and evening prayer, and in the office for the Holy Communion.

So the position of the Episcopal Church is perfectly plain on this subject. She teaches, as the Bible and the universal church always have, that it is not sufficient to repent of sins, but we must make a confession of our sins. This may be done in the general forms appointed in the public services of the church, after which the priest pronounces the absolution of those who are truly penitent. Or if any one is not satisfied with this general confession, or has any doubt about his penitence, or any scruple on his conscience, then he is exhorted to go to his parish priest, or to any priest he may prefer, and make a private particular confession. In each case the confession is made to God, and the priest speaks in God's name as his official commissioned agent. The advantages of the particular confession in the presence of the priest are for the purposes of humiliation and reparation and to secure a full and real confession being made, or for his judgment and advice in cases of doubt.

But it is entirely voluntary whether one should make such a confession or not. There is not and cannot be any *obligatory* private confession in the Episcopal Church. It is simply a privilege offered to those who think they would be helped or benefited thereby, and no one should object to any one using it, provided he is not compelled to use it himself if he does not wish to do so.

PARISH NOTES

CONFIRMATION.—Our annual Confirmation took place on the evening of March 19th. Twenty-four were Confirmed. Two or three others were kept away by sickness or other unavoidable cause. This is about our average number, showing that we hold our own in regard to church work, in spite of the difficulties in the neighborhood with which we have to contend. Owing to a severe cold, which kept him in the house for four days, the Rector was unable to be present, the first time he has ever missed a Confirmation in his own church. Most of the class made their first communion on Easter day.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER.—The attendance at the services during this special holy tide was quite up to the average of former years. The daily attendance at the 7 a. m. celebration during Holy Week was about twenty-five. Though Easter Day was dull and threatening, the number present, especially at the early services, was very good. The number of communicants, we are thankful to say, was more than last year, nearly three hundred in all.

The Easter music was very good, in spite of the absence through sickness of our chief soprano soloist, Master Lester Pursell.

THE EASTER OFFERING amounted to a little over $700. This is about the average offering at this festival, but it is only about half of what is needed to meet all our current expenses up to the first of May, the end of our financial year. Our mortgage debt having been paid, many do not understand why we should not have found it easier this year to meet our current expenses; but we began the year with a deficit of $500, and this is still to be paid off. How is it to be done? It was suggested in the vestry that the ladies in the congregation be called upon to get up some entertainment for the purpose. But we are very loath to do this. It is not the way in which churches should be supported, and if we could pay off $12,000, as we did by free will offerings in one year, why can we not raise $800 in the same way another year? Are there not those in the congregation who would be willing to make subscriptions for this purpose? Even in our rich pew-rented churches there is constantly a deficit which has to be made up at the end of the year. And in a church dependent upon voluntary contributions made from Sunday to Sunday, there must necessarily be great vicissitudes and the necessity of doing the same thing. Let us try this before we resort to fairs or theatricals. But it ought to be done at once, as we shall have to borrow money again to tide us over the summer. Will not some one start such a subscription, or offer to give part of it if the whole is made up?

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERINGS.—The Sunday School this year will give their mission money to Father Hughson, for the work of the Order of the Holy Cross among the mountain boys in Tennessee. The order has a school there in connection with the work of Father Claiborne and asked for our offering. We are sure it will be used in accomplishing spiritual and lasting work, and not spent chiefly in the purchase of material things for those who successfully beg for them. The spiritual and material assistance will go together.

The amount received from the children on Easter Day was $30.61, which was about the same as the total offering last year. We have many boxes yet to hear from, this being our first return from them.

SUNDAY SCHOOL EASTER SERVICE.—On Easter Sunday, at 3.30 p. m., the school sang their Easter carols, made their offering referred to above, and were addressed by the Curate and by Mr. Witmer. Each child received a growing plant, a tulip. The attendance was considerably larger than last year, and the occasion was one of festal joy.

EASTER GIFTS OF ST. AGNES' GUILD AND ST. JOHN'S GUILD.—The St. Agnes' Guild has undertaken what is for them quite a large task; they have promised to provide all the small wafers for the Blessed Sacrament for one year from Easter. It will involve a cost of about $9.00. Their weekly dues are only one cent each. But the kindness of friends in the congregation, who recently purchased tickets for these children's annual entertainment, has supplied the Guild with a small fund, and out of it they are glad to make this offering.

The Junior St. John's Guild has assumed the responsibility for the large wafer for the priest for one year. They will cost about $5.00, and the money will come from the little boys' weekly dues of one cent.

It will be a real joy to the children of these two Guilds to feel that they have been allowed to do so sacred a work as this, for they are taught to love their dear Saviour in His holy Sacrament.

THE DAILY CELEBRATION. — March 16, 1907, was the first anniversary of the institution of the Daily Celebration in this parish.

Fifteen people gathered at the altar-throne that day to return thanks to God for that unspeakable blessing. During the year not one day has been missed, except during the month of September when it was suspended through sickness or other cause, and the storms and bleakness of many dark winter mornings have not prevented from five to thirty-one people at 7 a. m., visiting their dear Lord in the Sacrament of His Love. The average attendance during the week days of Lent has been thirteen, and for the other week days in the year about seven. How few this is out of a communicant list of 550, and yet many a pastor would be thankful, indeed, to be able to count upon so many as that to join him in the daily oblation.

"Jesus, our Lord, we Thee adore;
O make us love Thee more and more."
Amen.

Will not you, who read this, undertake to come at least one day each week to do honor to our lowly but Divine Guest?

MINSTREL SHOW

The boys of the choir propose to give a minstrel show Thursday night, April 25th, the proceeds of which are to be used for their summer outing. A committee, consisting of Lester Purcell, Robert Provence, John Mucklow, Samuel Neill and J. Stuart Tait, have been appointed to manage the affair, and tickets, costing 25 cents for adults and 15 cents for children, may be obtained from them or any member of the choir. Mr. Chester A. Myers, who will be remembered for his efforts in the past, will be stage manager and interlocutor. The boys expect their friends to help them in this, their first effort, so that it may be a social as well as a financial success.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since March 1st:

Miss E. M. Kelley	Miss Perry
Miss A.H.Chamberlaine	Mrs. Roberts
Miss Peters	Mrs. H. Connelly
Mrs. G. Grosholz	Miss Pitcher
Mrs. Leaming	Miss Massey
Mrs. Waterall	Miss Johnson

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VOL. XX. PHILADELPHIA MAY, 1907 NO. 5

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DAILY EXCEPT THURSDAYS 7.00 A.M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer.
SUNDAYS, WITH SERMON 10.30 A.M.
DAILY . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.
SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M.
DAILY . . . . . 5.00 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) 8.00 P.M.

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SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.30 P.M.

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334 South Thirteenth Street
REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*.
1506 Pine Street

WARDENS

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WILLIAM C. LLOYD

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

PHILIP F. ALBURGER

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
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GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew . 8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild . . . . . 7.45 P.M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
Wednesdays, Mothers' Meeting . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class . . . . . 10.30 A.M.
First Friday, Missionary Society . . . . 10.30 A.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P.M

Superintendent . . . . . THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent . . . MR. F. C. BOTWRIGHT
Librarian . . . . . MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist . . . . . MRS S. A. HARRIS

BIBLE CLASSES

For Women . . . . . 2.45 P.M.
MISS THOMPSON
For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . 3.00 P.M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN
For the Junior Brotherhood . . . . . 3.00 P.M
MISS HODGE

WILLIAM PLATT PEPPER

This parish has met with an irreparable loss in the death of Mr. William Platt Pepper, one of its vestrymen, who died at his residence, 1730 Chestnut street, on April 27th. We say irreparable loss, because whoever may be elected to fill his place as a vestryman, or succeed him in other ways, no one can reproduce just the same gracious, genial disposition which was so distinctively his.

For many years Mr. Pepper has been one of the most prominent men in the social and benevolent life of this city. Educated as a lawyer, he never practised beyond the duties devolving on him as the executor and trustee of several estates, which he managed most successfully and conscientiously. He was a member of a large number of benevolent and church institutions in connection with which he worked as hard as if he was doing it for a living. He was one of the founders and for a long time the head of the Museum and School of Industrial Art and a manager of the Episcopal Hospital, both of which institutions took up a great deal of his time. He was much interested in S. Michael's Home for Crippled Children in West Philadelphia. He was a founder and for some time a worker in S. Mark's Working Men's Club, one of the officers of the Free and Open Church Association, a Custodian of the House, and a member in several other charitable societies.

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EDITORS
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KALENDAR

May 1. SS. Philip and James.
" 3. Friday—Fast.
" 5. Rogation Sunday.
" 6. Rogation day.
" 7. Rogation day.
" 8. Rogation day.
" 9. Ascension day.
" 10. Friday—Fast.
" 12. Expectation Sunday.
" 17. Friday—Fast.
" 19. Whitsun day.
" 20. Whitsun Monday.
" 21. Whitsun Tuesday.
" 22. Ember day. Fast.
" 24. Ember day. Fast.
" 25. Ember day. Fast.
" 26. Trinity Sunday.
" 31. Friday—Fast.

Record for April

BAPTISMS—
Bertha Anna Hill
Lewis Charles Eck 2

COMMUNICANTS ADDED—
NEW—
Charles Jacob Zahn
Henry Albert Kitsert
Mrs. Anna Miller
Mrs. Elizabeth Everline 4
From the Syrian Church—
Nicholas Joseph Saadie 1

DIED—
Mrs. Annie Miller
William Hall
William Platt Pepper 3

Communions of the sick 6

BURIALS—
Mrs. Annie Miller
William Hall
William Platt Pepper 3

OFFERINGS

Current expenses	$401 78
For the Poor	10 19
" Diocesan Missions	5 40
" Flowers for children at Easter	21 50
" Men's Thank Offering Fund	255 00
" Benevolent purposes	2 63
At the Rector's discretion	5 00
Of the Sunday School	5 19
Of the Sunday School for missions	4 82
Total	$711 51

He became a member of this parish in 1889 and a vestryman in 1900. He was in thorough sympathy with its ecclesiastical position, especially its principle of free seats. He showed how he thought this should be carried out by making it a rule always to sit in a different seat each service he attended, so that no one could think he was laying claim to any particular seat. He was most regular in his attendance at the services and vestry meetings as long as his health permitted. He was most liberal in his contributions towards the support of the church, and in addition gave a weekly sum for the poor fund and sent a large number of coal orders to the Rector each autumn to be distributed among the more needy members of the congregation. He was always ready to respond to any extra calls which were made for special objects, and the handsome carved oak stalls in the chancel were his gift.

One of his most marked characteristics was his delight in devising and doing kindly things to persons whom he knew to be in need or to whom he thought he could give pleasure. His benefactions included a large number of persons and extended far beyond the parish.

Such a man will be indeed greatly missed, and it will not be easy to find another to fill his place and manifest the same characteristics.

His health has been failing for three years past and markedly so since the first of this year. He has only been able to be in church once since Christmas, which was a great grief to him. His funeral took place from the church on April 29th and was attended by a large number of his relatives and personal friends. The Vestry of the church attended in a body.

May he rest in peace and may light perpetual shine upon him.

We thank God for his good example and the good he did, and pray that others may be raised up to follow in his steps and serve the church as well.

A BAZAAR

The ladies of the congregation will remember that last autumn they got up very hastily a little parish sale about Thanksgiving and realized from it some $230 for the benefit of the endowment fund. Some of those who had the matter in hand declared that we would have to have such a sale annually. Perhaps it would be well to do so. Certainly it will be necessary for us to have something of the kind next autumn, not for the endowment fund, but to pay off the deficit we have in our current expense account.

As we have explained several times that when we raised the $12,000, which we did a year ago, we paid off by doing so all our mortgage debt and spent a thousand dollars in repairing and improving the Parish building, which was very necessary, but we did not pay off the deficit we had at the end of last year for current expenses of $500. And we have not been able to pay it off since out of our ordinary receipts. In addition to this we have had this last year several unusual expenses. A new insurance had to be placed instead of one which expired, amounting to $80, the chimneys of the church and the roof had to be repaired at the cost of $100, which with some other expenses has increased the deficit to some $800. The Rector has made several appeals for subscriptions to cover this amount, in addition to the Easter offering, but as yet no responses have been made. There seems to be no alternative but to have a bazaar or some other entertainment, or a bazaar perhaps and some entertainments combined with it, in order to raise the money to wipe out this indebtedness. We ought to aim at raising $1,000. To do this will require a good deal of work and energy on behalf of our members. So we speak of it now in order that all our ladies may begin and work for it all summer. We know there are some ladies who are very expert in knitting and doing other fancy work, and all can make some things which could be sold at a fair.

We ask everyone therefore in the Parish to begin now and throughout the summer see how large a store of things they can make or collect for the purpose. For we shall have to have this time a fair on a much larger scale than we had last year. We trust all will be interested in it and do all they can to make it a success.

The details of the bazaar will be arranged at a meeting of the ladies which will be called early in the autumn.

THE ENDOWMENT FUND

We remind our people that by resolution of the vestry the offerings on Ascension Day are hereafter to be devoted to the Endowment Fund of the Parish. It is very important that the Parish should be endowed. It is so situated that it is out of the way of wealth. The few persons of means we have had we are gradually losing through death or removal, and we do not know that others will come to take their place. The neighborhood south of the church is becoming poorer and all the churches of other denominations are moving away from it.

Yet the position we occupy on Broad street is central and prominent and should be permanently held. And the only way to secure that certainly is by an endowment. A sum sufficient for the purpose can only be gradually accumulated by gifts and bequests, and we trust that all who can do so will remember the church in their wills. But in order to keep the matter before the minds of our people and make constantly at least some small addition to the fund, the Vestry has thought it wise to set aside all the offerings on the great festival, which is our parish name day, for this purpose. Special envelopes are also issued this quarter for this object for the use of those who may not be able to attend the church services that day. These may be returned at any time, and whatever is in them will be placed in bank in the special account which has been opened for the Endowment Fund and which never can be used for any other purpose, the Vestry having put it out of their power to do so by placing it in the hands of the Pennsylvania Company for Insurance, as trustees.

BROTHERHOOD OF S. ANDREW CONVENTION

An Inter-Diocesan Convention of the Chapters of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew in the Dioceses of Delaware, New Jersey, Central Pennsylvania Harrisburg and Pennsylvania will be held in Philadelphia on Saturday and Sunday, May 11 and 12, 1907.

Saturday, May 11, 1907 (all Saturday meetings in Holy Trinity Church, 19th and Walnut), 10.00 a. m., short service in the church in charge of Bishop Coleman; 11. a. m., address of welcome by Bishop Mackey-Smith in the Parish House; 11.30 a. m., organization conference; 3.00 p. m., junior conference in the Parish House; 4.00 p. m., senior conference in the Parish House. 6.30 p. m. supper in Holy Trinity Parish House; 8.00 p. m., service of preparation for the Holy Communion.

Sunday, May 12, 1907, 8.00 a. m., Corporate Communion in St. Stephen's Church, 10th above Chestnut; 11.00 a.m., convention sermon in the Church of the Holy Trinity by the Rev. Floyd W. Tomkins, S.T.D.; 4.00 p.m. mass meeting for men at the Garrick Theatre. Speaker: the Right Rev. Frederick Courtney, D.D., New York; 4.00 p.m., mass meeting for boys in St. Matthew's Church, 18th and Girard Avenue. Speakers: Franklin Spencer Edmonds, Esq., and the Rev. F. H. Sill, O.H.C., West Park, N. Y.; 8 00 p. m., farewell meeting in St. Stephen's Church, 10th above Chestnut.

PARISH NOTES

ASCENSION DAY.—The name day of our parish, and so our special Parochial Festival, will be kept as in other years. Celebrations of the Holy Communion at 7 a m. and after Morning Prayer at 10.30 a. m. with the full choir and a sermon as on Sundays. And in addition to Evening Prayer at 5 p. m. a special shortened Choral Evensong at 8 p. m. with the Anniversary Sermon by the Rector and a Festival Te Deum. As Ascension comes earlier this year than it has for several years, we shall hope to have larger congregations at these services than we have sometimes had. The Rector specially asks all his parishioners to try and be present at one of the Celebrations on this day and make the prosperity of the Parish the special object of intercession at that time. We seek for still greater blessings than we have yet enjoyed to be poured out on this parish and we believe that earnest prayer and interest in it on behalf of all our people can secure such. We hope also that all who can will be present in the evening to hear the report of the work of the church for the past year.

The Annual Guild Service will take place on the evening of the Sunday after the Ascension, May 12th, when all the parochial guilds of the young people will enter the church in procession and a special sermon will be preached to them by the Rev. W.H. McClellan, one of the clergy of S. Elizabeth's Church. The Annual Parish Tea will be held on Monday, May 13th, when we hope to see all our people meet together socially. An entertainment will be furnished by some of our young people.

MISSIONARY BOXES.—Our ladies sent during Lent a very nice box of clothing to S. George's Chapel, Kensington, valued at $35; also a very substantial one to the House of the Holy Child in West Philadelphia.

The following letter of acknowledgment has been received:

The House of the Holy Child
627 North 43rd Street

My dear Mrs. Carman:

The box sent by the Ladies Aid of the Church of the Ascension arrived safely and all the contents were much appreciated. All the garments are so well selected and so carefully made that I am sure they will give great satisfaction. The children who assisted in the unpacking remarked on the orderly way in which the things had been arranged. The powder, soap, etc. will be most useful.

I hope you will convey to the members of the Society our appreciation of their interest in the Home. We would be very glad if they would visit the House.

Sincerely yours,
EDITH WHARTON DALLAS.

VESTRY ELECTION.—On Easter Monday the following persons were duly elected to serve as vestrymen for the ensuing three years. Mr. Harry B. French, Mr. John S. Newbold, Mr. George B. Warder, Mr. Walter M. Newnam.

At the meeting of the Vestry following the election Mr. Francis S. Keese was appointed Rector's Warden and Mr. William C. Lloyd was elected Accounting Warden, Mr. John D. Henderson, Secretary, and Messrs. Keese and Newbold and Dr. Neilson, delegates to the Diocesan Convention.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL MISSIONARY OFFERING.—The amount has been increased to $42.65. This is about $14.00 more than last year. It is to be given to the Order of the Holy Cross for their St. Andrew's School for boys in the mountains of Tennessee.

THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT.—Mr. Botwright has gone to England to see his parents. We all wish him a happy visit and hope to have him with us again within two months. During his absence Mr. Hurst has kindly consented to take his place in the school. It will be like old times to have him with us again.

THE GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY.—Over twenty persons is not an unusual attendance and their evenings are very full. On April 16th there was a lantern show of views of Ireland and Japan. The views were quite interesting.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.—A large music-Hymnal and a musical Psalter for the organ and sixty large picture cards for the members of the Industrial School.

CHOIR BOYS' MINSTREL SHOW.—On Thursday, April 25th, the choir boys gave an enthusiastic exhibition. A large audience was present; the performers seemed to enjoy it as heartily as the guests, and a considerable sum was realized for the cost of the choir's summer outing. The amount received from donations and tickets will be reported in the next issue of the NEWS.

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A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since April 1st:

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Miss Hoffmann
Mr. Samuel Milliken (2)
Mrs. John S. Newbold (2)

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The Ascension News

VOL. XX. PHILADELPHIA JUNE, 1907 NO. 6

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HOLY DAYS . . . . 7.00 and 10.30 A.M.
DAILY EXCEPT THURSDAYS 7 00 A.M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer.
SUNDAYS, WITH SERMON 10.30 A.M.
DAILY . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.
SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M.
DAILY . . . . . 5.00 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) 8.00 P.M.

Children's Service.
SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.30 P.M.

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334 South Thirteenth Street

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1506 Pine Street

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GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St John's Guild	8.00 P.M
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.

Superintendent	THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent	MR. F C. BOTWRIGHT
Librarian	MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist	MRS S. A. HARRIS

BIBLE CLASSES

For Women MISS THOMPSON	2.45 P.M.
For Young Men and St. John's Guild MISS M. J. GILPIN	3.00 P.M.
For the Junior Brotherhood MISS HODGE	3.00 P.M

THE PARISH YEAR

In his anniversary sermon on the evening of Ascension day the Rector, as usual, made a survey of the work and progress of the parish for the last year. He pointed out that there had been five more baptisms and one more confirmed than the year before, forty-two had been added to the list of communicants (curiously enough, exactly the same number that was added both last year and the year before), showing that we are not losing our ground, though more had been removed this year—fifty-nine in all. This was due to a very thorough revision of the communicant list, all names of those who having removed from the parish could not be traced, and those who have ceased to come to the Holy Communion for some years, being stricken off. Communicants who had died during the year, seven in all, were Mrs. Butts, admitted to communion on her deathbed; John Lettress, one of our choir boys, confirmed a year ago; Mr Joseph Marshall, an elderly member of the parish who had attended the services very regularly until this last year or so, when his health failed him; William James Potts, son of one of our caretakers, an old Sunday-school boy; William Hall, a cripple, who frequently came to church on his crutches; Mrs. Annie Miller, confirmed and married in the church some fifteen years ago, and Mr. William Platt Pepper, for eighteen years one of the vestrymen of the church. He was long a prominent figure in, and great support to, the parish. His departure will be

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
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904 Clinton Street

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KALENDAR

June 2. First Sunday after Trinity.
" 7. Friday—Fast.
" 9. Second Sunday after Trinity.
" 11 S. Barnabas.
" 14. Friday—Fast.
" 16. Third Sunday after Trinity.
" 21. Friday—Fast.
" 23. Fourth Sunday after Trinity.
" 24. Nativity of S. John Baptist.
" 28. Friday—Fast.
" 29. S. Peter.
" 30. Fifth Sunday after Trinity.

Record for May

BAPTISMS—
Barbara Busch Ritsert,
Sarah Ann Hutchinson,
Lewis Lafayette Bassett,
Matilda Victoria Schmidt,
John Gregor, 5

Communicant received from S. Luke's, Germantown—
Mary Brandt Parke, 1

Transferred to S. Andrew's, West Philadelphia—
Mrs. Jennie Harris, 1

Communions of the sick 6

BURIAL—
David McCracken, 1

OFFERINGS

Current expenses	$368 39
For the Poor	9 01
" Diocesan Missions	5
" Benevolent purposes	2 42
" Rood Screen	71 00
" Endowment Fund	55 43
" Schools	30
Of the Sunday School	4 06
Total	$510 66

deeply felt. May all these members of our parochial family rest in peace, and may the Lord reward them according to their works.

There has been a large increase in the number of the daily services, owing to the continuation since the mission of the daily Eucharist, the attendance at which has been quite remarkable for that early hour—7 a. m.

The number of children in our Sunday and Industrial Schools has not been as large, owing chiefly to the change in the character of the population in the neighborhood of the church, so many foreigners and colored people coming in and driving away the families who formerly came to the church. Still, we are persuaded that there are many children about us who could be gathered in if we had the means of reaching them. The work of the guilds has been kept up very effectively, the most notable increase being in the Girls' Friendly Society and the work of the Mothers' Meeting.

In regard to the financial report for the year the total receipts are, of course, less than those of the previous year, owing to the large collections made then for the payment of the debt; but putting those aside, there is a slight increase in the receipts over the year before.

The missionary receipts are largely in excess, owing to the special effort made for the Men's Thank Offering Fund. The tota amount received so far for this purpose has been $538, a very handsome sum for the parish, but we are bound to say that it was contributed by only a few individuals and not, as it was hoped it would be, made up by contributions from every male member of the parish.

The most important fact in connection with the history of the parish

for the year was the placing of its trust funds in the hands of a trust Company to hold for the benefit of the parish, and the establishment of a general endowment fund. This was inaugurated by the ladies of the parish having a small fair for the purpose, and it is hoped by gifts and offerings on Ascension Day and by bequests a sum may be gradually accumulated which will be sufficient efficiently to support the church. Steps have also been taken by the vestry to transfer the real property of the parish to the Trustees of the diocese in order to safeguard it from any possibility of future alienation.

The general review of the year is satisfactory, showing that we are well holding our own in spite of somewhat difficult circumstances. Our hope for future progress lies in the improvement of our neighborhood and in obtaining larger resources with which to carry on our work.

PARISH NOTES

ASCENSION DAY.—Our parish festival was kept with a fair attendance of our people. A heavy rain in the middle of the day diminished the number usually at that service. The Rev. Jacob Miller, formerly Curate of S. Stephen's Church, preached in the morning and the Rector in the evening. The offering for the endowment fund was over fifty dollars.

The guild service on the Sunday evening following was well attended by the Girls' Guilds, but with only a poor showing for the boys. We understand the reason given is that the boys do not like to walk in procession. What is it that makes young men so shy?

SUMMER SERVICES.—The only change of services during the summer months will be the discontinuance of the saying of the Litany on Sundays and the daily celebration during the month of September, and there will be but one celebration on Holy days during July, August and September.

A ROOD SCREEN for the church has been offered to us by S. Mark's parish. It is that which now stands in that church and is a very handsome piece of work, but is to give place to a new one there. As our chancel is wider than S. Mark's it will require to be enlarged, and this, with the cost of taking it down and re-erecting it, will be some three hundred dollars. Special contributions to cover this have been made by some members of the parish, but more is still needed, and the Rector will be glad to receive any donations for the purpose. He considers that it will be a very great addition to the church and one he has been long hoping to have.

ELECTION OF VESTRYMAN.—Mr. Millard F. Roberts has been elected to fill the vacancy in the vestry of the church caused by the lamented death of Mr. William Platt Pepper. As Mr. Roberts has been a member of the parish for a great many years and has proved his interest in it by his regular attendance, in spite of the fact that he lives in West Philadelphia, it was certainly eminently fitting that he should be made a member of the vestry.

SPECIAL FUNDS.—The Accounting Warden has been directed by the Vestry to open a separate bank account in which all money contributed for special purposes is hereafter to be deposited.

Although not *one cent* that was contributed for a special purpose has ever been diverted to any other use since the present Rector became head of the parish, still it is very proper that this precaution should be taken to prevent any possibility of such perversion by their being deposited with the other funds of the parish, and it may secure their more prompt payment in certain instances.

CHOIR OUTING.—The proceeds of the entertainment given by the choir to provide the means for their summer outing amounted to some fifty dollars. This will hardly be sufficient to pay transportation and camp expenses for a week for the entire choir. The choirmaster therefore will be glad to receive further donations for the purpose. About twenty-five dollars more is needed.

GOING ABROAD.—Several of our parishioners are going to Europe this summer—the Misses Williamson, Miss Eva Pitcher, the Misses McIlheny and perhaps others. We wish them all bon voyage and trust they will not forget their church while they are away.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL EXCURSION.— Donations are asked to enable the children to have an outing this summer. Last summer, for the first time in years, we were able to take the school to Burlington Island Park. It would be a disappointment if we should be financially unable to do so this summer. So we would be grateful for some help.

ENTERTAINMENT.—A very pleasant sociable was given the members of S. John's Guild and the Girls' Friendly Society on Thursday evening, May 23d. The refreshments were supplied by a friend of S. John's Guild.

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL.—St. Agnes' Guild proposes having a strawberry festival on Thursday, June 13th, at 7 30 p. m. An entertainment of a varied character with refreshments may be expected. Tickets 10 cents. The proceeds will be devoted to the little girls' outings this summer.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—*Prizes.*—Silver and bronze medals (38) will be given at the closing session of the school, which will take place as soon as our assistant superintendent returns from abroad. We expect the date to be Sunday, June 16th.

An instruction for adults and children will be given every Sunday after that date at 3 30 p. m.

AMUSEMENTS FOR THE CHILDREN.—During the month St. Agnes' Guild has been to Keith's, the Wednesday Evening Choir Boys to the Circus, and the Junior St. John's Guild to Keith's. The St. Agnes' girls expect to go once more to Keith's this month. Both of these guilds have been faithful in attending the Sunday celebrations of the Blessed Sacrament and their weekly meetings for prayer, instruction and play.

JAMESTOWN ANNIVERSARY.—Sunday, June 16th, is the three hundredth anniversary of the first celebration of the Holy Communion on the American continent according to the English rite, and it has been suggested that every member of the church make a special communion on that day in thanksgiving for the blessings brought to us thereby. We should like to see our people so realize their privileges as to do so. The Rector will preach an historical sermon on the morning of that day.

ORDINATION.—The Rev. Henry Allen Yost, formerly a member of our parish, is to be ordained priest on the morning of Sunday, June 9th, in St. Philip's Church, West Philadelphia. The Rector is to present him.

REPORT

The following is the report of the parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop:

Baptisms.—Adults, 7; infants, 30; total, 37; *Confirmed.*—Males, 10; females, 14; total, 24. *Communicants Added.*—New, 29; by transfer, 13; died, 7; removed, by revision of list, 30; by transfer, 22; present number, 533. *Marriages.*—8. *Burials.*—17. *Public Services.*—Sunday, 264; on the other days, 1136; total, 1400. *Celebrations of Holy Communion.*—450. *Children Catechised.*—Times, 234. *Sunday School.*—Officers and teachers, 18; scholars, 186. *Other Parish Agencies.*—Officers and workers, 80; members, 150; Industrial School: teachers, 9; scholars, 56; Mothers' meeting: members, 40; Men's Guild, the male communicants; Woman's Guild, the female communicants; Young Men's Guild, S. John's, members, 15; Girls' Friendly Society, members, 23; Chapter Brotherhood of St. Andrew, members, 6; Junior S. John's Guild, members, 28; S. Agnes' Guild, members, 33.

Money Receipts.—Offerings for all parish purposes, $5522.65; offerings for purposes outside the parish, $921.72; investments, $474.00; other sources, $384 42; Sunday School, $91.04; Woman's Auxiliary, $199.15; Endowment Fund, $242.38; total, $7635.34.

Expenditures.—Parochial, current expenses (including salaries of clergy, music, fuel and lighting, care of church building and grounds and ordinary repair of same), $5592.17; support of the Sunday and Industrial School, $180.10; for the poor, $488.35; added to Endowment Fund, $235.98; miscellaneous, $297.22; total, $6793.82.

Diocesan.—Episcopal and Convention Fund, $160.22; Diocesan Missions, $116.21; Episcopal Hospital, $31.26; Sustentation Fund, $34.76; Bishop Whitaker Memorial, $6.55; total, $349.00.

General Missions.—General, $18.60; Foreign, $40.27; Domestic, $96.29; Indian, $15.97; Colored people, $16.21; Prayer Book and Tract Societies, $17.50; Sunday-school offering, $42.65; General Clergy Relief Fund, $2.00; Men's Thank Offering Fund, $538.00; California sufferers, $14.75; United Offering, $30.34; total, $832.58.

Total for all objects, $7975.40.

Estimated value of three missionary boxes, $140.00.

Financinl Condition.—Aggregate value of property of the parish, real and personal, $80.000; incumbrances: mortgage on the church edifice, parish building and ground, none; other indebtedness, loans, $1000; Endowment Fund, $9760.98.

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VOL. XX. PHILADELPHIA OCTOBER, 1907 NO. 7

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WARDEN

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Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.

Superintendent	THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent	MR. F C. BOTWRIGHT
Librarian	MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist	MRS S. A. HARRIS

BIBLE CLASSES

For Women	2.45 P.M.
For Young Men and St. John's Guild (Miss M. J. GILPIN)	3.00 P.M.
For the Junior Brotherhood (MISS HODGE)	3.00 P.M

FRANCIS SUYDAM KEESE.

This parish is again called upon to mourn the loss of one of its most prominent and important members, our late Senior Warden.

Mr. Keese was born in New York City on Christmas day, 1841. His grandfather was an officer in the Revolutionary army. He himself, while only a Sophomore in college, enlisted in the army during the Civil War. He was captain of a company raised especially for him. He served before Washington, on the Peninsula, in Louisiana and before Vicksburg and in the Shenandoah Valley. At the battle of Fisher's Hill he was desperately wounded and incapacitated for further active service. At the close of the war he was mustered out with the rank of colonel.

He lived for some years in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he was vestryman of the church of which the late Bishop Thomas of Kansas was then rector. For over thirty years he has resided in Philadelphia, for twenty-six years has been a vestryman of this church and for six years its Senior Warden. He was previously connected with Christ Church Chapel when our present rector was in charge of it, so that in his death our rector has lost one who for nearly thirty years has been his warmest friend and supporter.

Mr. Keese was much interested in, and contributed largely towards, the building of the present church. He presented our silver alms-plates, silver pitcher,

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY.

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

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KALENDAR

October 4. Friday—Fast.
" 6. Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.
" 11. Friday—Fast.
" 13. Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.
" 18. S. Luke, Evangelist Fast.
" 20. Twenty first Sunday after Trinity.
" 25. Friday—Fast.
" 27. Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity.
" 28. SS. Simon and Jude.

Record for June, July, August and September

BAPTISMS—
Adult
George Everett Sprowles
Infants
Emma Margaret Smith
Dorothy Clara Freeland
Alonzo Randolph Speeche — 4

CONFIRMED—
George Everett Sprowles — 1

MARRIED—
Henry Joseph Loughlin and
Lillian Hull Walters

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED
From the Roman Catholic Church—
Henry Joseph Loughlin
From the Syrian Church—
Helem Saadic
From the Church of the Advocate—
William Anderson — 3
Removed by transfer to All Saints'—
Charles Hason Loughlin
Mrs. Katie Dickson Loughlin — 2

DIED—
George Sibald Phipps
Francis Suydam Keese — 2

Communions of the sick — 2

BURIALS—
William Hughes Bender
George Sibald Phipps
Francis Suydam Keese — 3

OFFERINGS

Current expenses	$567 68
For the Poor	39 21
" " Rood Screen	153 00
" " Sunday and Industrial Schools	2 06
" " Endowment Fund	3 85
" " Outing Fund	20 00
" Benevolent purposes	3 03
Of the Sunday School	1 75
Total	$790 58

ever, etc. Though for some years he was much away from the church traveling both abroad and in this country, yet he never forgot his connection with it, sending his contributions towards its support regularly from whatever part of the world he might happen to be in. The last two winters he has been at home and attended its services and the meetings of the vestry very regularly. His presence and his help will be greatly missed He died after an illness of nearly two months and was buried from the church on August 20th

We are glad to say he has remembered the church in his will by a bequest of $3,000, which we presume the vestry will add to our endowment fund which we are very thankful to see thus increased. May he rest in peace and may the Lord reward him for his good deeds.

A ROOD SCREEN.

As we have just had a rood screen put up in our church if will be well for us to consider just what is the meaning and purpose of such a structure.

It is not merely an architectural ornament, though it is such, but, as everything about a church should be, it is as well a symbol and aid to devotion. In the first place, it separates the nave or body of the church from the chancel. The nave represents the earth where we are dwelling now, the chancel represents heaven, where the holy ones are and where we all hope to go, so only those have places in the chancel who have been set apart to minister in holy things and are clothed with the garments which at least represent holiness. And the screen at the entrance of the chancel reminds us that heaven is more or less

as yet hidden from our view, we can only see it as "through a veil," get glimpses of the glory and beauty that is in it. It is like the veil which hung in the Jewish temple between the Holy and Holy of Holies, though unlike that veil, which was impenetrable, no one but the high priest ever passing through it and that "only once every year, and not without blood," our veil has been rent by virtue of Christ's sacrificial death, and all can see and pass through it. But having a screen of some kind there reminds us that there is a separation between heaven and earth, that it is a better or more beautiful place than earth, and that only the pure can hope to enter there.

Thus as one sits or kneels in the nave of the church and looks through this open screen into the chancel with the altar and the ministers about it in their rich vestments, with the lights, and the music which comes from it, one is kept in mind of that "better country" which we should all be looking for and "hastening unto."

Then, secondly, it has been the general custom to erect on this screen a large cross, or rood as it used to be called—hence the term *rood screen*—or sometimes a representation of the crucifixion, the figure of Christ upon the cross and those of the Blessed Virgin Mary and S. John standing beside it. Thus that great central fact of our religion that Christ was crucified for us is evidently and constantly set forth before the eyes of all worshipping in the church—a wise and effective way to teach the great truths of the church by a permanent object lesson. How different from the cold, unadorned interior of most Protestant churches which have nothing in them to attract or draw forth devotion, or teach, except by the words which the minister may happen to utter, which may be more or less edifying and effective.

Then another thing, the cross being placed in this position teaches us is that none approach the altar and so can hope to enter heaven except through the cross. It is Christ's sacrifice upon the cross that alone made the salvation of the world possible. It is only as we pass under the cross, and are willing to sacrifice and deny ourselves, that we can be made like, and commune with, Him. And if any trial or affliction comes to us, by it we can be raised nearer to, and be made more fit for, heaven.

We hope our people will think upon these things when their eyes rest upon this beautiful screen, which they cannot help doing every time they enter the church. We trust and believe it will be a constant and most effective sermon and help to all who worship in our own church. We are sure all who see it will congratulate us on having obtained it. We are glad to say it is entirely paid for by special subscriptions which were made solely for the purpose. Our hearty thanks are due to the donors, and to the Rector and Vestry of S. Mark's Church which so kindly presented the main body of it. We understand the original cost of the screen was $1,200, so we are getting for $300 what is worth $1,500.

PARISH NOTES

SPECIAL PREACHERS.—The Rector is going to arrange to have a special preacher at the evening service every Sunday night during this coming winter. He does this because he believes it will be well for the congregation to hear different preachers and they can do it in this way without leaving their church

If one hears the same person all the time his way of preaching or presenting the truth becomes more or less monotonous. A different voice and manner of preaching may excite interest and arrest attention.

The Rector will invite the various clergymen of the city, or neighborhood, or visiting clergymen, in turn. And in order to enable them to come when necessary the Rector or Curate will take their place in their churches. This will not make any less work for the clergy, but we believe it will be for the edification of our people and we trust it will have the effect of increasing the attendance at the evening service, which of late has not been at all what it ought to be.

We shall try to publish in each NEWS the name of those who are to preach on the Sunday evenings of that month, and they will also appear in the Saturday issue of two of the daily papers, the *Ledger* and *Evening Bulletin*.

The preachers in October will be: On the first Sunday evening, the Rev. H. A. F. Hoyt, Rector of S. John's Church, Lower Merion; the second Sunday, the Rev. Edward Ritchie, Rector of S. James the Less, Falls of Schuylkill; the third Sunday, the Rev. R. J. McFetrich, of the Church of the Redeemer, Bryn Mawr; the fourth Sunday, the Rev. H. F. Fuller, Rector of Old Trinity Church, Oxford.

THE FAIR.—We trust all our ladies have kept in mind and have been making things for the fair we shall have to have this autumn. The church has given its note for $1,000, which comes due next month and must be met, and we see no other way of doing it but by having a fair with some accompanying entertainments. Just when it shall take place and how it shall be arranged remains yet to be determined.

We trust *all* the ladies of the parish, young and old, will attend the annual meeting of the Women's Guild on SS. Simon and Jude's day, October 28th, after the morning service at 10 o'clock, to consult and arrange about it. We are glad to say that Mrs. John Mason, who has so efficiently managed other affairs of the kind in the parish, who has been abroad for the past year, is returning and expects to be present at the meeting on the 28th. She wants all the ladies to meet her and give her their views on the subject and assist in the arrangements. The reports of the women's work in the parish for the past year will be read at the same time

WANTED.—Some new hymnals are very much required for the choir; also a piece of linen for choir cottas. These things will wear out and require constant renewing.

REPAIRS.—Almost every year some repairs have to be made to our buildings. This autumn we have had to have all the gutters and water-spouts of the church renewed and the roof repaired; also some plumbling done at the cost of about $100.

OUR FUNERAL PALL, which has been in use for nearly thirty years, and has been thrown over the coffins of millionaires and paupers, making them look alike in the church, is much in need of repair. We were ashamed to see it used at the burial of our Senior Warden. It consisted of a violet worsted material with embroidered silk bands upon it. The latter are still in perfect condition, but the worsted foundation is in rags. Would any in the congregation be willing to give donations for the purchase of material sufficient for the purpose of replacing this, to which the embroidered bands can be transferred? The members of our Altar Guild will do the work if the material is furnished. It would require about about $30.

SUMMER EXCURSION.—The choir-camp was held at Florence, N. J., beginning August 12th, and was very successful, though marred by the very sad and purely accidental drowning of George Phipps, one of our acolytes, who was a visitor at the camp over Sunday. Though very much shocked, the youthful spirits of the boys asserted themselves and they had a very pleasant week.

Through one of the boys of St. Stephen's parish, Florence, they were successful in arranging a series of baseball games with the boys of the town, so that with boating and bathing the time passed very quickly. They were accompanied by a professional cook, who was voted all right.

In the evening they generally had visitors whom they entertained with vocal selections both secular and religious. A frequent visitor at the camp stated that the boys' behavior was perfect and the grounds were left in better condition than they were found.

THE MOTHERS' MEETING had an excursion up the Delaware River on August 1st. Forty-six were in the party, and though caught in a heavy shower, it cleared up before the return trip, and all enjoyed the trip very much. About twenty of the mothers and their children were sent away for a two weeks' stay in the country and others for a shorter time. Ice tickets were distributed to some twelve families.

S. AGNES' GUILD EXCURSION.—On Saturday, July 27, this guild had an all-day excursion to Burlington Island Park, preceded by a children's celebration. Twenty-nine took part and the day passed only too quickly. Boating, feasting and many amusements filled up the time.

RESIGNATION.—We regret very much to announce that Miss Caroline Thompson, who has for a number of years acted as our Parish Visitor, had charge of the Mothers' Meeting, and occupied a number of other positions in the parish, has resigned to accept a similar position in the church at Wildwood, N. J. Miss Thompson has done an excellent work in the parish and endeared herself to many members of it. She will be very much missed, and it will be very difficult to fill her place. Our best wishes go with her in her new work.

RESUMPTION OF GUILDS.—The S. John's Jr., Guild will resume its meetings on Monday, October 14, at 8 P. M.

The S. Agnes' Guild will begin again on Saturday, October 12, at 7.45 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL EXCURSION.—Owing to the absence from the city of so many of the teachers and the inability of others to leave their work at the time we had expected to have our Sunday School excursion, it had to be postponed. It is the intention now to have an entertainment in place of it at the opening of the school season.

A SUNDAY SCHOOL PARTY.—On Thursday, October 10, at 7.30 P. M., there will be given a Sunday School Party, to which mirth, without charge, all members of the Sunday School whose names apppear upon the roll of last session.

All other friends of the school will be welcome, but are asked to pay ten (10) cents. Refreshments will be served.

BEGINNING OF SUNDAY SCHOOL.—The school will reassemble at 2.45 P. M. on Sunday, October 6. The assistant superintendent will have notified each scholar and teacher in advance. Teachers' instruction at 2.20 P. M. every Sunday.

GIFT TO THE CURATE.—The members of the Summer Sunday Instruction Class, which has met every Sunday during July and August, presented to their teacher a handsome set of Gillette safety razors for his use, especially when travelling. He is very grateful.

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A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

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The Ascension News

VOL. XX. PHILADELPHIA NOVEMBER, 1907 NO. 8

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THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer.
SUNDAYS, WITH SERMON 10.30 A.M.
DAILY . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.
SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M.
DAILY . . . . . 5.00 P. M.
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334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*.
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GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild	8.00 P.M
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid	3.00 P. M.
Wednesdays, Mothers' Meeting	8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class	10.30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society	10.30 A. M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.

Superintendent	THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent	MR. F. C. BOTWRIGHT
Librarian	MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist	MRS S. A. HARRIS

BIBLE CLASSES

For Women	2.45 P.M.
For Young Men and St. John's Guild (Miss M. J. GILPIN)	3.00 P.M.
For the Junior Brotherhood (MISS HODGE)	3.00 P.M

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays	10.00 A. M.

THE GENERAL CONVENTION

Perhaps some of our people who do not see any of the church papers would like to have a short resume of what was done at the late General Convention of the Church held in Richmond, Virginia.

All those who were there say that it was a most interesting and inspiring convention. This was largely due to the presence of the English Bishops of London and St. Albans, as well as some Canadian and other foreign Bishops. But it was chiefly due to the effect of the presentation of the men's thank offering, which, together with that of the women's united offering, amounted to $1,000,000, and also to the visits paid to the historic spots of Jamestown and Williamsburgh. where the Church was first planted in this country.

As to the legislation accomplished the chief items were: The adoption of a preamble to the Constitution of the Church which speaks of the Church as the "American Church" and gives a short statement of the great principles on which it is founded.

A proposed amendment to the Constitution providing for the *election* of the Presiding Bishop of the Church to be paid by the general church, so as to be relieved from all diocesan duties, and to be retired at seventy years of age. This is to take the place of the present method by which the senior bishop by consecration becomes the presiding Bishop, which because he is often a very old man, and having in addition the cares of a diocese,

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EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
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904 Clinton Street

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KALENDAR

November	1.	All Saints' Day—Friday, Fast.
"	3.	Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity.
"	6.	Friday—Fast.
"	10.	Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity.
"	15.	Friday—Fast.
"	17.	Twenty-fifth Sunday after Trinity.
"	22.	Friday-Fast.
"	24.	Sunday next before Advent.
"	28.	Thanksgiving Day.
"	29.	Friday—Fast.
"	30.	S. Andrew, Apostle.

Record for October.

BAPTISMS—
Theodore Alburger Neil.
Sarah Anna Lindsay, 2

COMMUNICANTS ADDED—
By transfer from S. James' Church—
Mrs. Virginia Moylan Struthers.
Helen von Leurverich Struthers.
Armitage Tyson Struthers. 3

Communions of the sick 2

OFFERINGS

Current expenses	$150 25
For the Poor	4 61
" " Endowment Fund	3 00
" " Christian Social Union	13 93
" " Schools	5 50
" " Men's Thank Offering Fund	2 00
" " Funeral Pall	5 00
" " Altar linen	10 00
" Benevolent purposes	1 28
Of the Sunday School	4 64
Total	$200 21

makes him unable to look after the general interests of the Church.

Another proposed amendment to provide for the election and consecration of suffragan bishops. These will be assistants to the bishop of a diocese having charge of a section of the diocese, or of a particular race or class in a diocese, but without the right to vote in the House of Bishops, or of succession to the bishop of the diocese, unless especially elected. It is thought that this will be the best way to provide for the efficient oversight of the larger dioceses, and for those of different races and colors which are coming to be in such large numbers in some sections.

The amendment of the Missionary Canon of the Church so as to divide the Church into some eight departments—which will doubtless grow into Provinces—with power to carry on the special missianary work within their borders.

Another canon gives the clergy the right—which has been often exercised—of allowing, with permission of the Bishop, persons not in Holy Orders to make addresses in the church on special occasions.

Four new missionary jurisdictions were erected in the West; the missionary jurisdiction of Duluth made a diocese and the diocese of Georgia divided into two.

Several important committees were appointed to report to the next convention—one on the revision of the lectionary, one on the thirty-nine articles, one on marriage and divorce, one to consider the propriety of having a form authorized for the administration of unction, and one on Provinces.

Altogether the convention accomplished a great deal of work. It did not do some things we should have liked to have seen done, but large bodies move slowly and desired reforms will doubtless come in time.

THE FAIR, ETC.

At the annual meeting of the ladies of the parish on SS. Simon and Jude's day definite arrangements were made for the fair which, as we have announced, it is proposed to hold this autumn for the purpose of meeting the deficit in our current expenses.

The fair will be held in the Parish Building on Thursday and Friday, December 12 and 13, from 2 to 10 P. M. each day. The admission will be free. Every one in the parish is asked to contribute something towards this fair. Make what you can yourself and collect all you can from your friends. And come and buy all you can and ask all your friends to come and buy too. The fair is to be held in the early part of December in order to give plenty of time to get ready for it, and because it is just the time when everybody is buying Christmas presents. So save up and buy all your Christmas presents there and ask all your friends to do the same. Let all try to make it as widely known as they can and help to make it a success. There will be a cake and candy table, the proceeds of which will be divided between the Mothers' Meeting and the Girls' Friendly Society, as we need funds to carry on those two organizations.

In addition to the fair there will be given, probably in some hall, one or more entertainments, of which due announcement will be made.

Another project the ladies have adopted to raise the sum which we require, which is at least $1000, is that of issuing "Birthday Envelopes" One thousand of these have been printed and will be distributed to the members of the congregation. *Every* person in the congregation, including *every child*, is asked to put in one of these envelopes *one penny for each year* of his or her life as a thank offering for benefits received. This will not be much for any one person, for no one in the congregation is over one hundred years old, so no one will be asked to give as much as a dollar, and many very much less, and yet when it is all put together it will amount to a very considerable sum, which will swell the total. If any one does not receive an envelope they will be found in the rack in the church near the main door. They should all be returned to the church filled on Sunday, November 17th or 24th.

It is hoped by these means the deficit we have, and which must be met, will be made up. And if every one will take an interest and do all he or she can it can readily be accomplished.

We are very glad to say that Mrs. John Mason has returned from Europe, where she spent last winter, and that she will act as chairman of the committee having this whole matter in charge.

PARISH NOTES

SPECIAL PREACHERS for November on Sunday evenings: The first Sunday, the Rev. Joseph Sherlock, Rector of St. Chrysostom's Church at Twenty-eighth and Susquehanna avenue; the second Sunday, the Rev. John A. Goodfellow, Rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Kensington; the third Sunday, the Rev. C. M. Armstrong, Rector of St. Mary's, Wayne; the fourth Sunday, the

Rev. G. M. Hayman, Curate of St. Peter's Church, Germantown.

On Sunday afternoon, October 27th, a special meeting was held in the church under the auspices of the Christian Social Union, when a serman was preached by the Rev. Father Waggett, of the Society of St. John the Evangelist, Cowley, England. A good congregation was present and the offerings were given to the work of the society.

THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE WOMEN'S GUILD of the parish was held in the Parish building on SS. Simon and Jude's day, immediately after the regular service for that day in the church. Although *all* the ladies of the congregation were asked to come only about seventeen were present. Is it not strange that so few will interest themselves in the work of their parish enough to be present even on the one day in the year, when the reports of the work for the year past are read and arrangements made for the coming winter?

Owing to the removal of Miss Thompson from the city vacancies were made in the representation of the parish on the Board of Foreign Missions of the Women's Auxiliary, and of the Secretaryship of the Church Periodical Club. Some one is wanted to supply the former place. The latter position Miss Elizabeth Gilpin will fill.

Another delegates is needed on the Diocesan Committee.

Miss Josephine McLoughlin will also take Miss Thompson's place in charge of the Mother's Meeting, and Miss Helen H. Hodge will be the head of the Industrial School. Miss Elizabeth Ashburner, who so efficiently carried on the Girls' Friendly Society last year, has been obliged to resign on account of ill health and Miss Charlotte W. Hare has taken her place. We are very glad to say this society is very flourishing. A dramatic teacher has been engaged for the winter and other classes also will be formed.

THE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL on Saturday mornings for boys and girls begins its sessions with this month and will be continued until Easter. If there is any one who could teach wood carving, basket weaving or the like we would be vary glad if they would volunteer to take classes. This school provides occupation for the children on Saturdays and brings them under religious influences. Any children whether they belong to the parish or not are welcome to attend it.

GARDEN PARTY.—On June 22d a garden party was given to raise some money towards the rood screen.

Mr. Willing kindly gave the use of his walled garden at Broad and South streets, where refreshments and a few fancy articles were sold, with two graphophones to make "music in the air," and an automobile ran up and down on Broad street through the afternoon and evening, and it proved altogether a very successful affair. Seventy-five dollars was realized. Those who assisted in making it a success by their donations and interest were: Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. Wagner, Mrs. Tait, Miss S. E. Gilpin, Miss Moreland, Mr. Botright, Mr. Henderson, Mr. Atkinson, Mr. George Morgan, Mr. Daniel James, Miss Carmen, Miss McKnight, Miss Greer, Miss Brodie, Miss Trice, Misses Wharton; Mr. Cameron, Mr. Wm. Boggs, Mr. George Tait, Mr. Stuart Tait, Mr. Clarence Martz.

The account of this party, to which we are largely indebted for the rood screen, was inadvertently omitted from the October issue.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.—It began its winter work on the first Sunday in October. The attendance so far has been materially larger than the corresponding Sundays within the past several years. Several new features have been introduced, among them the following: Certificates of promotion from one department to a higher, cards of birthday greeting, a reminder of absence for primary school, blackboard pictures, monthly reports to parents. Perhaps this has had some effect upon the attendance.

ST. AGNES' GUILD.—This guild at every meeting so far this season has had an attendance almost double that of any previous year. Miss Jennings, Mrs. Herman and Miss Stretch have been added to our corps of helpers for this winter, Miss Jennings being the Superior.

CHESTNUT HUNT.—On Saturday, October 12, four adults and twenty little girls of St. Agnes' Guild went on a chestnut hunt. They gathered few nuts, but had a joyous afternoon. Upon their return to the Parish House supper was served to 22 children and 8 adults and a hungry lot they were. After supper the regular guild meeting was held, leaving at 9 P. M.

ANNUAL ENTERTAINMENT OF ST. AGNES' CUILD.—On Monday, November 18, this guild will give its annual entertainment. The profits arising from this one yearly effort are depended upon to supply the funds for all of their feasts, excursions, games, and other expenses during the year. We would be grateful for the purchase of tickets, which are sold at ten cents each.

A SUNDAY-SCHOOL PARTY.—At the close of the last session we were prevented from having an excursion, as we had intended. So as an alternative the school had a party on October 10th. Refreshments were provided for the children, after which they had a royal good time. After they had gone an elaborate feast awaited the officers, teachers and friends. Twenty-one persons were present and after dinner speeches were made by several of our guests. Prizes which were delayed in New York at the close of the session in the summer were distributed at this time.

NEEDS.—It will be noticed that we have only received $5 in response to the appeal we made last month for money to purchase material for the repair of the funeral pall, when it will require $30, and nothing at all for new hymn books for the choir, which are very much needed. Are there not those who would make donations for these purposes?

MISSIONARY BOX.—The ladies of the congregation are now engaged in making up their annual missionary box to be sent to some needy clergyman in the South and West. Contributions of money for it may be sent to Miss Mary Chamberlaine at the Clinton, Tenth and Clinton Streets, or donations of clothing may be sent to the church. Any clothing not good enough to be put in the box can be used in the parish.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since October 1st:

Miss Vogdes
Mrs. Dalington (3)
Miss Epprecht
Mrs. Allen

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The Ascension News

VOL. XX. PHILADELPHIA DECEMBER, 1907 NO. 9

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
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HOLY DAYS . . . . 7.00 and 10.30 A.M.
DAILY EXCEPT THURSDAYS 7.00 A.M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer.
SUNDAYS, WITH SERMON 10.30 A.M.
DAILY . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.
SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M.
DAILY . . . . . 5.00 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) 8.00 P.M.

Children's Service.
SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.30 P.M.

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334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*.
1506 Pine Street

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GUILD MEETINGS

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Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid	3.00 P. M.
Wednesdays, Mothers' Meeting	8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class	10.30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society	10.30 A. M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.

Superintendent	THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent	MR. F. C. BOTWRIGHT
Librarian	MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist	MRS S. A. HARRIS

BIBLE CLASSES

For Women (Miss Augusta French)	2.45 P.M.
For Young Men and St. John's Guild (Miss M. J. Gilpin)	3.00 P.M.
For the Junior Brotherhood (Miss Hodge)	3.00 P.M

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A. M

OBSERVANCE OF THE LORD'S DAY.

There is no question but that the observance of Sunday is becoming less and less among all classes of people, both rich and poor, we believe to their great loss and danger. Why and how should it be observed?

First, it is essential as a regular and needed day of rest from labor. We all have to, and ought to, work in this world, but we are not required to work all the time and we cannot do as much, and as good work, if we do. Some think they are strong enough to work all the time and in their eagerness to make money, are tempted to do so. But as no one could work all day and all night too, without soon breaking down, so no one can work every day, without injuring himself. Human experience substantiates this ancient divine law, that man should have a weekly day of rest. It is no more arbitrary to rest one day in seven, than it is to sleep seven or eight hours in every twenty-four. It is what human nature requires for its good, and if a man disregards it, he is injuring himself. Hence the moral obligation of resting.

And if a man ought to give himself rest, he is still more bound to give it to any over whom he has control. For an individual or a corporation to compel one, or take advantage of a man's necessities, so as to virtually compel him, to work seven days in a week, he, or it, is injuring and defrauding that man, just as much as if he beat him or stole from him. If some work must be done on the day generally observed as a day of rest, then those doing

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EDITORS
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KALENDAR

December 1. First Sunday in Advent.
" 6. Friday—Fast.
" 8. Second Sunday in Advent.
" 13. Friday—Fast.
" 15. Third Sunday in Advent.
" 18. Ember Day—Fast.
" 20. Ember Day—Fast.
" 21. S. Thomas, Apostle. Ember Day—Fast.
" 22. Fourth Sunday in Advent.
" 25. Christmas.
" 26. S. Stephen, Martyr.
" 27. S. John, Evangelist.
" 28. Holy Innocents.
" 29. Sunday after Christmas.

Record for November.

COMMUNICANTS TRANSFERRED—
To S. Clement's Church,
Mrs. Margaret Emma Barker.
May Elizabeth Barker.
To S. Paul's Church,
Albert Edward Hurst.
Mrs Mary Long Hurst.
Henry Clay Hurst.
To S. Simeon's by the Sea, Wildwood, N. J.
Caroline Louise Thompson.

DIED—
Virginia Seckel

Communions of the sick

Burials

OFFERINGS

Current expenses	$347 14
For the Poor	27 90
" " Year Book	50
" " Sunday and Industrial Schools	3 25
" the General Missions	22 60
" " Deficit, (Birthday Envelopes	90 53
" " Floating Debt	50
" " Episcopal Hospital	16 15
" Benevolent purposes	2 60
Of the Sunday School	4 79
Total	$514 86

that work are entitled to some other day in the week. That is the moral obligation to take for oneself and to give to others, one full day's rest in every seven. Not to do this, no matter what the temptation may be, is both a mistake and a sin.

Then the second purpose of the day is the performance of religious duty, the cultivation of the spiritual life. The spirit is the highest part of a man. What he is and what he does in the world will depend upon what his spiritual character is. So the cultivation and development of his spirit is a moral obligation, and essential to his highest welfare. And this can be efficiently and fully done only by having a set time devoted to the purpose and the use of certain instrumentalities. The most natural and practical day for the purpose is that appointed as a day of rest, when all can have the leisure to attend to these concerns. So Sunday is to be kept not only as a rest but as a holy day, a day for worship. That does not mean that the *whole* day must be taken up with worship, few would be capable of such a strain and it would destroy the other purpose of the day, its rest. We hold that at least *one* act of public religious worship should be performed on this day, preferably the taking part in the great distinctive act of Christian worship, the celebration of the Holy Communion, which embodies in it more than any other act of worship can. Then when that has been performed, the remainder of the day can be taken up with any innocent and healthful recreation or occupation one may choose which does not involve labor to oneself or compel others to work. But if a man takes the whole of Sunday simply for rest and neglects all religious duty, he is committing a sin and injuring himself as much as he who works all day.

It is manifest that if a man gives up the habit of regular attendance upon religious worship and considers that there is no obligation of the kind resting upon him, he will become, sooner or later, indifferent to, and forgetful of all religious duty, and lose the guidance, help, support and comfort which only religion can give. It is no answer to say a man can cultivate his spiritual life, without attendance at church. Few try to it otherwise and none can do it so well. There must be a time and place and means for doing this, as there is need for schools, schoolhouses and appliances for acquiring an education. Some men are self-taught, who have never attended school, but very few, and they not as well as those who have. So some men are good, who never go to church, but they are few, and they are not as good, and do not do as much good in the world as they could, if they used the church as they ought.

Hence all should feel the necessity of regularly observing Sunday in these two ways, and do all one can, to counteract the great and growing disregard of it. This neglect of it comes, from the craze to get rich and so use every moment of time and all one's power to become so; from the increase of wealth and luxury, making men indifferent to anything but ease and pleasure; from the relaxation of restrain, the freedom all have nowadays to do just what they like, children judging for themselves what is best and wisest, which they are utterly incompetent to do; from the lack of religious training in our schools and in our homes; from the loss of faith in spiritual things, owing to the great strides we have made in material things and scientific development; and doubtless, also from the natural rebound from a too strict observance of the day enforced by our Puritan forefathers, But the uses of the day are so evident and so essential that we should be most careful to preserve it. We can do so by avoiding all entertainment, travelling, amusements or occupations, which necessitate labor on the part of others, no matter how innocent they may be in themselves, and by scrupulously attending at least one service in God's House, the Holy Communion if possible, unless absolutely prevented by sickness or some other imperative duty which could be performed at no other time, as something which we owe to ourselves and to the world, For there are few ways in which a man can exert a greater influence for good, or obtain more benefit for himself, than by a regular attendance at the Lord's House, upon the Lord's Day. Every Christian should regard the regular and proper observance of Sunday as most essential to the physical and spiritual welfare of himself and of the community, and so do all he can to promote it.

PARISH NOTES.

NEW VESTRYMAN.—At the regular meeting of the Vestry, held Nov. 7, Mr. Edward F. Pugh was duly elected a member of the Vestry, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Francis S. Keese. Mr. Pugh is a member of S. Mary's Parish, Wayne, but he lives in the city the greater part of the year, and has been attending The Ascension, more or less regularly for a number of years. As he is a lawyer by profession, a member of the Trustees of the Diocese, and of its Committee on Trusts, Etc., his knowledge of law, especially church law, will be of use to the parish.

RECTOR'S WARDEN.—The Rector has appointed Dr. Thomas R. Neilson, as Senior Warden, in Mr. Keese's place. Dr. Neilson is now the senior member of the Vesty in continuous service, and is eminently fitted for the position.

ADDITIONAL LEGACY from Mr. Keese. In addition to the legacy of $3000, Mr. Keese left to the parish, we learn that he made a further provision in his will of $2000, to be kept invested by his executors, the interest to be applied in keeping in order, his burial lot in Woodlands Cemetery, and what is left over the amount required for that purpose, to be paid to this church. As the sum required to keep a burial lot in order is small, this means that practically his legacy to the parish was $5000. And we are happy to say that the $3000, he bequeathed directly to the church, has already been paid to the accounting warden.

SPECIAL PREACHERS for December. First Sunday evening, The Rev. Joseph Manuel, Rector of St. Luke's Church, Kensington; Second Sunday, The Rev. Francis A. Launt, D. D., Rector of St. David's Church, Manayunk; Third Sunday, The Rev. John E. Hill, Rector of All Saint's Church; Fourth Sunday, The Rev. George Gunnell, the Rector of St. Andrew's Church; Fifth Sunday, The Rev. F. H. Argo, Rector of the Church of the Holy Nativity, Rockledge. The Rt. Rev., the Bishop of Harrisburg, is also expected to preach on the morning of December 22d.

ELECTRIC BUSSES ON BROAD ST.—We are much pleased that the route of these vehicles has been extended to Wharton Street. This will at last enable persons to come directly to the door of our church, and to leave it in the same way, going either north or south, instead, as formerly having to walk a block on South street, going and coming. The distance was not only a disadvantage, especially in bad weather, but South Street is a disagreeable street to walk in. We are confident too, that the Busses on Broad Street will lead to the improvement of the street, as it will be more seen and appreciated than it has been, and they will make living on the street more convenient. They will also call attention to the church, many persons thus passing it, who otherwise might not have known of its existence.

YEAR BOOK FOR 1906-7—The new year book of the Parish, was ready for distribution on the First Sunday in Advent. Those who have not received a copy, will find them in the rack in the inside of the church near the door. They give an account of the work of the church for the past year, explain how it is conducted, etc. We hope all will take and read them.

NOTICES OF SERVICES.—The Rector has had 1000 cards printed giving a list of our services, together with a cordial invitation to attend them, for distribution in our neighborhood. The Reverend Curate and members of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, have each taken certain blocks, and endeavored to put one in each house, and in the case of boarding and apartment houses, in each room, in the hope of calling the attention of those who otherwise might not know of it, to our church and its free welcome to all.

THE BIRTHDAY ENVELOPES, which were distributed last month for the purpose of helping to make up our deficit, were returned and solemnly presented on the Altar on Thanksgiving Day. There were 202 in all and the sum they contained was $90.53. Many more were given out which have not been yet returned. Will not all in the Parish make this thank-offering of one penny a year for all the years they have lived?

THE FAIR will take place December 12th and 13th, from 2 to 10 P. M., each day. Many of our members are making some very pretty things for it, and we trust every one in the parish will come and bring their friends to buy their Christmas presents there.

CHRISTMAS.—There will be Celebrations of the Holy Communion on Christmas Day, at 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 and 11.30 A. M., with Morning Prayer and Sermon at 10.30 A. M. The music at this service will be "Te Deum", Smart, in F. Anthem, "Behold, I Bring You Good Tiding," by Sir John Goss. Mass; Parker in E.

As usual, we ask for special offerings on Christmas Day. Last year, they amounted to $550. We trust it may be at least the same this year, as it is only by large offerings at the Festivals, that we can make up for the small collections at other times. Those especially who do not use envelopes, must remember how irregular their offerings are from Sunday to Sunday. Some really contribute to the church only at Christmas and Easter, so their gifts then, should be kept large enough to cover the whole year. The ladies in charge of the Mother's Meeting, would be glad to receive donations of money or provisions, to give each member a Christmas dinner.

ST. JOHN'S SENIOR GUILD.

This Guild seems to have acquired new life this Autumn. At the last meeting, Mr. James Atkinson, was elected manager and Mr. William E. Linton, captain of this winter's basket ball team. A committee was appointed to prepare for a sociable later in the season, consisting of Miss Maria Gilpin, Messrs Strong, Tait, and Martz.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT.

The Christmas Entertainment for the Sunday-School, will be held on the Eve of Holy Innocents, Friday, December 27th, at 8 P. M. A committee will prepare it, consisting of Mr. Botwright, Miss Louisa Hodge and Mrs. Harris.

ST. AGNES GUILD ENTERTAINMENT.

This Guild of little girls gave their Annual Entertainment on the evening of Monday, November 18th. The rain poured down all the day and evening, but notwithstanding this about 200 persons were present. Everyone seemed to have a pleasant time, and nothing occurred to mar the evening, save the storm.

We are indebted to Wilbur & Co., for the refreshments, consisting of chocolate and cakes. Antrim's Entertainment Bureau kindly provided us with programmes.

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Mrs. Fenton
Mrs. John Mason
Miss Whitehouse
Mrs. Parrish
Mrs. Dallas
Mrs. Tait

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Wednesdays, Mothers' Meeting	8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class	10.30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society	10.30 A. M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.

Superintendent	THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent	MR. F. C. BOTWRIGHT
Librarian	MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist	MRS S. A. HARRIS

BIBLE CLASSES

For Women (MISS AUGUSTA FRENCH)	2.45 P.M.
For Young Men and St. John's Guild (MISS M. J. GILPIN)	3.00 P.M.
For the Junior Brotherhood (MISS HODGE)	3.00 P.M

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

The word "worship" comes from the word "worth". It is the acknowledgment or ascription of worth. It is applied as a title of honor to one who is worthy of it, as "his worship, the Magistrate." So it is used to express the reverence and honor man should ascribe to God. None is of greater worth than God, and so just as if a man possessed a work of art which was very beautiful and valuable, he would constantly look at it, and dwell on its value, so should every one, appreciating the worthiness of God, ascribe honor and glory to Him, consciously and constantly dwell on His attributes, and so render Him worship. We should do it because He is worthy of it, it is His due, and because by dwelling upon that which is so good and beautiful we will ourselves be elevated and blessed. That which a man thinks about and studies about will affect his character. So if a man thinks about God and communes with God, it will make him like God. It is a duty and privilege therefore for any one to worship God. It should be performed regularly and in the way which will be most effective.

What then is the best way in which we can worship God? And how does Christian worship differ essentially from any other worship of God?

The great advantage which the Christian has over everyone else is that he knows God as He has been revealed in the person of Christ. "He that hath seen Me," saith our Lord, "hath seen the

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS:

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KALENDAR

January	1.	Circumcision,
"	3.	Friday—Fast.
"	5.	Second Sunday after Christmas.
"	6.	Epiphany.
"	10.	Friday—Fast.
"	12.	First Sunday after Epiphany.
"	17.	Friday—Fast.
"	19.	Second Sunday after Epiphany
"	24.	Friday—Fast.
"	25.	Conversion of S. Paul.
"	26.	Third Sunday after Epiphany.
"	31.	Friday—Fast.

Record for December.

BAPTISMS—
Mrs. Isabel Simpson
Margaret Emily Lindsay 2
Communicants received new
Mrs. Virginia Gertrude Speeche
Alonzo Philip Speeche
Mrs. Isabel Simpson
From S. David's Church, Radnor
George Morrison Coates.
From Church of Our Saviour.
Lilian Davies
From Church of the Good Samaritan, Paoli.
Maud Helen Davies 6
COMMUNICANTS TRANSFERRED—
To S. Paul, Chestnut Hill
John Hazelhurst Mason
Mrs. Mary Esther Mason 2
DIED—
Miss Mary Ann Hutchinson
Mrs. Isabel Simpson 2
Communions of the sick 6
Burials John Mason
Mrs. Mary Ann Hutchinson
Sarah Elisabeth McFadden
Mrs. Isabel Simpson 4

OFFERINGS

For current expenses, (including christmas offering)	$865 45
" the poor	33 68
" Missionary Box	50 00
" the Schools	25
" General Missions	2 28
" Benevolent Purposes	2 11
Christmas decorations and Festival	[illegible]
[illegible] Envelopes for Deficit	16 [illegible]
[illegible] Sunday Schools	9 [illegible]
Proceeds of Fair for Deficit	[illegible]
	$1285 [illegible]

Father." To appreciate the worthiness of God, then we must dwell upon the character and life of Christ. Nothing else can so make us realize the worthiness of God. So will our minds and hearts be filled with the sense of reverence and admiration and love and thankfulness. And nothing else can so move us with desire and resolution and effort to become like Him, worthy of His goodness to us.

That therefore which brings Christ most vividly before us will be the best means to enable us to worship. What is that? Some say sermons That is, that preaching about Christ will enable men to realize best what He was And they are very useful if they are good sermons. But it is only a few persons who can preach really good and effective sermons; and the listening to a sermon is after all a purely intellectual process, all persons are not capable of it. And it does not necessarily make the hearer perform any act of worship. So it is with a service composed only of prayers and hymns and reading of the Scriptures. That also is an intellectual process, which men are only more or less capable of appreciating.

But there is another and a better way by which Christians can worship and which Christ especially provided for that end. In the night before He was crucified, the most solemn moment of His life, He took the elements of bread and wine and blessed them and gave them to His disciples, saying "this is my Body, this is my Blood, *do this in remembrance of me*" That is what that act would recall to them, present to them, make them realize more than any mere words could what He was, and what He did for man. It would teach what He was by a sign, by an object lesson which all the simplest and most unlearned could understand, and

be more capable than aught else of bowing their souls in lowest reverence and appreciation of what He was, of what God is.

So this has always been the great act of worship in the Christian Church. The Apostles and early Christians met daily to perform it, and throughout all the Catholic church, through all the ages of Christian history, it has been constantly celebrated as the very best way by which men can ascribe honor and glory to God and learn to appreciate what He is and be affected by it.

It is only among some Protestant bodies in comparatively late years that this service has been relegated into a subordinate position, only casually used, and the preaching of sermons or a service of mere praise or prayer substituted as the chief and ordinary mode of worship. The consequence of which has been that men have come to think that going to church is a matter of small importance. If they can hear a very fine preacher, they will go; if not, they will stay at home and read a sermon or—the newspaper. But none can worship God in the Sacrament of the Altar save in Church, and none can worship Him so well as in and by that sacrament. And as there is nothing which is so right and natural and our bounden duty that we should do as to give worship to God, or which will so affect and bless ourselves if it is rightly and effectively performed, so none should neglect the use of that sacrament. The church has always taught that every Sunday and Holy day at the least should be hallowed by its celebration, and every Christian should avail himself of the opportunity to take part in it. This is the teaching of our Prayer Book. There ought to be a celebration at least as often as that in every church. And those who take part in it will find that it is the most effective way in which they can discharge the natural and most elevating act of the worship of Almighty God.

PARISH NOTES.

CHRISTMAS was a most beautiful day and our Church looked most attractive. The music was excellent, the choir rendered an entirely new Communion Service and Te Deum. The number of Communions made at the early services was in excess of last year. The offertory amounted to $425 against about $550 last year.

The Rev. Curate was presented with a new cassock by the members of his instruction class, the gift was a complete surprise to him. It is of beautiful fine material and he is deeply grateful for the kind feeling which prompted it as well as for the very useful gift. The choir master was also presented with a handsome baton by the men of the choir. He in return presented each of the boys with a pocket knife.

Donations of money and materials were made sufficient to furnish nineteen dinners, consisting of a fowl, vegetables, cranberries and fruit for needy persons in the parish.

The children's festival took place on Holy Innocent's eve. The children met in the Church and sang their Christmas Carols and were addressed by the Rector Curate, and the Assistant Superintendent. Afterward in the Parish building they had a treat of ice cream, candies and oranges; an exhibition of a Victor talking

machine together with some recitals. Mr. Myers, a member of our choir kindly impersonated Santa Claus and distributed a gift to each scholar.

ST. AGNES' GUILD PARTY--On December 21, the Guild had a party to which each was allowed to invite a friend. The evening was spent in singing, reciting their office, and instruction and then a number of games. Three prizes were awarded for winning in these games. After this, refreshments were served, consisting of ice cream, cake, candy and fruit. Seven adults and thirty-four children were present.

Before leaving an engraving in a gilt frame was presented to each of the four Superiors. It added to the reality of these gifts to know that every child in the Guild contributed to their purchase.

THE FAIR held last month passed off very successfully. A large number of useful and fancy articles were made and sent to the Church together with cakes and candy. We wish we could acknowledge each article separately but must content ourselves with this general expression of gratitude to all who contributed to it in any way. The large room on the upper floor of the Parish building was handsomely decorated. The tables were persided over by different ladies of the congregation, and there was a special table for the Girl's Friendly Society. The Guild room on the first floor was fitted up as a tea room, where light refreshments were dispensed, the two other rooms were used for cooking.

The total proceeds, including the amount earned by the Girl's Friendly table were something over $300. This together with the receipts from the birthday envelopes makes about $400 received toward cancelling the deficit we have of $1000, in our current expense account, from last year.

SPECIAL PREACHERS for January, First Sunday evening, the Rev. A. L. Atkin, Priest in charge of St. George's Church Kensington. Second Sunday, the Rev. Edwin S. Carson of St. Paul's Church. Third Sunday, the Rev. W. P. Remington, Vicar of the Chapel of the Holy Communion. Fourth Sunday, the Rev. Walter C. Pugh, Curate of St. James' Church. On the morning of the Second Sunday, the Rector will exchange with Rev. L. C. Washburn, D. D., the new Rector of Christ Church.

MUSICAL.—It is hoped that a musical entertainment will be given towards the end of the month, in the Parish building for the benefit of the Church deficit and the choir fund.

ENVELOPES for a new quarter will be sent out the end of this month and we particularly ask all who are not yet using them to begin now. Forms of subscription can be found inside the main door of the Church and anyone taking one and sending it to the Warden will receive a set of envelopes in return. If all would do this and pay regularly what in another Church they would have to pay as pew rent, we would have sufficient income to meet our expenses.

OUR SYMPATHY is extended to our very efficient worker, Mrs. John Mason on the great affliction which has come to her in the sudden death of her husband on Thanksgiving Day. Mr. Mason was not a member of the Parish, but he frequently attended services here, and his funeral took place from the Church on December 2d. It was attended by a large number of his old associates.

CHRISTMAS RITUAL.

[The following Verses, by Canon Bright, contain a devout explanation of the Ritual of Holy Church. Strange to say, there are those who keep on insinuating that we use Ritual and Ceremonial merely for the sake of form.]

When to Thy beloved on Patmos,
Through the open door of Heaven,
Visions of the perfect Worship,
Saviour, by Thy love were given,
Surely THERE *were truth and spirit,*
Surely there a pattern shown,
How Thy Church should do Her Service
When She came before Thy Throne.

O, the censer-bearing Elders,
Crowned with gold and robed in white!
O, the Living Creatures' Anthem,
Never resting day or night!
And the thousand choirs of angels,
With their voices like the sea,
Singing praise to God the Father,
And, O Victim Lamb, to Thee.

Lord, bring home the glorious lesson
To their hearts who strangely deem
That an unmajestic Worship
Doth Thy Majesty beseem;
Show them more of Thy Dear Presence!
Let them—let them learn to know
That our King is throned among us,
And His Church, is Heaven below.

Then shall faith read off the meaning
Of each stately-ordered Rite;
Dull surprise and hard resistance,
Turn to awe and full delight,
Men shall learn how sacred splendor
Shadows forth the pomp above;
How the glory of our Altars,
Is the homage of our love.

'Tis for THEE we bid the frontal
Its embroidered wealth unfold;
'Tis for THEE we deck the reredos
With the colors and the gold;
Thine the floral glow and fragrance,
THINE the vestures' fair array,
THINE the starry lights that glitter;
Where THOU 'dost Thy Light display.

'Tis to THEE the chant is lifted;
'Tis to THEE our heads are bowed;
Far less deep was Israel's rapture,
When the glory filled the cloud!
O, our own true God incarnate,
What shall Christian Ritual be,
But a voice to utter somewhat
Of our joy and pride in THEE?

What but this? Yet since corruption
Mars too oft our holiest things,
In the form preserves the spirit,
Give the worship angel wings;
Till we gain Thine own high temple,
Where no tainting breath can come,
And whate'er is good and beauteous,
Finds with Thee a perfect home.

A blue mark opposite this nofice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be greatly appreciated.

The following were received since December 1st.

Mrs. W. M. Newnam	Mrs. Hiller
Mr. Barton	Miss Holbrook
Miss Holbrook	Miss Lydia Smith
Mrs. H. M. Christian	Mrs. Ellis
Mr. Cameron (2)	Mrs. J. Alexander (2)
Mrs. Jansen	Miss A. Haynes (2)
Miss Wurtz (2)	Miss E. F. Pugh (2)

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The Ascension News

VOL. XXI. PHILADELPHIA FEBRUARY, 1908 NO. 2

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THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer.
SUNDAYS, WITH SERMON 10.30 A.M.
DAILY . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.
SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M
DAILY . . . . . 5.00 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) 8.00 P.M.

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SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.30 P.M.

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REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE, *Rector*.
334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*.
1506 Pine Street

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CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

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GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew . 8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild . . . . . 7.45 P.M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid . . . . . 3.00 P. M.
Wednesdays, Mothers' Meeting . . . . . 8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class . . . . . 10.30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society . . . . . 10.30 A. M.

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Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.

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Librarian . . . . . MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist . . . . . MRS S. A. HARRIS

BIBLE CLASSES

For Women . . . . . 2.45 P. M.
MRS. G. W. HODGE
For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . 3.00 P. M.
MISS M. J. GILPIN
For the Junior Brotherhood . . . . . 3.00 P. M.
MISS HODGE

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

OUR FINANCES

(Let Everyone Read This)

It is necssary for us to say a very serious word to our people in regard to our finances. The church has lost recently by death and removal, several of our largest contributors, and the difference caused thereby in our receipts is so great as to necessitate something being done to supply the deficiency. We have still enough people, and of sufficient means, to keep the church up at its present standard, if they would contribute for the purpose as we think they should. But it requires that they should be conscientious and *systematic* in doing so. We have a great many people connected with the church who do not use envelopes. We have only about 175 persons who do use them. The others contribute doubtless when they are in church, but their attendance is irregular, through the greater part of the year some of them are away altogether, and consequently the amount they give is small and uncertain, and we have not a positive income on which we can rely. Surely it must be possible for everyone to decide how much they can afford to give annually towards the support of the church, and to give it regularly. In a pew-rented church, they would be compelled to do it; why can they not do it of their own accord in a free church when they know how necessary it must be for every church to have a definite income? A free church does not mean one in which there is no need of contributing to its support, but simply one in which

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KALENDAR

February	2.	Purification B. V. M.
"	7.	Friday—Fast.
"	9.	Fifth Sunday after Epiphany.
"	14.	Friday—Fast.
"	16.	Septuagesima.
"	21.	Friday—Fast.
"	23.	Sexagesima.
"	26.	S. Matthias.
"	28.	Friday—Fast.

Record for January.

BAPTISMS—
Helen Sewall
Fanny Campbell 2
Communicants received from S. Luke's Church, Norfolk, Virginia.
Mrs. Elizabath Haxall Combs
From the Church of Ireland.
Sarah Francis Harris 2
Transferred to the Church of S. Luke and Epiphany.
William Fishbourne Smith
Mrs. Emily C. Smith
To St. Andrew's, Bridgeton, New Jersey.
Mrs. Helen Sydney Sewall
To Mediator Chapel
George Frederick Jones
James Jones
Caroline Jones
Mrs. Sarah Young Kincade
Mrs. Emma Jones McElwie
To the Church of the Holy Apostles.
Howard Roy Woolsey 6
Communions of the sick
Burials—Mrs. Linda Beatrice Wright
Robert Andrew Graham
Winfield Scott Smith 4
Mrs. Martha Davis

OFFERINGS

For current expenses,	$253 38
" the poor	25 89
" the deficit (Birthday envelopes(	1 74
" General Missions	2 40
" Diocesan	1 00
" Benevolent Purposes	2 91
Of the Sunday Schools	8 27
	$295 59

people are not so selfish as to demand a *reserved* seat as the equivalent for what they give, and in which the people are not graded in the church according to the amount they can give, but where all have equal rights and each gives according to his ability, the rich taking pleasure in supporting the church for the benefit of those who cannot do it for themselves. But we cannot *compel* people to give in this way; we can only call upon them to do it voluntarily.

Moreover in a pew rented church, if the rents are not sufficient to meet the expenses of the church, the Vestry raises the pew-rents, and they have to be paid. This has recently been done by several of our wealthiest city churches and we heard of one country church where it was done with no objection on the part of the people. In a free church like ours, no such compulsion can be used: all we can do is to set before our people the necessity and ask them to increase their regular offerings to the extent necessary. Accordingly, at the last meeting of the Vestry it was suggested that all our people be requested to increase their contributions *Twenty Per Cent.* That is, those who have been giving $1.00 a week to pay $1.20; those $.50 to give $ 60; those $.25 to give $.30; and so on, above and below these amounts. There are a few persons taking envelopes, who recently of their own accord, even *doubled* the amount they had been paying. Will not all others give this twenty per cent. increase? It cannot be enforced as it could if the pews were rented. We can only *appeal* to each contributor to do it, and we trust the appeal will not be in vain.

Another thing we want to speak about is, the contributions for purposes outside

the support of the church. In the first place, the parish is taxed for certain Diocesan purposes; one is the fund for the support of the Bishops and the expenses of the Convention; for this we must give this year, $169.30. Another is for Diocesan Missions, for which we are expected to contribute $100, and for the fund for helping to sustain weaker churches, $30.28. Now in a church where there are pew rents, there are always extra collections for these purposes. But we have no collections except for the support of the church, and so these sums have been taken, year after year, out of our regular offerings, and this has largely helped to create the deficits we we have had at the end of each year. We have had special envelopes sent out once a year for Diocesan Missions, but the amount received through them has seldom been more than half what we are required to pay, and the rest has been taken from the general offerings. This year the Vestry has directed that another envelope should be distributed for the Episcopal and Convention fund, with the statement on it, how much the parish is required to pay to it. And we trust the amount will be in this way contributed sufficient to meet this sum, and that through the envelopes for Diocesan Missions the sum of $130.28 will be received. These envelopes can be put on the plate at any service during the present quarter. We trust our calling the attention of our people to these matters in this way will be sufficient. It is exceedingly disagreeable to the Rector to have to be constantly talking about money from the chancel, and some persons complain when he does so. But they must remember that the reason he is compelled to do it, is because their contributions are not sufficient to meet even the exceedingly moderate expenses of the church. If each attendant would give as largely as he or she might and should, no word on the subject need ever be spoken.

In not charging any pew-rents we are certainly working on the highest principle, and trying to increase the efficiency of the church in reaching all conditions of people, making them feel that God's House is their home, where they have a place and a welcome. Will not our people gladly and generously contribute towards carrying out this principle, and not allow the church to lack the means to do its work? If *each* member of the congregation will do what he or she could, we shall have enough.

PARISH NOTES

CONFIRMATION will be administered in this church on the evening of Friday, April 3d, and the clergy affectionately call on all the adults of the parish who have not yet been confirmed to present themselves at that time.

Instructions preparatory to it will be given by the Rector on Sundays at 4 p m in the parish Building, beginning February 9th, and by the Curate every Wednesday, after the evening service.

SPECIAL PREACHERS for February The first Sunday evening, the Rev. John E. Ewell, of St. Stephen's Church; the second Sunday, the Rev. R. K. Yerkes, Rector of the Church of St. John the Evangelist; third Sunday, The Rev. C. C. Silvester, of St. James' Church; the fourth Sunday, the Rev. Waldemar Jansen, Jr., Minister in charge of St Bartholomew's Church. On the morning of February 9th, the Rev. Edward M. Jefferys, Rector of St. Peter's Church, will preach one of the course of sermons under the auspices of the Christian Social Union, our Rector preaching in St. Peter's Church, the same day on the same subject.

NEW VESTRYMAN. At a special meeting of the Vestry held Jan. 2d, the resig-

nation of Geo. B Warden having been presented, owing to his removal to Germantown, Dr. Geo. Morrison Coates was elected in his place. Dr. Coates has been attending the church for a couple of years and was lately transferred to the parish from S. David's Church, Radnor.

A MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT is to be given in the parish building on the evening of Feb. 6th. The talent has been procured by the choir-master, and is all volunteer. The proceeds will be divided between the fund, we are trying to raise to meet our deficit, and the choir fund for new hymnals, etc.

SUNDAY SCHOOL. The superintendent reports twenty-seven new scholars during the past month. This is an unusual increase for us. The attendance is larger than last year.

MISSIONARY COLLECTIONS. The members of the Missionary Chapter of the Woman's Auxiliary are making the collections for the present year; Miss Ashbridge collects in the district south of Pine Street, Mrs. C. J. String in that north of Pine and east of Broad, Miss Hare in that west of Broad St., and Mrs. Hare in West Philadelphia. All contributions given to these ladies are brought into the meetings held in the parish building, on the first Friday of each month, and given to the representatives of the different departments of Missions for which they are donated, to hand in at the meeting of the auxiliary at the Church House. We wish more of our ladies would attend these meetings and interest themselves in this great cause of extending and strengthening the church.

ST. AGNES DAY. The guild of little girls kept their Feast Day earnestly. At 7.45 a.m., thirty-two were present at a Celebration of the Holy Communion This included every member save two who were sick and one kept away by work.

At 4.30 p.m. they gathered again for play; at 5.30 p.m., a Guild Supper was served, and then after some more fun, we all enjoyed an evening at Keith's.

ST. JOHN'S, JR. GUILD. On Jan. 20th, the Guild's good friend, Miss. M. J. Gilpin, invited them to Keith's, and twenty-four accepted the invitation. A joyous evening was spent.

ST. JOHN'S, SR , GUILD. The meetings of their society have been far better attended this season than last. The Guild is looking forward to a "Sociable".

TO THE UNCONFIRMED.

You have been Baptized into Christ's Death, opportunity is now at hand to be into it confirmed, strengthened, established. Can you refuse ?

There are some in our Congregation whose life is one of practical Religion and devoted Churchmanship, with these two sad exceptions—they hold back from preforming the Duties of Confirmation and Holy Communion.

Brethren, by these neglects you *deprive* yourselves of the Blessings attached to the performance of duty, of the Grace conveyed by these particular channels, and, it may be, your refusal causes others to stand aloof. Can you still refuse to be Blessed and to become a Blessing ?

The following Catechism on Confirmation is suggestive of the whole subject. Study it carefully, constantly and prayerfully.

INSTRUCTIONS ON CONFIRMATION.

What is the meaning of the word "Confirm ?"

To strengthen, ratify, certify.

What is Confirmation ?

First :—It is the solemn opportunity presented by the Church, for all Baptized persons to publicly, in their own name, ratify that which their Sponsors promised for them at their Baptism.

Secondly :—The persons so ratifying their Baptismal Vows are strengthened or confirmed by God the Holy Ghost, in His Sevenfold Gifts.

Thirdly :—The Bishop, by laying his hands on the persons, confirms them in, and certifies them of, God's favor and gracious goodness towards them.

How is Confirmation administered ?

1. Confirmation is performed by Prayer and "Laying on of Hands."

2. On those who have been Baptized.

3. The "Laying on of Hands," must be by the Bishop.

What is the Scriptural authority for Confirmation, and that the Laying on of Hands must be by the Bishop ?

First :—Read the ACTS of the Holy Apostles, Chapter viii, Verses 5-17. When the people at Samnaia believed in the Lord Jesus Christ Whom St. Philip preached they were Baptized by St. Philip (vs. 5-12) This being known to the Apostles at Jerusalem, they sent St. Peter and St. John to Samaria, who performed in connection with those Baptized persons, *another ceremony*, which consisted of "Prayer," and "Laying on of Hands," and to which our Confirmation corresponds, thus :

1. It is for those who believe and are Baptized as at Samaria.

2. It is administered by the Bishops, who are to us what the Apostles were at Samaria.

3. It consists of "Prayer," and "Laying on of Hands," as at Samaria.

Second. Read the Acts of the Holy Apostles, Chapter xix. 1-7. The same arguments apply to this passage as to the previous.

Third. Hebrews vi. 1-2. The "Laying on of Hands," in verse 2, must be those in Confirmation, or it could not be a "*foundation*"—applying to every one. There is no opportunity except Confirmation for Laying Hands on *all* persons. Coming immediately after "Baptism" in this Chapter, and compared with the facts of the two passages in the Acts of the Holy Apostles it is evident that the "Laying on of Hands," mentioned here, refers to what we call "Confirmation or the Laying on of Hands."

What instances in the New Testament have we of Confirmation ?

Acts viii. 5-17. Gentiles by the Jewish Apostle St. Peter.

Acts xix. 1-7. Jews by the Gentiles Apostle St. Paul.

Name the qualifications for persons to be confirmed ?

Physical : To have come to years of discretion.

Mental: To know the Catechism.

Ecclesiastical: To be Baptized.

Personal: To be desirous of being Confirmed.

Spiritual and Moral: Repent of Sin, Believe in God, Obey his Commandments.

Why is Confirmation a duty for all to *obey ?*

1. It is an Apostolic Practice we ought to continue.

It is an Ecclesiastical Ordiance to which we should conform.

3. We should personally and publicly acknowledge God. Confirmation is the opportunity to do so.

4. We should avail ourselves of every means of Grace. Confirmation is a promised means of Grace.

How is Confirmation a Blessing ?

1. The Holy Spirit is given in His Sevenfold Gifts, viz :—Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Ghostly Strength, Knowledge, True Godliness, Holy Fear.

2. The necessary preparation of self-examination, meditation and instruction, cannot be faithfully performed without spiritual profit.

3. The Candidate's part cannot be without God accepting the Prayers and Promise.

4. It is the preformance of duty, and duty is never discharged without God blessing those who sincerely perform it.

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A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since January 1st :

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" Schell	" C. J. Borie
" McLlheney	" James Ray
" McKnight	" C. Hawkins
" Barrington	" Henszey
" M. V. Sappington	Mr. Goodridge

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The Ascension News

VOL. XXI. PHILADELPHIA MARCH, 1908 NO. 3

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THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer.
SUNDAYS, WITH SERMON 10.30 A.M.
DAILY . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.
SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M
DAILY . . . . . 5.00 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) 8.00 P.M.

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REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*.
1506 Pine Street

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GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St John's Guild	8.00 P.M
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid	3.00 P. M.
Wednesdays, Mothers' Meeting	8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class	10.30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society	10.30 A. M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.

Superintendent	THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent	MR. F. C. BOTWRIGHT
Librarian	MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist	MRS S. A. HARRIS

BIBLE CLASSES

For Women	3.45 P. M.
	MRS. G. W. HODGE
For Young Men and St. John's Guild	3.00 P. M.
	MISS M. J. GILPIN
For the Junior Brotherhood	3.00 P. M.
	MISS HODGE

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

NON-COMMUNICATING ATTENDANCE

It is often asked whether people should remain in the church during a celebration of the Holy Communion without receiving, and the habit in some of our churches is for all who are not communicants, or not going to make a communion at that time, to leave the church before the celebration begins, or worse still—for that is an interruption of the service—during or after the prayer for Christ's Church Militant. So there are multitudes in Christian lands who never attend a celebration of the Holy Communion, and yet that is the great distinctive rite of Christian worship, which Christ instituted to be His perpetual memorial, and by which, as S. Paul says, "His death"—which was for all men—"is set forth."

In instituting this rite our Lord told us to do two things, to "do this in remembrance of Him" and to "eat" and "drink" of it. So in every celebration both these things must be done. It would not be a perfect rite, Christ's command would not be fulfilled unless it was received as well as offered. So in all liturgies it is required that the priest who celebrates shall also receive, even if he has done so at a previous celebration on the same day. For he is the one who is responsible for and must fulfil the whole command, even if no one else does so. But is it necessary that every one else in the church at each celebration should communicate? To answer this question we must consider the nature of the rite and what has been the general use among Christians.

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
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KALENDAR

March	1.	Quinquagasima.
"	4.	Ash Wednesday.
"	8.	First Sunday in Lent.
"	11.	Ember Day.
"	13.	Ember Day.
"	14.	Ember Day.
"	15.	Second Sunday in Lent.
"	22.	Third Sunday in Lent.
"	25.	Annunciation B. V. M.
"	29.	Fourth Sunday in Lent.

All days in Lent are Fasts.

Record for February.

BAPTISMS—
Herbert Francis Henry.
Charles Carroll Hodge. 2

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED—NEW—
Mrs. Hannah Cooper.
By transfer from the Church of the Prince of Peace, Gettysburg, Pa —
Ivy King Horner.
From the Church of the Messiah—
Mrs. Sallie Elizabeth Worrell.
From the Church of Ireland—
Mrs. Anna Elizabeth Delaney. 4
Transferred to Trinity Church—
Guillermo Spottswood Machado.
Mrs. Guilialma Hindman Machado.
To the Church of the Annunciation—
Henry Leonard Kinnle. 3

DIED—
Mrs. Hannah Cooper.
Mrs. Ida Alicia Johnson. 2

Communions of the sick 3

BURIALS—
William Robinson.
Mrs. Henrietta Covington.
Irene McQuiston.
Mrs. Amy Smedley Powel.
Mrs. Hannah Cooper.
Mrs. Ida Alicia Johnson. 6

OFFERINGS

For current expenses,	$491 83
" the poor	3 20
" the Schools	25
" General Missions	45
" Diocesan	13 55
" Episcopal and Convention Fund	11 30
" the deficit	1 05
" Benevolent purposes	1 82
Of the Sunday Schools	7 15
Total	$529 60

The rite, as we have said, embodies two actions; one is the "doing" of it in remembrance of Christ, that is for the purpose of recalling to our minds and making us realize most vividly what God did for us in sending His only begotten Son into the world to suffer death upon the cross for man's salvation and to remind God, as it were, of that fact, and plead with Him by that manifestation and pledge He has given us of His love, to have mercy upon us and forgive our sins and hear our prayers. The second and totally different action is to "receive" the consecrated elements, and thus feed on the Body and Blood of Christ and gain the spiritual strengthing and refreshment which that action gives. Now it is manifest that in the first of these actions all men, whether they are professedly religious people or not, or whether one has made the proper preparation he should for the reception of the Holy Communion, have an interest and can be benefitted. It cannot but be an advantage for any one at any time to think about and have recalled to him the death of Christ and the benefits we receive thereby, and that action must be the best time and means by which one can plead with God for himself and for others. Why then should any one leave the church, even though he be not a communicant or prepared to make a communion at that time, when this blessed service Christ instituted to keep men in remembrance of Him and what He did for them and is the pledge of His readiness to hear their prayers is celebrated? Why should this great object lesson, which is perhaps the most effective way by which the central truth of the Gospel can be preached, be limited to comparatively only a few who already profess

to have accepted Christ's teaching? And it cannot but be a comfort and help to the communicant to take part in the "doing" of the service, even if unprepared at the time to communicate? Would it not be a limiting of Christ's intention in instituting the sacrament to restrict presence at its celebration only to those who receive it?

What has been the use of the church in regard to this? At the first institution undoubtedly all obeyed their Master's command and ate and drank of it, and for a while when the faith was fresh, and to be a Christian meant to be liable to be put to death at any moment, Christians may generally have received at each celebration. But as time went on, and men were converted to the faith, it was found necessary to train and teach them before they could be received to the full privileges of membership. And as Christians relapsed and fell into sin from time to time it was found necessary to discipline them and deprive them of those privileges for a while. Thus we find in the early church different classes, those who were not permitted to be in the church at all during the celebration of the Christian mysteries, because they would not anderstand them and might mock at them, those who were allowed to stay during a portion of the service and then they were dismissed, those who were permitted to remain during the whole service but not receive, and finally the faithful who were both present and received.

Then from the rule of fasting communion which was early adopted in the church it became the habit to have celebrations early in the morning for those desiring to communicate, and to make the principal service in the middle of the day, chiefly one for worship, which all were encouraged to attend. And this has been the practice of the Greek and Latin churches for centuries, and is largely the use in our own branch of the church.

There are classes among us whom it would not be desirable to have present at any celebration, because they either do not believe in the Christian religion or do not understand, or are utterly inappreciative of, its teachings. There are others who might be greatly benefited by being present though they are not fitted to be communicants. Children even should be encouraged to attend it though they are not yet sufficiently instructed and prepared to receive it. Then there is the class of full communicants to whom it will always be a pleasure and a profit to attend even though they do not make a communion each time from not being sufficiently prepared or from having done so already the same day. Then there are occasions such as the consecration of churches, meetings of conventions, ordinations, etc., large numbers of persons being present, when the rite can be used as a means of invoking God's blessing on the proceedings, when it would unduly lengthen the service and make that a weariness which should be a great pleasure, if they were made times for the general communion of all present.

We conclude, therefore, that it is both right and wise for Christians constantly to assist at celebrations of the Holy Communion without communicating, provided always that they are not content with only doing that, as great a privilege as it is, but also frequently and regularly at other times fulfilling the rest of the Divine Command and receive as

well the blessed sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ that they gain all the benefits of which they can be partakers thereby.

LENT

The solemn season comes to us again with its call to special acts and exercises or devotion to remind us of the necessity of attention to spiritual things and using those instrumentalities which can develop and strengthen our spiritual life.

We have so many services in the parish all through the year that we do not need any extra ones during Lent except in Holy Week. But we trust our people will make more use of those we have. The boys of the choir will sing as usual at the daily 5 P. M. prayers during Lent and there will be a lecture after prayers on Fridays.

Let each one in the parish try to keep Lent (1) by fasting in some way, (2) making some special self-denials or sacrifices, (3) attending, if possible, one at least of these services which are had daily in this church, (4) engaging in some definite work for others, (5) reading some devotional book.

If Lent is kept in this way it will be a blessing and a pleasure to all who do so.

PARISH NOTES

SPECIAL PREACHERS FOR MARCH.—First Sunday evening the Rev. Charles H. Arndt, Rector of Christ Church, Germantown; on second Sunday the Rev. Arthnr Rogers, Rector of Holy Trinity Church. West Chester; the third Sunday the Rev. Wm. H. Graff, Vicar of the Church of the Holy Comforter; the fourth Sunday the Rev. H. K. B. Ogle, Vicar of the Chapel of the Prince of Peace; the fifth Sunday the Rev. James H. Lamb, Rector of old St. David's Church, Radnor.

SPECIAL SERMONS.—The Rector will preach during Lent, on Sunday mornings, a special course of sermons on the subject of "Siu"—on the first Sunday on "the fact of Sin," the second Sunday on "the origin of evil and original Sin," the third Sunday "the different kinds of Sin," fourth Sunday "the atonement for Sin," fifth Sunday "forgiveness of Sins."

He has made engagements to preach outside the parish during Lent in the Chapel of the Divinity School, S. Andrew's Church, Wilmington, Del.; the Chapel of S. Simon the Cyrenian, S. David's, Manayunk; S. John the Baptist, S. Michael's and Christ's Church, Germantown; the Chapel of the Prince of Peace, S. Chrysostom's, S. Thomas', Holy Trinity Church, West Chester; S. Albans, Olney; Trinity and S. Philip's Church. He will also preach daily for a week in S. Paul's Church, Camden, at the noon-day service.

The Curate will preach in S. Thomas', S. Luke's, Newtown; and at Oaks Pa., and also take the three-hours' service on Good Friday in S. Mary's Church, West Philadelphia.

ADDITIONAL AND SPECIAL OFFERINGS.—In response to an appeal last month to those using envelopes to increase what they had been giving 20 per cent., in order to give us an income sufficient to meet our expenses, seven have done so to that extent, one of them forty, and one of them 50 per cent., in addition to which a new subscription of $100 for the year, one for $60 and three for $2.60 a year each have been received. But we have lost since the first of the year by death one who gave $100 a year and by removal two who gave each $13 a year.

We mention these things that our people may be kept informed of the encouragements and discouragements with which we meet. Special envelopes have been returned so far for the Episcopal and Convention Fund containing $11.30 towards the $169.30 we are taxed, and $13.55 have been received for Diocesan Missions for which we have to give $130

CHARITABLE SEWING.—During Lent the members of the Ladies' Aid will, as usual, work for a charitable purpose. This year they will make garments for the poor children connected with the Holy Cross Mission in Tennessee, or any who may prefer to do so can work for the poor in our own parish. The Aid meets on Wednesdays from 3 to 5 P. M. and will be glad if any of the ladies attending the church will meet with them, and they will be thankful for any donations af money or material for their work.

THE MOTHERS' MEETING on Wednesday evenings has been carried on so far this winter by *one* lady of the parish, one or two others occasionally helping her in cutting out. Garments have been given out regularly to some eighteen persons to be made up, for which they are paid. We consider this the best way of helping those who are out of work or who have large families and are in straitened circumstances. But this requires money, and the special fund raised by an entertainment some time ago has been long since exhausted. The Rector or lady in charge will be glad to receive donations for the purpose.

We are glad to acknowledge the receipt of a number of articles of clothing to be given away, and we would remind the members of the congregation that we can use anything of this sort, even to old shoes, they may have to dispose of.

THE MUSICALE given in the Parish Building last month was a very creditable entertainment. A fair audience was present, and our hearty thanks are due to all who contributed their services on the occasion. Several of the singers were frequently encored.

The total receipts after paying all expenses were $45.00, of which $20.00 were given to the church deficit and $25.00 used for the purchase of new hymnals and service books for the choir.

THE SOCIABLE given by S. John's Guild on the evening of Thursday, February 2, passed off pleasantly for those who were there. But for some unexplained cause many who were expected did not appear. Provision having been made for sixty persons, only about twenty-five were present.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

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The following were received since February 1st.

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Miss Casey	Mr. John Mason
Miss Preston	Mrs. H. B. French (2)
Mr. W. H. Cope	Miss Palmer

Miss C. W. Hare

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GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild	8.00 P.M
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P.M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid	3.00 P. M.
Wednesdays, Mothers' Meeting	8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class	10.30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society	10.30 A. M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.

Superintendent	THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent	MR. F. C. BOTWRIGHT
Librarian	MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist	MRS S. A. HARRIS

BIBLE CLASSES

For Women	2.45 P. M.
	MRS. G. W. HODGE
For Young Men and St. John's Guild	3.00 P. M.
	MISS M. J. GILPIN
For the Junior Brotherhood	3.00 P. M.
	MISS HODGE

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

A MUSICAL SERVICE

The Roman Catholic, Greek and Episcopal Churches are the only Christian bodies in this country that ever have full musical services—that is, the whole service, not only the hymns and anthems, but the Psalms, canticles, versicles, responses, the Scriptural lessons and prayers all sung, the minister singing his part as well as the people theirs. And persons who have been accustomed to the ordinary Protestant style of worship do not like it. It seems to them forced and unnatural to sing the prayers and scriptures.

But what is music, and why do we use it in the worship of God at all? Is it not the highest, most artistic and effective form of human utterance? And as we ought to offer to God always the best we have, and make His worship as solemn and solemnizing as we can, so it is natural to employ in it this highest and most perfect form of speech. Is it not more becoming to address the Most High God with measured accents and melodious inflexion rather than with the familiar colloquial tones by which we hold intercourse with our fellowmen? We believe this has been the general instinct of men. We believe all men of all religions, with the exception of our modern Quakers, have used music to some extent in their worship of Almighty God. Certainly the Jews did, both in their temple and synagogue worship. They never read the Scriptures; they are pointed all through with marks of cantilation, and if you go into a Jewish synagogue to-day

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS :

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KALENDAR

April 5. Passion Sunday.
" 12. Palm Sunday.
" 16. Maundy Thursday.
" 17. Good Friday.
" 15. Holy Saturday.
" 19 Easter Day.
" 20. Easter Monday.
" 21. Easter Tuesday.
" 24. Friday—Fast.
" 25. St. Mark.
" 26. Low Sunday.

Record for March

BAPTISMS—
George Ware.
Thomas Shelton Wilson 2

COMMUNICANTS TRANSFERRED—
Florence Gertrude Monahan
to Church of Holy Comforter.
Mrs. Mary Morrow
to Chapel of the Holy Communion.
Charles Edward Pratt
to Calvary Church. 3

DIED—
Matilda Ball 1

Communions of the sick 2

BURIALS—
Matilda Ball
Mrs. Marion Pauline Mason 2

OFFERINGS

For current expenses,	$343 05
" the poor	6 53
" Diocesan Missions	23 85
" Episcopal and Convention Fund	15 90
" the deficit	1 42
" Mothers' Meeting	10 00
" Benevolent purposes	4 75
Of the Sunday Schools	8 21
Total	$413 71

you will hear the scriptures sung, not read, and the prayers as well. Surely the Psalms should be sung It seems very strange to say "O come let us sing unto the Lord," "O sing unto the Lord with thanksgiving," "O praise the Lord upon the harp, sing unto the harp," etc. Singing brings out the meaning of the words, throws a pathos and power into them no mere reading can. And this is as true of prayers as it is of Psalms or hymns. Many of the words of these are prayers, and if we can sing prayers under the form of hymns, why should we not sing them by themselves. But you say the prayers are often drawled when they are sung. Well, so are the hymns. And you say there are only a few clergymen who can intone the service well. But how few are there who *read* it well. And every clergyman reading the same words constantly is apt to fall into a sing-song of his own which is neither musical nor pleasant. Is it not better that he should be kept from doing so by having a regular musical intonation to follow? And does it not make the service more complete and the different parts in keeping with each other to have the clergyman sing his part as well as the choir and congregation theirs, instead of the clergyman *saying* his part and the choir and congregation answering him in music, as is done in so many churches nowadays?

Certainly historically we find that music was used very early in the Christian Church, just as it had been among the Jewish and other peoples of antiquity, as the method by which the worship of God should be rendered. And just as the Christian religion called into being the most beautiful architecture the world has ever seen in the erection of its churches, and its truths presented artists

with the most splendid subjects for painting and sculpture, and no works of pencil or chisel can rival the works so created, so her services have afforded inspiration for the exercise of the highest musical genius, and the masses, anthems, services and oratorios thus produced are not equalled by any other human compositions.

It was a most fortunate thing that in the Reformation in England, instead of throwing aside, as the Puritans did, music, as well as art and beauty in the worship of God, the Church of England preserved the old formularies and the old mode of worship. And the service in the cathedral and great churches has never ceased to be musically rendered. Expensive choirs of boys and men have always been maintained in the English cathedrals, singing the daily prayers morning and evening as well as the Sunday and Holy Day services. In this country for a long time there was very little musical ability or the money to maintain such choirs. The first surpliced boy choir was introduced in this country in Trinity Church, New York City, in October, 1860. Since then the spread of boy choirs and musical services has been very rapid, and there are now multitudes of them all over the United States. And we believe that eventually singing the service will be the mode universally adopted for the rendering at least of the chief services on Sundays and feast days.

Of course it is well for the sake of brevity and simplicity to have other services which are only read.

In this parish, in addition to the daily morning and evening prayers which are always read, we have the early communion on Sundays and week days and the morning prayer and litany on Sundays read. So those who prefer that kind of service can always have it, and those who are helped and inspired by, and feel that they are offering to God a worthier worship by a musical service, can attend the Sunday mid-day eucharist and the evensong on Sundays, which are always fully choral. And the more those services are attended the more we believe they will come to be preferred to any other.

PARISH NOTES

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER.—As usual we provide a large number of services in the church during this holy tide, and we trust our people will not fail to make use of them. There is no season in the Christian year so devotional and instructive and calculated to draw out, and appeal to, all that is best in human nature. We hope that even those who may not keep the whole of Lent as strictly as they should will regard the solemnity of this deepest penitential season. There is abundant cause in each individual life, and the world at large to excite penitence and cause us to turn to the life and example of our blessed Lord, especially as exemplified in the scenes connected with the crucifixion, and it is only as we do so that we can find help for ourselves or have hope for the eventual redemption of the world.

There will be celebrations of the Holy Communion each day during Holy Week at 7 a m , morning prayer and a second celebration each day at 10 a. m., except on Good Friday, evening prayer at 5 p. m., and a sermon on the Passion each night at 8 p. m. On Good Friday there will be a service for the children at 9 a. m., morning prayer and the litany at

11 a. m., followed by the singing of the Reproaches and the preaching of the Cross from 12 to 3 p. m. This is interspersed with the singing of hymns. Persons not able to stay throughout the whole of this service can leave or enter the church while the hymns are being sung. The addresses during the three hours this year will be given by the Rector.

On Easter day there will be celebrations of the Holy Communion at 6.50, 7.30, 8.30 and 11.30 a. m., the Rector celebrating at 7.30 and 11.30 and the Curate at 6.30 and 8.30 a. m.

There will be the usual procession of palms on Palm Sunday before the 11.30 celebration.

The children's Easter service in the church at 3.30 p. m.

There can be no excuse for any one in the parish not being able to attend at least one of the services daily during Holy Week, or for not making his Easter communion.

If our people will as fully and devoutly as they can make use of these assistances offered them in this most holy season they cannot fail to find them a means of health and strength to their spiritual life.

EASTER OFFERING.—As usual we have to depend on the Easter offering to make up the average of our receipts for current expenses for the year. We are sorry to say that our receipts up to this date are about $400 *less* than they were last year This is largely due to the losses we have recently had by death of two or three of our largest contributors. This makes it all the more necessary that the present attendants at the church should exert themselves to the uttermost to make up the difference. The accounting warden informs us that we need about $1,000 to meet our expenses for the year ending April 30th and have only the Easter offering to look to for this sum. Will not *each* person connected with or interested in this church in any way give as large an extra offering on that day as possible. Those especially who do not contribute Sunday by Sunday through the envelopes must remember how many Sundays in the year they are not at church and so do not give anything and make up for that by a large offering on Easter day.

SPECIAL OFFERINGS.—As we have announced, in addition to meeting our current expenses, this parish is required to pay before May 1st:

For the Episcopal and Convention Fund, ...	$169 30
For Diocesan Missions, . .	100 00
For the Sustentation Fund, .	30 28
	$299 58

Towards this amount we have so far received

For the Episcopal and Convention Fund, ...	$27 20
For Diocesan Missions . .	37 0
	$64 60

If each of our registered communicants would give on an average 50 cents apiece the total needed would be realized. Will not each give at once s methi g according to his ability for these purposes?

EASTER FLOWERS.—Special offerings for these may be sent to Miss Parmele, 1906 Chestnut street, treasurer of the altar fund, or placed in the alms chest in the vestibule of the church, which will be marked for the purpose during the two weeks preceding Easter. We trust the general offerings will be especially large this year, as we shall miss the gift of a lady of the congregation whom we have recently lost by death, whose annual contribution for this purpose for many years has been about one-half of the total amount given.

EASTER MUSIC.—The following music will be rendered on Easter:

Te Deum in E flat	*Dudley Buck*
Mass, St. Cecilia	*Gounod*
Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in F	*Tours*
Anthem, "Christ Our Passover	*Wiegand*

VESTRY ELECTION.—The annual election of four vestrymen to serve in the place of those whose term expires on that date will be held in the church on Easter Monday. The polls will be opened from the conclusion of divine service at 10 o'clock until 1 p. m. The accounting warden and Mr. M. S. Roberts will act as tellers. All who have been registered as communicant members of the church and appear by the warden's books to have contributed towards its support during the past year are entitled to vote.

SPECIAL PREACHERS FOR APRIL.—Passion Sunday evening the Rev. T. E. Owen's, Curate of the Church of the Evangelists, Palm Sunday the Rev. F. M. Burch, of the City Missions; Easter Sunday the Rev. S. F. Hotchkiss, Rector of S. Luke's, Bustleton; Low Sunday the Rev. W. H. Graff, Vicar of the Church of the Holy Comforter.

ENTERTAINMENTS.—A play called "School" will be given at the Bellevue-Stratford on Thursday evening, April 30th, in order to meet the deficit in the current expense account. Tickets($1.50) may be had by writing to Miss Louisa B. Hodge, 334 S. 13th Street. Checks to be drawn to the order of Beatrice Howell, treasurer.

It is earnestly hoped that all the parishioners will do their best to sell tickets and interest their friends in this entertainment, as a very strenuous effort is being made by the committee to make it a success. The following ladies, compose the committee:

Mrs. Webster King Wetherill,
Miss Martha O. Pepper,
Miss Mildred A. Hodge,
Miss Louisa B. Hodge,
Miss Armitage Struthers,
Miss Helen S. Sylvester,
Miss Beatrice Howell, treasurer.

The young men and boys of the parish will give a minstrel show for the benefit of the summer camping fund of the choir, in the parish building, Friday, May 8, 1908.

GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY.—The monthly service will be held on the first Tuesday evening of this month, instead of the second, as that occurs in Holy Week.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since February 1st.

Miss Dickerson	Miss L. K. Horner
Miss Anable	Miss Pitcher
Dr. T. R. Neilson	Mrs. Leaming
Miss A. H. Chamberlaine	Mrs. Wm. Drayton
Mr. Thomas Neilson	

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VOL. XXI. PHILADELPHIA MAY, 1908 NO. 5

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DAILY EXCEPT THURSDAYS 7.00 A.M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH SERMON 10.30 A.M.
DAILY . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M
DAILY . . . . . 5.00 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) 8.00 P.M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.30 P.M

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Superintendent . . . . . The Curate
Assistant Superintendent . . . Mr. F C. Botwright
Librarian . . . . . Mr. George H. Fairchild
Organist . . . . . Mrs S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For Women . . . . . 2.45 P. M.
Mrs. G. W. Hodge
For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . 3.00 P. M.
Miss M. J. Gilpin
For the Junior Brotherhood . . . . . 3.00 P. M.
Miss Hodge

SOCIALISM

There are no questions more considered nowadays, or which are more important, or more difficult to solve, than social questions. We mean by that questions of the relationship and interests of different classes in the community, the rich and the poor, employer and employee, and of the different races which are crowding into this country. In spite of the freedom we enjoy here, and the constitution which we supposed secured equal rights to all, we find in our midst the same inequalities and injustices, the same misery and vice, the same tyrannies and cruelties as have been seen elsewhere. And this is causing unrest, trades and interests banding together to resist others, monopolies crushing out opposition, strikes and lockouts, violence and rebellion.

And all sorts of answers are being given to these questions. We have Nihilists, Anarchists, Communists, Socialists, Collectivists, those advocating a more paternal government and co-operation, sharing of profits, etc. Parties are being formed and the very foundations of our government are being threatened. Now among these different answers, what is that of our religion, if it has one? Surely Christ came not simply to save some individuals, but to redeem the world. The kingdom of heaven He proclaimed as being near and for whose coming He bade us daily pray, was nothing less than the actual doing of God's will on earth as it is done in heaven. The commission He gave to His disciples was to go

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KALENDAR

May 1. SS. Philip and James—Fast.
" 3. Second Sunday after Easter.
" 8. Friday—Fast.
" 10. Third Sunday after Easter.
" 15. Friday—Fast.
" 17 Fourth Sunday after Easter.
" 22. Friday—Fast.
" 24. Rogation Sunday.
" 25. Rogation day—Fast.
" 26. Rogation day—Fast.
" 27. Rogation day—Fast.
" 28. Ascension day.
" 29. Friday—Fast.
" 31. Expectation Sunday.

Record for April

BAPTISMS—
Louis Burgmann King
Henry Murray
Elizabeth Murray
William James Murray
Richard Knox Schmid
Florence May Cox
Johnstone William Hemphill
Joseph Henry Burns 8

MARRIAGES—
Francis Dawson and
Pauline Amelia Eekhart
Henry Edward Knecht and
Edyth Bayes
Edward Peirce Machen and
Martha Volz Sappington
Henry W. Patrick and
Anna E. Johnson 4

CONFIRMED—
George Ware
Winfield Scott Smith
Roy Blake Seyfert
Samuel Joseph Hughes
Matthew Thomas Hughes
Elmer Smyth
Byron Earl Smith
John Eugene Cox
John Christie Garrett
Henry Murray
Louis Burgmann King
John Henry Delaney
Zaacheus Marion Cornelius
Alexander Lincoln Boggs, Jr.
Howard Stanley Atkinson
James Patchell Boggs
Mrs. Isabella Margaret Zahn
Mrs. Lulu Irene Hemphill
Mrs. Catharine Florence Cornelius
Beatrice Phipps
Anna Barbara Ritsert
Ellen Stuart Zahn
Elizabeth Carson Brady
Elizabeth Beatty
Elizabeth Murray
Sarah Wilson Rawcliffe 26

COMMUNICANTS ADDED—
From the Church of Ireland—
John Haggerty
New
Winfield Scott Smith
Samuel Joseph Hughes
Matthew Thomas Hughes
Byron Earl Smith
Elmer Smyth
John Eugene Cox
John Christie Garrett
Louis Burgmann King
James Patchell Boggs
Alexander Lincoln Boggs, Jr.
Zacchaeus Marion Cornelius 1
Howard Stanley Atkinson
Roy Blake Seyfert
Mrs. Lulu Irene Hemphill
Mrs. Catharine Florence Cornelius
Mrs. Isabella Margaret Zahn
Beatrice Phipps
Anna Barbara Ritsert
Elizabeth Carson Brady
Elizabeth Murray
Elizabeth Beatty
Ellen Stuart Zahn
Sarah Wilson Rawcliffe 24
Transferred to St. James' Church, Hestonville—
Thomas Henry Hunter
To Christ Church, Reading—
Emma Jane Hughes 2
Communions of the sick 3
BURIALS—
Sarah Ann Hutchinson 1

OFFERINGS

For current expenses, (including Easter offering)	$850 25
" the poor	20 68
" flowers	38 87
" Episcopal and Convention Fund	6 75
" Diocesan Missions	10 95
" General Missions, Mite Boxes	24 82
" Benevolent purposes	3 13
At discretion of Rector	5 00
The United Offerings for the year	30 60
Of the Sunday Schools	7 41
Total	$998 51

into all the world and baptize every creature. No constituency could be larger than that. And His church is the most perfect democracy on earth. Every one in it stands on an absolute equality with every one else, and with the same rights and privileges. The conception which our faith teaches in regard to human relationships is that of a body composed of many members, each of which is necessary to the whole, and derives its life and strength from the general body, so that all should feel an interest in, and dependence upon, one another. No one can stand in this world utterly alone; he requires the aid of his fellow man and should give him his aid in return.

And this idea of an universal brotherhood in which each should have not only the same rights, but regard and act towards all others as brethren, has been carried out by Christians as it never has been elsewhere. In the early church we are told that all the believers "were together and had all things common and sold their possessions and goods and parted them to all men as every man had need." And in the great religious houses and communities thousands of men and women have lived together all their lives in absolute communism, no one having any property of his own, all provided for from the common store to which each contributes his or her share. And if all men were righteous and regarded and treated others as brothers, such communism might be universal. And it never can be brought about in any other way. No drastic methods, no force or governmental control can ever make men act so towards each other. They must act so on principle, their affections must be won, their characters moulded. And nothing but religion can do that. So we say to the Socialists your ideal is right; there should be absolute commnnity in everything, but it never can be realized until you make men good, otherwise they will take advantage of it and the same injustices and inequalities be seen as under any other system.

As Christians we ought to realize that socialism is the ideal state, but that it never can be realized except on religious principles, and so do all we can to make men Christians and apply Christian principles to all our dealings in our daily life, to our business and all our relationships with our fellow men. Let us try to have the same interest in and feeling for one another as the members of a body should, realizing that each has something he can contribute to the common good, and that if there is any suffering or weakness, or need or discontent in one member "all the members suffer with it, or one member be honored, all the members rejoice with it" So "there should be no schism in the body, but the members should have the same care one for another."

That, and that only, is true socialism. Let us try to make the world realize that the Christian religion thus presents the only true and sufficient solvent for all human wants and human woes.

PARISH NOTES

EASTER.—We had a very successful Holy Week and Easter. There was a very good attendance during the three hours service on Good Friday and at most of the services during that week. On Palm Sunday and Easter day the attendance was very large, and the number of communions made at the various celebrations was satisfactory. We were

particularly gratified by the number of young men and boys who made their Communions.

The choir rendered the S. Cecilia Mass excellently. We heard only universal commendations of it.

The Easter offerings amounted to some $650, which is up to the average of other years. This is very gratifying, considering the losses of generous contributors we have sustained during the past year. Still it is not sufficient to meet all our expenses for the year.

There has been a decided falling off in the offerings made Sunday by Sunday. This is what we want to have built up, that the parish may have a regular stated income on which it can rely. Will not every one connected with the church who does not already contribnte each week undertake to do so for a definite amount?

SPECIAL OFFERINGS.—Total amount received for Diocesan Mission, $48.35; for Episcopal Convention Fund, $33.95; amount required for these purposes, $299.30; deficit, which had to be taken out of the Easter offering, $217.00. It is the failure of our people to give to these charitable purposes that is largely responsible for the annual deficits we have.

GIFTS AND MEMORIALS.—S. Agnes' Guild of little girls presented the church with a pair of glass cruets for the altar to take the place of one which had been broken. It has also provided the altar breads for the year at a cost of $12. An order has been given for another clerestory story window in the nave of the church. And we understand the widow of one of our vestrymen, recently deceased, intends putting up a bronze tablet in the church to his memory.

VESTRY ELECTION.—At the annual election held on Easter Money for four vestrymen to serve for the ensuing three years, the following were duly elected:

Thomas R. Neilson, M. D.,
William C. Lloyd,
Millard F. Roberts,
Charles L. Borie, Jr.

Of these Mr. Borie is the only new member of the vestry. He served several years ago as one of our choir men, when Mr. Neilson was choirmaster. He has since been living out of town until this winter, when he returned to the city and parish and has been very regular in his attendance. We welcome him back and are glad to see him placed on our vestry.

At a subsequent meeting of the vestry Messrs. Neilson and Lloyd were reappointed as Wardens, and Messrs. Neilson, Newbold and Newnam were elected as delegates to the Diocesan Convention.

THE ENTERTAINMENT given in the Bellevue-Stratford for the benefit of the church on the evening of April 30th was very successful. The members and friends of the parish were very generous in taking tickets. The total receipts after paying for all expenses were about $800. This together with the proceeds of the birthday envelopes and the Christmas sale we held, completely makes up the deficit of $1000 we had been carrying for some years. We are very glad to have it paid. And our warmest thanks are due to the ladies of the congregation, especially the younger ones, who have worked very hard in getting up this play, and we congratulate them very much on its success.

ASCENSION DAY.—Our parish festival comes very late this year, not until May 28th, but we trust the attendance will be good notwithstanding. We shall have a festival service at 10.30 a. m. and a full choral evensong with anniversary sermon by the Rector in the evening. We trust all in the parish will be interested enough in their parish home to attend, The annual guild service will be held on the evening of the following Sunday and our annual Parish Tea on Monday evening, June 1st.

ENDOWMENT FUND.—As last year, in accordance with the direction of the vestry, all the offerings on Ascension Day will be for the Endowment Fund of the parish. It is very important that this fund should be increased in order to provide a sure support for this Free Church and provide against the fluctuations caused by the death or removal of its members. The fund has been increased this year by a portion of the legacy of Mr. Keese, so that it now amounts to some $13,000. But it ought to be many times that sum, in order to give the church a sufficient income. We trust our people who are able to do so will not fail to remember it in making their wills.

ENVELOPES are sent out the beginning of this quarter to all our subscribers for six months in advance, because so many would be out of reach at the beginning of the next quarter, August 1st, and also in hope that all who can do so will fill up their envelopes *before* they go away for the summer and turn them in that the church may have an income to meet its expenses during those months when so many are out of town.

The benevolent envelopes for these two quarters are for the poor and the support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools.

There is also an envelope for the Endowment Fund to be returned on Ascension Day or thereafter.

REPORT OF THE CHURCH PERIODICAL CLUB to April 1, 1908. Six members of the parish sent magazines and papers regularly. The number of magazines sent regularly was 684; number of books given, 8; received in subscriptions, $1.25; sent to the treasurer of the Pennsylvania Branch, $1.

Will anyone who has sent during the winter any magazines or reading matter of any kind to homes or hospitals be kind enough to send a postcard telling the number of same as near as possible, so that they can be included in the report of the Parish Branch of the Church Periodical Club to the librarian, Miss S. E. Gilpin, 904 Clinton Street, before June 1st, and she will be very glad to have the names of any who will be willing to send the same during the summer, either personally or to the church for distribution.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL PARTY.—The Easter entertainment consisted this year of a "Party" on Monday, April 20th, at 8, p. m. The children played games until 8.45, when refreshments were served. Of course full justice was done, and at 9.30 p. m. the children departed, tired and happy, for their homes.

TEACHERS' PARTY.—At the close of the children's merriment Mr. Botwright invited the teachers to a "party" which he had provided for them. Eighteen gathered around the table and a sumptuous repast was spread. Everything passed off pleasantly, and at the close of some after-dinner remarks were made.

SPECIAL PREACHERS FOR MAY.—First Sunday evening, the Rev. J. R. L. Nisbett, vicar of Christ Church Chapel; second Sunday, the Rev. Charles S. Lyons, rector of S. Albans, Roxborough; third Sunday, the Rev. F. B. Keeble, vicar of S. Timothy's Chapel; fourth Sunday, the Rev. R. E. Brestelle, rector of S. Paul's Church, Camden; the fifth Sunday, the Rev. Charles H. Hutchinson, rector of S. Clement's Church.

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The following were received since April 1st.

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VOL. XXI. PHILADELPHIA JUNE, 1908 NO. 6

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THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.co A.M.

Morning Prayer.
SUNDAYS, WITH SERMON 10.30 A.M.
DAILY . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.
SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M
DAILY . . . . . 5.co P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) 8.co P.M.

Children's Service.
SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.30 P.M

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334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*.
1506 Pine Street

WARDENS

THOMAS R. NEILSON, M. D.
WILLIAM C. LLOYD

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

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GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild	8.00 P.M
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.

Superintendent	THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent	MR. F. C. BOTWRIGHT
Librarian	MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist	MRS S. A. HARRIS

THE PARISH YEAR

In making his usual comments on the history of the parish in his anniversary sermon on the evening of Ascension day the Rector made note of the following points:

First, in regard to the spiritual statistics, the number of baptisms, 27, was ten less than the previous year; number confirmed, 27, was 3 more; number added to communicant list, 43, was one more; number lost by death and removal 7 less, but still greater than the number gained, being 52 in all. The deaths were those of George S. Phipps, one of the servers of the church, drowned during the choir outing; Francis S. Keese, for twenty-six years a vestryman and for six years the senior warden, a devoted friend and large contributor to the support of the parish; Miss Virginia Seckel, long a member and worker in the church as far as her health permitted; Mrs. Mary Ann Hutchinson, for many years a member of the parish; Mrs. Isabel Simpson, admitted to communion on her death bed; Mrs. Linda Wright, brought up in the Sunday School and member of St. Mary's Guild; Mrs. Ida A. Johnson, long an attendant and liberal supporter of the parish; Miss Hannah Cooper, nearly a centenarian, admitted to communion shortly before her death; Miss Matilda Ball, for many years an invalid. To all of these we trust the church has been a blessing. Some of them have been great benefactors to the church, and we pray that they may rest in peace in the state into which they

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
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KALENDAR

June 5. Friday—Fast.
" 7. Whitsun Day.
" 8. Whitsun Monday.
" 9. Whitsun Tuesday.
" 10. Ember Day—Fast.
" 11. S. Barnabas.
" 12. Ember Day—Fast.
" 13. Ember Day—Fast.
" 14. Trinity Sunday.
" 19. Friday—Fast.
" 21. First Sunday after Trinity.
" 24. S. John the Baptist.
" 26. Friday—Fast.
" 28. Second Sunday after Trinity.
" 29. S. Peter, Apostle.

Record for May

BAPTISMS—
Florence Jane McClure Mulligan 1

MARRIAGES—
Chester Reynolds McClellan and
Martha Farson Hannum
George Brown Conger and
Florence Bowen Anderson 2

COMMUNICANTS ADDED—
By transfer from S. Paul's Church—
Albert Edward Hurst
Mrs. Mary Long Hurst
Henry Clay Hurst 3
Removed by transfer to Church of the Annunciation—
Adelaide Virginia Houseman 1

DIED—
Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Whitehouse 1
Communions of the sick 2

BURIALS—
Roberta Mary Smith
Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Whitehouse

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$272 05
" the Endowment Fund	33 19
" the poor	26 87
" General Missions	50
" Episcopal and Convention Fund	50
" Benevolent purposes	2 44
Of the Sunday Schools	6 29
Total	$342 54
Proceeds of entertainment	$853 00

have passed and that their good works may follow them

The Sunday School attendance was about the same as last year, and the Industrial School has been nearly a third larger, owing to the interest and fidelity of the superintendent and teachers. The Mothers' Meeting suffered a loss in the removal of Miss Thompson, who had so long carried it on, but her place has been supplied by one of our younger members, who has kept it up most efficiently, almost entirely unaided. It is a very wise means of extending aid to and benefiting some of the more needy members of the parish. The other departments of church work have been kept up to about their usual standard, though each year it seems to be more difficult to induce people to engage in benevolent undertakings in the parish. It is due doubtless to there being so many increasing calls upon one's time and interest in other directions.

The young people's guilds have been well sustained, especially the Girls' Friendly Society and St. Agnes' Guild for little girls. A faithful two or three still represent the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, but they find it hard to get any to join them in doing real Brotherhood work.

The financial statistics for the year show that the total receipts for all purposes, leaving out of consideration the legacy received and the special men's thank offering of the year before, are just one hundred less, which is gratifying, in view of the loss by death of of liberal contributors we have sustained. But the amount received for current expenses was four hundred dollars less, which was due chiefly to that fact. This shows the necessity of each one in the parish doing all he can by additional contributions to make up for that loss.

The church received a great improvement in the handsome rood screen received from S. Mark's Church and erected last autumn. It has also been greatly benefited by the legacy of five thousand dollars left to it by Mr. Keese. A portion of this by the terms of his will must be kept as an endowment, and the vestry would like very much to add the whole of it to that fund if they could prudently do so, as it is very much to be desired that this fund should be increased sufficiently to protect the church from all dangers arising from changes in the neighborhood or loss of individual members.

In noting the various conditions of the church during the year the Rector is most concerned with the falling off in the attendance at the Sunday night service. Formerly we had two Evensongs on Sundays, one at 4 p. m. and another at night, with seldom much less than an hundred people at each. Now we often fail to have half that number at one service. This is doubtless largely due to the change in the neighborhood, but still many of our own people never go to church but once on a Sunday, and some do not even do that. If those who find, or think they find, it impossible to go to church in the morning would go at night, we should have a good congregation. Will not our people try to do this for the sake of their church, as well as for their own benefit? Let them ask themselves candidly whether they are spending their Sunday evenings as profitably as they would if they went to church.

Let all our people resolve to do better in this respect.

PARISH NOTES

ASCENSION DAY came so late this year that it naturally affected the attendance at the various services connected with our Dedication Festival. Still we had a fair number present at the two celebrations. The preacher at the morning service was the Rev. Charles E. Betticher, lately minister in charge of St. Paul's Church, in Rome, Italy. The attendance at the evening service and anniversary did not show the interest in the parish that the occasion should call forth. The girls' guilds made a good turnout at the guild service on Sunday night, when the Rev. C. S. Hutchinson, Rector of St. Clement's Church, was the preacher.

The offering for the Endowment Fund during the day was $33.19. We trust that other offerings for the purpose will come in from time to time in the special envelope so marked, sent out this month.

The Parish Tea was well attended as usual. Some of the members of the Girls' Friendly Society gave a little play under the direction of Miss Nellie Wharton, which added much to the entertainment.

SUMMER SERVICES.—There will be no changes during the summer until September, when the Curate has his vacation and the daily celebration will be discontinued; except that the Sunday School and children's service will be intermitted from Trinity Sunday to the first Sunday in October. Also the daily 5 p. m. prayers are omitted until October.

SPECIAL PREACHERS DURING JUNE.—First Sunday evening, the Rev. Geo. W. Lincoln, Rector of St. John the Baptist Church, Germantown; second Sunday; the Rev. T. H. Yardley, Curate of

St. Peter's Church; third Sunday, the Rev. Wm. R. Scott, Rector of Christ Church, Media, Pa.; fourth Sunday, the Rector.

ST. AGNES' GUILD.—The first picnic of the season was enjoyed by this guild on Saturday, May 23. The party consisted of 21 children and 7 adults. The camping ground was Belmont Avenue, and the hours from 2 to 7.30 p. m. seemed too short for games, lunch, etc.

At 8 p. m. we were joined by two others and ice cream and cake served to refresh 30 tired and happy people. We did not omit to say our Office, and then we separated to meet again at the late celebration of the Blessed Sacrament on the next day, at which we all promised to thank the dear Lord for the pleasure and success of our picnic.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL EXCURSION.—We shall close the regular sessions of the school on Trinity Sunday, June 14th. At that time we shall distribute 18 first prizes, 14 second prizes and 11 third prizes for faithful attendance during the winter.

It is also hoped that we shall have an excursion to Burlington Island Park some time near that date. The doubt regarding the excursion is due to the uncertainty whether the money needed can be provided. If we are to compete on anything like possible terms with the various schools around us, we must offer the children sometimes a secular attraction like this, or else lose children to those schools where so much which money can buy is lavished upon them.

ST. JOHN'S JUNIOR GUILD.—On May 4th their kind guild-mother, Miss Maria Gilpin, took 16 boys to Keith's. A good time was spent and the wonderful deeds of acrobats and jugglers filled the young ones with wonder. The guild has closed its meetings for the summer, it being rather warm in gas-lighted rooms for energetic gymnastics.

RECEIPTS OF THE ENTERTAINMENT.—Total amount of proceeds after paying all expenses, $853.00. Of this $800 was given on vote of the committee who had the matter in charge to the church to make up its deficit, and the remainder was divided between the summer outing fund and the Mothers' Meeting. Again we thank the ladies for their work and interest in the matter.

THE MINSTREL ENTERTAINMENT given by the choir on Friday, May 8th, was very much enjoyed by those present. The boys gave the circle with a great deal of spirit, after which the audience was entertained with music and sketches. Owing to the expense of the entertainment the receipts were insufficient to take the choir boys on their outing, so they would be pleased to receive donations from those interested in giving the boys their annual treat.

ST. AGNES' GUILD.—Recently three new members have joined this guild, with four more about to do so. The attendance has been about fifty per cent. greater than last year. The attendance at the late celebration of the Blessed Sacrament every Sunday has averaged about 25 members.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL CAROL SERVICE.—On the afternoon of Easter Day the school sang their Easter carols. About 125 were present. Most of the mite boxes were returned, the contents amounting to $24.82. On April 26th $5.30 additional was brought in. A pot of flowers was given to each child.

GIFTS.—Framed photograph of the Rev. Morgan Dix, D. D.; notice for vestibule of the church; two small carved wooden figures; quantity of cake, etc., for the Parish Tea.

REPORT

The following is the report of the parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop:

Baptisms.—Adults, 6; infants, 21; total, 27.

Confirmed.—Males, 17; females, 10; total, 27.

Communicants added.—New, 27; by transfer, 15; died, 9; removed, by revision of list, 15; by transfer, 28; present number, 524.

Marriages.—Six.

Burials.—Twenty-two.

Public Services.—Sunday, 246; on the other days, 973; total, 1229.

Celebrations of Holy Communion.—Four hundred and fifty-eight.

Children Catechised.—Times, 242.

Sunday School.—Officers and teachers, 14; scholars, 175.

Other Parish Agencies.—Officers and workers, 85; members, 150; Industrial School, teachers, 11; scholars, 75; Mothers Meeting members, 30.

Money Receipts.—Offerings for all parish purposes, $5,168.65; offerings for purposes outside the parish, $343 38; investments, $357.51; other sources, $502.20; Sunday School, $80.46; Women's Auxiliary, $204.95; Endowment Fund; $2 060.41; legacy, $3,000; total, $11,901,76.

Expenditures.—Parochial current expenses (including salaries of clergy, music, fuel and lighting, care of church building and grounds and ordinary repair of same), $5,088.60; improvements, $290.00; support of the Sunday and Industrial School, $129.68; for the poor, $452.80; added to Endowment Fund, $2,057.62; miscellaneous, $880.52; total, $9,899.22.

Diocesan—Episcopal and Convention Fund, $169.39; Diocesan Missions, $121.95; Episcopal Hospital, $16 15; Sustentation Fund, $30.28; total, $334.52.

General Missions.—General, $54,58; Foreign, $14.70; Domestic, $83.85; Indian, $19.20; Colored people, $41.45; Prayer Book and Tract Societies, $15.00; United Offering, $30 60, total. $235.43.

Total for all objects, $10,469.17.

Financial Condition.—Aggregate value of property of the parish, real and personal, $80,000; incumbrances: mortgage on the church edifice, parish building and ground, none; other indebtedness; loans, $12,000; Endowment Fund, $12,000.

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VOL. XXI. PHILADELPHIA OCTOBER, 1908 NO. 7

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The Ascension News

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CLERGY

Rev. G. Woolsey Hodge, *Rector*.
334 South Thirteenth Street

Rev. H. Page Dyer, *Curate*.
308 S. Broad Street

WARDENS

Thomas R. Neilson, M. D.
William C. Lloyd

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

Philip F. Alburger

SEXTON

Wm. J. Morgan
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild	8.00 P.M
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.

Superintendent	The Curate
Assistant Superintendent	Mr. F. C. Botwright
Librarian	Mr. George H. Fairchild
Organist	Mrs S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For Women (Mrs. G. W. Hodge)	2.45 P. M.
For Young Men and St. John's Guild (Miss M. J. Gilpin)	3.00 P. M.
For the Junior Brotherhood (Miss Hodge)	3.00 P. M.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays	10.00 A. M.

THE RELIGIOUS HISTORY OF PHILADELPHIA.

In observing "Founders' Week" those in charge of the arrangements have very properly provided for the due consideration of the effect religion has exercised on the history of this city. On Sunday, October 4th, special services are to be held in Gloria Dei and Christ Church, the two earliest church buildings, and all the clergy are called upon to speak to their respective congregations on the subject at the same time. This our Rector will do, and in addition he proposes on the four Sunday evenings of the month to consider more in detail the effect the different religious bodies have had here. On the first Sunday he will speaks of the Swedes and Quakers, on the second of the Church of England, on the third of the Presbyterians, on the fourth of the Roman Catholics and other denominations.

There is no question but that the history of this city has been largely affected by the action of these various bodies. Almost all the early settlers of America were deeply religious people. Many of them came to this country from religious motives, chiefly that they might have the opportunity of freely carrying ont their peculiar religious ideas. The Puritans who settled in New England, the Dutch in New York, the Quakers in Pennsylvania, the Roman Catholics in Maryland, and even the Churchmen in Virginia, broken down in fortune and adventurers as many of them were, nevertheless recognized the importance

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS :

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KALENDAR

October 2. Friday—Fast.
" 4. Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity.
" 9. Friday—Fast.
" 11. Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity.
" 16. Friday—Fast.
" 18. S. Luke, Evangelist.
" 23. Friday—Fast.
" 25. Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.
" 28. SS. Simon and Jude.
" 30. Friday—Fast.

Record for June, July, August and September

BAPTISMS—
Henry Carpenter McElwee.
William James Atkinson.
Margaret Anne Rogers. 3

MARRIAGE—
Thomas Howard and
Alice Logan. 1

COMMUNICANTS REMOVED—
Mrs. Mary Purdon Smith, transferred to Holy Trinity, Ocean City, N. J.
Frances Corson Yocum, to the Curch of S. Luke and the Epiphany.

BURALS—
Miss Mary Franklin Clymer.

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$544 76
" the poor	46 75
" the Schools	8 15
" the Endowment Fund	4 00
" Diocesan Missions	52
" Summer Outing	13 00
" Expenses of night service	6 81
Total	$641 99

of religion and at once made ample provision for its exercise. These men largely stamped their characteristics on the various parts of the country where they settled. Philadelphia was long in fact what we still call it—the Quaker City. The sterling qualities manifested by that sect and many of its peculiar ideas have had widely manifest effect here.

Of course the Quakers were quickly followed by the representatives of other bodies, Swedes and Churchmen, Presbyterians, Roman Catholics and others, and these have all had a large share in moulding the character and influencing the condition of things.

The result is seen in the multiplicity and power of our religious and charitable organizations. We believe that there are considerably more church buildings in proportion to the population in this city than there are in New York, and we doubt if there is any city in America which has a greater number of religious and benevolent institutions and societies. Nearly all of the larger denominations maintain hospitals of their own. Many have large and costly educational establishments, and the asylums and associations of benevolence provide for almost all classes of human need.

But with all these religious influences we cannot disguise from ourselves the fact that Philadelphia is not an ideal religious city. The condition of things has largely changed since its first settlers came here to establish a city of "Brotherly love." Multitudes of other people have poured in who have come from no religious motive, but only to seek their fortunes and find a liberty, or license, they could not enjoy in the other country, men of all sorts of religious belief and of

none And many whose lives were controlled by the religious establishments in the countries from which they came, finding nothing similar here, have broken away from all religion and suffered accordingly. Then we have grown rich, all classes have prospered, and the inevitable enervating and seductive influences exerted thereby have been manifested. Our mode of government has put innumerable political offices within the reach of all, together with political power and interests which have afforded opportunities for emolument and graft contrary to the principles of religion. Then the advance made in modern appliances for comfort and convenience, travel and amusement have all tended to draw the attention of people away from religion and weaken its influences upon them.

Hence it has come to pass that we have among us as much vice and crime and irreligion and intemperence and poverty and wretchedness as can be found in any of the cities of the old world.

So while noting and being thankful for the influences exerted by religion in the past history of our city, we should mark as well the condition of things as we find them now. Christian men and women of all bodies should seriously and earnestly consider how they can meet and counteract those influences which are so strongly working against all religion and threatening such harm to the general character of our people.

The immense size to which the city has grown and the number and variety of differing nationalities, and races even, that we have now in our midst, makes it a very difficult problem how to control and assimilate so many and such various people.

But we believe the Church of God will be found in the future as it has been in the past the most powerful and efficient instrument for repressing what is evil and bringing out what is best for guiding and governing our people, making them prosperous and blest.

PARISH NOTES

SUMMER SERVICES.—We are much pleased to record that the summer Sunday night service this year exceeded in attendance that of any previous year since the church has been built. During July and August the church was in charge of the Rev. Curate of the parish, and by advertising the subjects of his sermons and sending notices of them to individual members of the congregation he succeeded in raising the attendance on Sunday evenings from some twenty-five persons to about two hundred and fifty. We congratulate him on his success. We trust the interest will keep up. Every effort will be made during the winter to make this service attractive and profitable.

NEW STAINED-GLASS WINDOW.—Another painted window has been placed in the cloistery of the church by one of our parishioners, Miss Hettie C. Dickerson, as a memorial to his parents. It is the figure of St. Philip, and completes the second group of these windows on the east side of the nave and is a great addition.

Designs for the next group of these apostles for the same side of the church have now been made and can be seen in the vestry. Are there not those in the congregation who would like to put in one or more of them? It would add very much to the appearance of the church.

We have also designs for the three large windows in the chancel which are

still to be filled. We should be very glad to see one or more of those put in.

THE NEW SIDE ALTAR for early celebrations which the Rector announced on Ascension day had been promised, it is expected will be in place before Christmas; the designs have been drawn and approved by a committee of the vestry and now await execution.

REVIEWING STAND.—During Founders' Week we shall have a stand in front of the church for seeing the various parades. Seats will be rented for moderate rates, and we trust all our members will come there and bring all their friends. During the Peace Jubilee we made enough money from such a stand to pay for tiling all the aisles of the church. And we hope to make much more this time, as there are to be so many more parades.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—In June we made out a list of some twenty-six persons who were behind in their subsciptions to the NEWS, over $25 being due. And as we are considerably behind in meeting our payments we attempted to collect some of this amount by sending out bills. In return we received several notes from those who had received them claiming that the subscriptions had been paid. We always acknowledge every month the subscriptions paid during the previous month, and we particularly request every person who has paid a subscription to notice whether his or her name appears in the succeeding issue, and if not, call attention of the treasurer at once to the fact, as if it is left longer it is impossible either for the person receiving the money or the person paying it to recall the circumstance.

ENVELOPES.—We again urge every one at the beginning of another season to take and use the envelopes provided for the purpose for making contributions toward the support of the church. That is the only way in which a definite and reliable income can be obtained for the church. The special envelopes issued during the summer were for the poor of the parish and the support of the Sunday and Industrial schools. Many of these have not yet been returned. We trust they will still come in.

WINTER'S WORK.—Most of our guilds and societies resume their sessions with this month. And we trust our ladies will not forget the annual meeting of the Woman's Guild, which they are all asked to attend on SS. Simon and Jude's day, October 28th, when the reports of last year's work are read and arrangements made for the coming season. It takes place immediately after the 10 a.m. service in the church.

SUMMER OUTING.—The choir camp was held from August 10th to the 16th at Florence, N. J., and was successful in every way. The boys amused themselves playing ball, swimming and in various ways, and the time passed quickly and without any accidents. The party was accompanied by a professional cook, who was voted a great success. It is hoped that next year the time of the camp may be prolonged to ten days or two weeks.

THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL EXCURSION.—On June 13 about 75 children and adults had an excursion to Burlington Island Park. The day was beautiful and was spent in various kinds of pleasure. Tickets were given to the children for the midget railway, the merry-go-round, the razzle-dazzle, the swings,etc. The adults were given rides in rowboats, a large part of the afternoon being so spent. Refreshments were served.

The Mothers' Meeting was cordially welcomed among us, and the presence of Miss Hodge added much to their and our enjoyment.

RESUMPTION OF SCHOOL.—It will begin again its sessions at 2.45 p. m. on Sunday, Oct. 4, 1908. All the parents of the scholars should see that their children are on hand.

Telegrams will be sent to the older scholars and soldier-boy postals to the primary school.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL PARTY.—The assistant superintendent has arranged for a "party" for the school on the Friday before it opens, Oct. 2, at 8 p. m. The scholars of last year will receive an invitation, and new ones who think of attending this year will be welcome.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL TEACHERS.— All of our last year's teachers will return to school, excepting Miss Maas. We greatly regret to lose her faithful and intelligent help.

TEACHERS' MEETING was held on Sunday, October 23, to prepare for the opening of the school.

SUMMER SUNDAY AFTERNOON CLASS.—This class was not held this summer, but its place was taken by the afternoon following the Sunday night services. The average attendance after the first meeting was fifty. The Bible was read together, usually an Old Testament story, which was mystically interpreted as to the Catholic religion and sacraments and their practical operation in the daily spiritual life.

ST. AGNES' GUILD—OUTING.—We went to the Park once, Keith's twice, picnic once, and Burlington Island once.

MEETINGS.—We did not adjourn at all this summer, and not only so, but the attendance in July and August was sometimes larger than in the winter. The children are so interested that the guild will continue to meet all through September, when the Rev. Director is on his vacation, the office of devotion, the instructions and the games continuing as though he were present. The average attendance of the guild at the Holy Communion on Sundays has been ten.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICES.—They have continued through the summer with an instruction each night, and an average attendance of nineteen. At the instruction class after the service the average attendance has been seventeen, with a temperature of 90 degrees in the room at times.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

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The Ascension News

VOL. XXI. PHILADELPHIA NOVEMBER, 1908 NO. 8

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THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer.
SUNDAYS, WITH SERMON 10.30 A.M.
DAILY . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.
SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M
DAILY . . . . . 5.00 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) 8.00 P.M.

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SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.30 P.M

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ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER

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For the Junior Brotherhood Miss Hodge	3.00 P. M.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays	10.00 A. M.

THE LAMBETH CONGRESS AND CONFERENCE

We do not know how far our people have read accounts of these two notable gatherings, held during July and August in London, but our church-people ought to know something about them, for they certainly were very remarkable and must have a great influence on the future of our church.

The Congress was composed of all the Bishops of the Anglican Communion who could be present and of clerical and lay delegates from all their Dioceses or missionary Jurisdictions. These amounted to nearly a thousand in all. The meetings were held in several large halls and in St. Paul's Cathedral and were attended by thousands of people at each of the sessions. The great metropolis of England, at the height of the Parlimentary and social season, was moved by it. "The Times" and other newspapers gave long and full reports of, and made favorable comments on, its proceedings.

It was not a deliberative assembly. No resolutions were passed or votes taken. It was like an ordinary church congress, except that its delegates came from all parts of the world and it was chiefly occupied with missionary problems.

Almost all the papers read and speeches made were most interesting and instructive. The information conveyed and the enthusiasm aroused cannot fail to have a great effect in impressing the world with a sense of the

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KALENDAR

November	1.	All Saints.
"	6.	Friday—Fast.
"	8.	Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity.
"	13.	Friday—Fast.
"	15.	Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity.
"	20.	Friday—Fast.
"	22.	Sunday next before Advent.
"	26.	Thanksgiving.
"	27.	Friday—Fast.
"	29.	First Sunday in Advent.
"	30.	S. Andrew, Apostle.

Record for October.

BAPTISMS—
Howard Earl Willoughby 1

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED—
Mrs. Marielle Ryerson
Miss Marielle Arms 2
Transferred to the Church of the Holy Apostles—
Earl Harold Partridge
To the Church of the Good Shepherd, Rosemont—
Frank Cullis Moreley 2

DIED—
Mrs. Martha Moore Milliken 1

Communions of the sick 2

BURIALS—
Mrs. Martha Moore Milliken
Charles Carroll Hodge 2

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$236 41
" the poor	1 25
" Benevolent purposes	82
Of the Sunday Schools	4 19
Total	$242 67

extent and power of the Anglican Communion and our own people feel its importance in awakening their zeal and devotion.

The sessions were opened with a great devotional service in Westminster Abbey where the Litany was chanted in procession, and closed with a High Celebration of the Holy Communion in St. Paul's when a great thank offering amounting to over $1,500,000 for missionary purposes was made.

The Conference which followed the Congress was composed only of Bishops, nearly 250 being present. It was the fifth of such conferences which have been held at intervals of ten years, under the presidency of the Archbishop of Canterbury, in Lambeth palace, which has been the residence of the Archbishops in London for many centuries.

They held some fifteen daily conferences, discussing a great variety of subjects in regard to the welfare and extension of the church in the different parts of the world. The most important subjects were referred to committees for detailed study and treatment and after they had reported, a series of 78 resolutions were passed, which together with an encyclical letter and the reports of the committees have been made public. These resolutions deal with a great variety of subjects: The relation of the Faith to modern thought; the obtaining and training of a sufficient number of candidates for Holy Orders; the question of religious education; the dealing with various races and bringing them into the unity of the church; the revision and enrichment of the Prayer Book; the mode of celebration and administration of the Holy Communion; the healing ministries of the church; the administration of Unction which the Bishops recommend should be given when it is earnestly desired; the preservation and sanctity of marriage and its purposes; the question of re-marriage after divorce, the bishops being evenly divided on the vexed question as to whether the blessing of the church should be given in the case of the marriage of the innocent party who has been divorced from an adulterous partner; the social questions of the day in regard to bringing the influences of religion to bear on all business and economic transactions and relationships, the adjustment of wages, relieving of poverty, etc.; the question of constituting a general consultative body representing the whole Anglican Communion; the question of church unity. To further this last object it was directed that a letter be prepared, to be presented in person by two or more bishops to the great National Council of the Russian Church shortly to assemble and a committee was appointed to consider all questions in regard to establishing "inter-communion" with all the Orthodox Eastern churches and the old Catholic churches. Provision was also made for the taking part of Anglican bishops in the consecration of bishops or the ordination of priests for the Moravians. A commission was also appointed to correspond with the Archbishop of Upsala with a view to union with the Church of Sweden. And an opinon was expressed that some temporary arrangement might be made in the case of Presbyterian or other non Episcopal bodies, seeking reunion with the Catholic Church, to cover the transitory period until full Episcopal ordination can be received.

All these are matters of great importance and the expression of the opinion of so many bishops in regard to them, cannot but have great weight. Of course, there are those who will be disappointed that there has not been a more decided and definite stand taken in regard to some of them. But it is the case, just as it is in that of all large deliberative bodies, and still more when as in the question of infallibility of the church when general consent is required, there can only be a few, the great necessary points, on which there is general agreement. On all other questions, until that consent is reached, there must be liberty for individual opinion and practice.

But we advise all persons who are interested, as all should be, in the purity, preservation and extension of the Church of God, to read and consider carefully what our bishops have set forth.

PARISH NOTES

THE REVIEWING STAND during Founders' Week was erected as was intended. Some of our members worked very hard to make it a success, but its financial results were very disappointing. This was owing to the great cost involved in its erection and other necessary expenses connected with it, about $1300 in all, and to the fact that the price of seats, which we anticipated, could not be obtained. This was the case all over, many of those erect-

ing stands actually losing money, not paying their expenses. We have not yet sold all the wood that was in the stand, but when we do so we expect our total profits will be about $300. This is much less than we expected. the stand was an exceptionally good one, the weather proved propitious throughout, there were no accidents and every thing passed off to the satisfaction of all concerned.

Our special thanks are due to Mr. M. F. Roberts, one of our vestrymen, who undertook the very arduous duty of acting as cashier, which he discharged admirably. He was ably assisted by our choirmaster, Mr. Alburger and Mr. Botwright, the verger Mr. Morgan and the young men of the Parish, who assisted him as ushers and worked very hard and faithfully to make it a success.

The results may at least save us from having to resort to any fair or entertainment this year to meet our current expenses.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Women's Guild of the Parish was held on SS. Simon and Jude's day. Some 20 ladies were present. The reports of the past year were read and will be printed in the Year Book which comes out the first week in Advent. Arrangements were made for sending off an annual missionary box for which collections will be made at once. Miss Parmelee reported great need for a new set of cassocks and cottas for the choir; also some new clerical surplices and altar linen. Donations for the purchase of material, linen and black serge, are earnestly asked for this purpose.

Several new teachers have promised to take classes this year in the Industrial School and there are some additional helpers in the Beneficial chapter, but volunteers will be welcome in any branch of our church work.

The Missionary and beneficial work, the Industrial School, the Embroidery Class and Ladies' Aid all recommence with this month.

CHURCH PERIODICAL CLUB.—The Secretary, Miss S. E. Gilpin, 904 Clinton street, would be glad if any persons in the parish having magazines or papers they have finished with, would send them to the church for distribution.

SPECIAL SERMONS.—The course of Sunday night Sermons during October on the religious history of Philadelphia have been fairly well attended. The The Rector hopes to arrange for a course of sermons on social subjects later on.

The night service with the music now furnished by the choir is a very attractive one and deserves to be largely attended.

ST. AGNES' GUILD.—The Guild has grown materially during the past year The number reported in the Year Book as having attended during the year is 40. Of these some have moved away and some have not as yet returned, and an actual roll now since October 1 is 25 children and 5 superiors. We know of a number who will soon be with us.

On Saturday, October 17th, at 2.30 p. m. twenty-five members of the Guild and three visitors went chestnut hunting to Chestnut Hill. We had a fine time climbing hills, romping, screaming and playing. Although the ride was three hours long going and returning, the fact that the children were not wearied was proved by their singing and fun in the car as we returned. Upon reaching the Parish Building at 7.45 p. m. we said our Office, the Spiritual Director gave a short Instruction and then we feasted on ice cream (donated by a kind friend of the Guild) and cake (much of which was also the gift of another good friend of the children)

On Thursday, November 12th, at 8 p. m., the little girls will give their annual entertainment. They have been rehearsing for a month, even the evening of the chestnut hunt at their own urgent request being partly devoted to going over some of their pieces. We shall be grateful to those who are kind enough to buy tickets (10 cents) from any of the children, especially if they will purchase before the night of the entertainment. The proceeds of their yearly affair is our only source of revenue for meeting the costs of excursions, feasts, games, etc., save their weekly dues of one cent a week.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS.—The classes are provided for with the same teachers as last year, excepting that Miss Walshe has been obliged to give up her class because of change of residence to a distant location. We greatly regret to lose Miss Walshe, who has been so faithful and helpful for a number of years. Her place has been taken by Miss Bessie Jennings, whom the children well know and love from the fact that she is the Superior of St Agnes' Guild.

Miss Maas, who was announced in the last issue of the NEWS as having given up her class, has consented to return and was welcomed back last Sunday.

ALBUMS AND STAMPS. — Artistic stamps have been provided for the school, together with a substantial album, The albums have been paid for by each child, the stamps and album covers being donated by the school. These stamps are little works of art, the production of "The Society of the Faith" in England, each one being a well-engraved picture appropriate to the Sunday for which it is intended.

In addition to the stamps a gold star is affixed to the stamp every Sunday the scholar has been present at a Celebration of the Blessed Sacrament on that Sunday.

SERVERS AT THE DAILY CELEBRATION.—Four little boys (Alex. Boggs, Stanley Atkinson, Willie Boggs and Thomas McClay) have undertaken to serve at the 7 a. m. Celebration during the week, one boy each day There is room for one more boy (Tuesday mornings), if any parents would love to have their little son do this work for his dear Saviour The only conditions are that he be at the church five minutes before 7 o'clock and that he come quite regularly

A MUSICALE will be given in the Parish Hall early in December and the proceeds will be used for the Choir Fund and the Mothers' Meeting.

GIRLS' FRIENDLY.—Miss Hare, who has so efficiently served as Secretary for the past year, having been obliged to resign owing to the pressure of other duties, Miss Ellen C. Wharton has been appointed in her place and will enter on her duties at once.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since October 1st:

Miss Hamilton	Miss Eppecht
Miss Vodges	Mrs. Ellis
Miss Massey	Mrs. Darlington (2)
Miss Pomeroy	Mrs. Bonsach (2)
Miss Whitehouse	Dr. Coates

THE ADVENT SEASON AND CHRISTMASTIDE
should call attention to
MEMORIAL GIFTS TO THE CHURCH
and we ask correspondence as to work in wood, metal, stone or marble, mosaic, art glass, embroidery, etc.
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The Ascension News

VOL. XXI. PHILADELPHIA DECEMBER, 1908 NO. 9

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
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SERVICES

Holy Communion.

EVERY SUNDAY . . 7.30 and 11.30 A.M
HOLY DAYS . . . . 7.00 and 10.30 A.M
DAILY EXCEPT THURSDAYS 7.00 A.M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH SERMON 10.30 A.M.
DAILY . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M
DAILY . . . . . 5.00 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) 8.00 P.M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.30 P.M.

All the Seats are Free at all Services. God's House is open to all its Children

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The Ascension News

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE, *Rector*.
334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*.
316 S. Broad Street

WARDENS

THOMAS R. NEILSON, M. D.
WILLIAM C. LLOYD

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

PHILIP F. ALBURGER

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild	8.00 P.M
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.

Superintendent	THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent	MR. F. C. BOTWRIGHT
Librarian	MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist	MRS S. A. HARRIS

BIBLE CLASSES

For Women	3.00 P. M.
	MRS. G. W. HODGE
For Young Men and St. John's Guild	3.00 P. M.
	MISS M. J. GILPIN
For the Junior Brotherhood	3 00 P. M.
	MISS HODGE

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A. M

FASTING COMMUNION

Every one familiar with church history is aware of the antiquity and universality of the rule of fasting communion. Tertullian, writing in the second century, speaks of the Eucharist as that which is partaken of "before any other food." Timothy, Patriarch of Alexandria, in the fourth century, speaks of "a man fasting in order that he may communicate." St. Augustin, about 400 A. D., says that in "the Universal Church the sacrament is always received by persons who are fasting." The Second Council of Braga, 572 A. D., decreed that any priest who "should consecrate the oblation, not being fasting, should be deposed." The Council of Toledo, 646 A. D., forbade "any one to presume to celebrate after taking any, even the least portion, of food or drink."

Of course these were local, not general, Councils, so their decrees are not universally binding, but their action shows what was the mind and custom of the church at that time. The fast began sometimes the evening before, and always from at least midnight of the previous day. And in cases where the Eucharist was not celebrated, as was frequently the case on week days, until 9, 12, 3, and even sometimes 6 o'clock, the fast was always extended until it took place.

The object of receiving the Holy Communion fasting is first to honor it by making it the first food one receives

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS :

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KALENDAR

December 4. Friday—Fast.
" 6. Second Sunday in Advent.
" 11. Friday—Fast.
" 13. Third Sunday in Advent.
" 16. Ember day—Fast.
" 18. Ember day—Fast.
" 19. Ember day—Fast.
" 20. Fourth Sunday in Advent.
" 21. S. Thomas, Apostle.
" 25. Christmas.
" 26. S. Stephen, Martyr.
" 27. S. John, Evangelist.
" 28. Holy Innocents.

Record for November.

COMMUNICANTS REMOVED—
By transfer to the Chapel of the Prince of Peace —
John Britton,
Mrs. Ida Mary Britton.
Jennie May Moreland.
To St. Clement's Church—
Mary Florence Brodie.
To the Church of the Advocate—
Amy Powel Peters. 1
To S. Martin's-in-the-Fields—
Mrs. Mary Ella Faught.
Albert Smith Faught. 7
Received from the Cathedral, Albany, N. Y.—
Bayard Urquart Livingston, Jr. 1

DIED—
Emma Louisa Hendry.
Caroline Schock.

BURIAL—
Emma Louisa Hendry.
Communions of the sick. 2

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$373 61
" the poor	7 93
" General Missions	2 75
" Altar linen	15 00
" the Endowment Fund	5
" the Sunday and Industrial Schools	2 00
" the Episcopal Hospital	12 51
Birthday Envelope	50
Of the Sunday Schools	7 89
Total	$412 16

in the day, instead of coming to it after having feasted on the material good things of life; secondly, as a discipline appropriate to the state of penitence and humility, and as a guard against hasty and unprepared reception.

In addition to this, when a communion is made early in the morning, the fresh, quiet hour at the beginning of the day, before one has had anything to disturb or distract one, is the best and most profitable for the purpose. And the effect is felt throughout the day, far better than if one comes when the day is half gone, and after a long service and when many things may have occurred to otherwise fill the mind and disquiet the spirit.

As this rule of fasting communion is not specifically laid down in Scripture, it cannot be regarded as of Divine obligation. But it is a precept of ecclesiastical law. It stands on the same basis as the observance of Sunday, of Feast days, and Lent, fasting on Fridays, etc, none of which are prescribed in Scripture. And being of such universal use and so prescribed, and of such manifest utility, it ought not to be violated without great cause. And yet there are exceptions to it which have been always recognized. When one is in great danger of death, the communion may always be administered to him, whether he is fasting or not. And the same would naturally apply to invalids or those having a long continued illness who could not bear the strain of the service except at certain hours and after receiving food or medicine. This applies as well to elderly or weak persons for whom the effort of rising early and going out to church without having eaten would be too much of a strain. If it makes them faint, or sick, or impairs their health, it would render it impossible for them to profit spiritually by the act. In such cases mercy is better than sacrifice.

This is true, too, of those clergymen who have to celebrate perhaps more than once in the day or have many services or a distance to travel. The highest and best spiritual results are those which we should always strive to gain by our acts of devotion, and any mere disciplinary rule which interferes with or impairs those results must naturally give way in that case.

It should therefore be with each one a matter of conscience whether he makes his communion fasting or not. Unless one is old, or sick, or feeble, or has so much work to do that his strength would be impaired thereby, he certainly ought to comply with this universal rule of the church, and which he will find a most profitable discipline and helpful to his spiritual life, and regard making his communion in the middle of the day as a lazy, careless and indifferent way of performing so exalted an act.

In order that the members of this parish may come in this way to the Holy Communion without prolonging their fast unduly, we have early celebrations on every Sunday and Holy day, in fact daily throughout the year—with the exception of one month. But at the same time it should be distinctly understood that any one is at liberty to make his communion at any celebration, early or late, whether he is fasting or not. It is left to every one's conscience to decide the matter for himself, that being the discipline of our branch of the church. And it is the ideal that there should be communicants in addition to the priest, even at those celebrations in the middle of the day which are chiefly intended for worship.

PARISH NOTES

Endowment Fund.—By a resolution passed at a meeting of the Vestry, held last month, the Accounting Warden was directed to place in the General Endowment Fund $1000, being part of the legacy received from the late Mr. Keese. This is the first large deposit that has been made in this fund. It is much to be desired that this fund should be greatly increased in order to give the church a sufficient and steady income. We trust our parishioners will keep it in mind that by donations and bequests from time to time it may be largely augmented. It is much to be regretted that the whole of Mr. Keese's legacy could not have been thus invested, but as the church owed him $1000 at the time of his death, so much of it went to cancel this indebtedness.

A Bequest.—We were much gratified recently to hear that a bequest of $100 had been left to the church by the late Miss Elizabeth Wilson. Though she had left the parish some time ago, she still bore an affection for it, and thus remembered it in her will. If all, who at one time or another have been connected with the church, had done the same, we might have had a good-sized endowment fund by this time.

Birthday Envelopes.—There are a good many of these left over from the stock we used a year ago for meeting our deficit in current expenses, and it has been suggested by one of our ladies that they should be used to provide the means for carrying on the Mothers' Meeting, which is a most useful and necessary part of our church work.

Some $30 was set aside for this purpose from the entertainment given by the ladies last spring. But that will not be near enough to carry on the meeting during the winter. The Rector will be very glad to furnish these envelopes to any who will take them for this object.

Christian Union Social Meetings.—The Rector has offered the church for a series of services to be conducted during this winter on Sunday evenings under the auspices of the Christian Social Union. The first address was made November 29th, by Mr. Clinton Rogers Woodruff, the President of the Union. The second on December 6th will be by the Rt. Rev. the Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese. He will be followed in turn by the Rev. Mr. Pomeroy, who is working among the students in Princeton; the Bishop of Chicago; one or more of the Holy Cross Fathers, and other distinguished speakers whom it is hoped can be brought from a distance.

Social questions are exciting more interest than any others at the present time. The tendency towards socialism is most marked both in this country and abroad, and the aim of the Christian Social Union is to express the sympathy of the church with this movement and to try and direct it in the only way by which we believe it can ever be successful; that is, by the application of Christian principles to all our dealings with our fellow men.

The services in the church will be followed each evening by an after-meeting in the Parish building, at which a free and full discussion will be allowed of the subjects introduced.

Thanksgiving Day has come and gone and only one member of the congregation remembered the poor of our parish. No dinners were sent to those who had not the money to provide for themselves, and yet how many of us had family gatherings at our own boards laden with the general Thanksgiving turkey, cranberries and other dainties.

A supper was given to the women and children in the Parish House on Wednesday evening after service, consisting of turkey, cranberries, celery, potatoes, cake and coffee. The money for this was raised outside of the Parish.

Christmas will soon be here, with its message of glad tidings and good will to all men. Do not let us forget to send it to the poorest among us, and our own Christmas will mean something very different to us. Money or donations of food may be sent to those in charge of the Mothers' Meeting, as they know the most deserving and the most in need.

Needs of Our Boys.—Our responsibility to the young boys of our Parish is a growing one. Between the ages of fourteen and twenty we have the opportunity of molding them for future men, husbands and fathers. How are we to do this?

The church alone and its services cannot hold the boys without some attraction during the week. After their work is over and their evenings are free, what can we do for them to keep them from the street corners and the saloons, where many allurements are awaiting them. Our young men have gotten up an Athletic Club among themselves, making a rule that no boy can join who does not come to the Bible Class on Sunday. They have arranged basket ball games with other clubs, teams from other churches coming to the Ascension Parish House. But what have we for them when they come?

Our Sunday School room, which has to be the gymnasium, is very poorly equipped. What we especially need are two hair mats, some gymnasium suits, and above all a boiler put in the cellar connecting with the furnace to provide hot water for the shower. Estimates have been gotten and the lowest bid is $47 which will also give a hot water spigot for the general use of the building. At the present time no hot water can be had for any purpose in the Parish House, except by heating in a kettle on the gas stove, which of course is no use for the shower. The addition of a hot water boiler would be the greatest advantage for the general use of the Parish House.

Any one desiring to assist in providing these necessities for our boys, and thus sharing the responsibility of making their future by providing innocent pleasure and healthful recreation, may send a donation, no matter how small, to Miss Helen H. Hodge, Treasurer of this Fund, and it will be most gratefully received.

Christmas.—There will be celebrations on Christmas day at 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 and after morning prayer at 10.30 A. M., at one of which we trust every communicant member of the Parish will receive. No one can really keep Christmas unless he feels that he is in real union and sympathy with God and in peace with his fellow-men, and the Holy Communion is the means by which we are brought into that state and by which our spiritual life is strengthened and perfected. Let no one fail worthily to receive it at this holy blessed season.

The music to be rendered by the choir Christmas Day will be Te Deum, (Dudley Buck), Eb; Anthem, "O Zion that Bringeth Good Tidings," by Barnby; Mass, (Berthold Tours), in C.

The Christmas Offering.—When at this season we are giving gifts to all we love, do not let any fail to present a special gift to his dear Mother, the Church, to whom we all owe so much, and which is so necessary for the blessing and benefit of mankind. In a church of this kind, where no charge is made for seats, and its income depends upon voluntary contributions, all should be careful to make their contributions large and sufficient to meet all the church's needs.

As so many are absent from the city for six or eight months in the year, it is only by large offerings at Christmas and Easter that we can hope to make up the amount needed to carry on the church. As this year we have no outstanding debts to meet, all that is given on Christmas day will go to replace the money we had to take from our reserve fund to meet our expenses during the summer. This amount is fully $1000.

St. Agnes' Guild: Three Records Made.—This month has been a record-breaker for the Guild:

1. The largest attendance ever at a merely regular meeting. (30)

2. The largest attendance at an ordinary Sunday celebration of the Blessed Sacrament. (25)

3. More people in the Parish than ever before responded to the printed circular as to the Guild's annual entertainment. (85 so far.)

There will be a Musicale in the Parish House Monday evening, December 14th, for the benefit of the choir fund and the Mothers' Meeting.

Books for Boys, new or old, are needed for a boys' school, and will be forwarded by the Church Periodical Club if sent to the church.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

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The following were received since November 1st:

Mrs Hiller	Mrs. Dallas
Mrs. T. L. Smith	Miss Schell
Mrs. Samuel Milliken	Mrs. W. M. Rhein

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should call attention to
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The Ascension News

VOL. XXII. PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY, 1909 No. 1

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376 S. Broad Street

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WILLIAM C. LLOYD

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

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SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

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Assistant Superintendent	MR. F. C. BOTWRIGHT
Librarian	MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist	MRS. S. A. HARRIS

BIBLE CLASSES

For Women, Mrs. G. W. Hodge	3.00 P. M.
For Young Men and St. John's Guild, Miss M. J. Gilpin	3.00 P. M.
For the Junior Brotherhood, Miss Hodge	3.00 P. M.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

There is, we believe, no more vital question nor one deserving more consideration, especially at the present time, than that of the religious education of the young.

That youth is the time for learning is undoubted. Note the aptitude of a child in acquiring a language, and the difficulty of teaching persons in advanced life, if they have not at least acquired the fundamentals of education while they were young. This applies to religion as to everything else. Not only does a child require religion to guide and protect it from the dangers to which it is exposed as much as every one else does, but if one does not gain and have cultivated the religious instinct while still young, it will be very difficult to do so later. Hence the vital importance of children being brought up in "the nurture and admonition of the Lord," being taught the principles of the Christian faith and acquiring the habits of devotion which will keep it alive and produce its fruits.

Formerly in this country people were generally very careful as to the religious training of their children. The majority of homes were pervaded with a religious atmosphere, family prayers were said, the Bible read, Sunday strictly observed, children taken regularly to church, and brought to the enjoyment of its full privileges of membership. But for a generation or two there has been a great relaxation in these particulars. Through the growing wealth and luxury of the times,

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
909 Clinton Street

TERMS

Single Copies, by Mail, 50 Cents a Year

KALENDAR

January 1. Circumcision—Fast.
" 3. Second Sunday after Christmas.
" 6. The Epiphany.
" 8. Friday—Fast.
" 10. First Sunday after Epiphany.
" 15. Friday—Fast.
" 17. Second Sunday after Epiphany.
" 22. Friday—Fast.
" 24. Third Sunday after Epiphany.
" 25. Conversion of S. Paul.
" 29. Friday—Fast.
" 31. Fourth Sunday after Epiphany.

Record for December.

MARRIAGE—
Bayard Urquhart Livingston, Jr., and Armitage Tyson Struthers 1

COMMUNICANTS ADDED—NEW—
Clare Winn
Marguerite Carney Winn
John Henry Delaney 3
Transferred to Trinity Church, Moorestown, N. J.
Mrs. Jane Ramsay String
To Trinity Church, Shamokin, Pa.—
William Wayne Wirgman 2

DIED—
Mrs. Ellen Markoe Dallas

Communions of the sick. 5

BURIAL—
Caroline Schock 1

OFFERINGS

For current expenses (including Christmas offerings)	$654 60
" the poor	7 05
" the schools	1 60
" General Missions	20 75
" the Christmas Festival	28 07
" the Mothers' Meeting	33 60
" clerical education	1 00
Benevolent purposes	2 27
Of the Sunday Schools	7 51
Legacy	100 00
Total	$857 85

the multiplication of means of interest in merely earthly affairs and amusements, the Sunday newspaper and public libraries and athletic sports, the ease and cheapness of modern methods of locomotion, a great change in the habits of our people has taken place. Religion has been relegated to a subordinate place if not altogether ignored, the attention is so fixed on advancement in life and on amusements that many have now no time or thought for higher things. We doubt if there are many Christian homes where there are regular family prayers. Sunday is becoming rapidly secularized. Even heads of families neglect church attendance. Excursions to the country or spending the whole day in sleep and reading or playing games or visiting and entertainment takes the place of church going. Naturally under these circumstances the religious education of the young is neglected, often no effort whatever being made to secure it.

And the consequences are evident. The age is becoming more and more godless. Multitudes of men and women have grown up absolutely ignorant of the fundamental principles of the Christian religion. Having more or less education, many think out the problems of life for themselves and form their own conclusions and construct certain crude religions of their own. But how little effect they have is seen in the increasing ungodliness of our people, their worldliness, intemperance and sensuality, the corruption and peculation in our political life, the rapid and fearful increase of crime, the disregard of the marital tie and duties of parentage, the general absorption of time and interest in merely secular and material things.

Frantic efforts are made from time to time by religious bodies to stem and change this condition of things by means of revivals, and the conversion of hardened sinners. But we believe but little can be accomplished in this way. We must get at the root of the evil and give our youth an effective religious education to secure their right living in after life.

How is this to be done? Owing to our religious divisions we have had to adopt in this country the principle of the State giving only a secular education. So we have to depend solely on the family and on the church to provide this vital element of religious training of the young. We must try to make our homes more religious. Let parents show in their own daily life and conduct their appreciation of the value of religion. There can be no more effective way of teaching than by example. If parents are religious their children generally will be so too. Bring your children to baptism and "see that they be taught *so soon as they shall be able to learn*" what is the meaning of the Christian profession, its duties and privileges. Ground them in the Church Catechism. Cultivate in them the habits of church going and devotion. Try to give them a love for the church and religious things. Bring them early to Confirmation and Communion. Impress upon them the nobility and beauty of living for others and not only for themselves.

Do this for your own children, and that you may do something for the education of the children of those who are too ignorant or indifferent to do it for them, make the church as efficient as it can be to do this work. Let our most intelligent and cultivated men and women undertake the most charitable work of teaching in our Sunday-schools and Bible classes. Let us raise up if we can, as they have in the Roman church, orders of men and women who will give themselves wholly to the work of charitable education. And let us see if we cannot promote the efforts that are now being made to introduce at least moral education into our public schools.

If we would save our own children and their descendants from moral deterioration and our state from inevitable decay, we must attend promptly and seriously to this all-important question of the religious education of the young.

PARISH NOTES

Christmas was a beautiful day and the season was marked by many pleasant incidents in our parish. The church looked more beautiful than ever with its recent addition in the side altar, and the choir gave us an admirably rendered service, the Mass being one which had not been sung for a number of years. The number of communions was about the same as last year. The offerings amounted to $269.31 compared with $388.26 the previous year. But in that offering were one $100 and two $50 gifts which did not come in this year, so the general offering of the people was really larger. But we fear many of our attendants fail to realize that what they give through the envelopes on the plate is, or should be the equivalent of what they would pay as pew rent in another church, and, with a few exceptions, they do not give as much as they would be compelled to do there. Can they not act on principle in this matter and take pleasure in seeing that our free church, which can do so much more good than a pew-rented church can, is amply supported?

The Rector received as a Christmas gift from a member of the congregation a beautiful new cassock, of which he was much in need. The Curate received $25 in gold from the members of his instruction class to purchase a new overcoat. The choirmaster received a beautiful silk umbrella and a box of cigars, Miss Gilpin was presented with a beautiful glass bowl by the members of her Bible class, and many of the teachers and scholars in the Sunday-school exchanged gifts. The verger was presented with a ten dollar gold piece by the young men who frequent the church in recognition of his kindness to them.

A large gymnasium mat was presented to the boys by Mr. Rodman Wanamaker.

On Christmas eve a large basket containing a turkey or chicken, with vegetables, cake and fruit, was sent to 18 of the most needy families in the parish, and pies, cakes and candies to a number of others, so that each member of the meeting received a Christmas remembrance. Thirty-three dollars were contributed for the purpose by members of the parish, and some of the ladies of the congregation assisted in packing the baskets. And on the Wednesday after Christmas an entertainment consisting of music, recitations, and refreshments was given to the members of the Mothers' Meeting after the service in the church.

Sunday-school Christmas Festival.—One of the brightest and most delightful Christmas entertainments ever given for the Sunday-school took place on the evening of Innocents' day, December 28th. The school before the entertainment sang carols in the church, were addressed by the Rev. Rector and Curate and sang a brief office of devotion. The success of the entertainment was largely due to the efficient committee who arranged it—Mr. Botwright and the Misses Mildred Hodge and Maria Gilpin. The thanks of the school are cordially extended to those persons who so kindly and effectively took part, viz.; Mr. Marks with his giraffe, ably assisted by two young men of the parish; Miss Rosina Frank, Anna Delany, Anna Anderson and Bessie Frazier, who recited, together with humerous sketches by Mr. William Cathers and friends.

At the close of the entertainment Santa Claus distributed with clever fun, presents and candy to every scholar.

A musicale was given in the parish building on the evening of Monday, December 14, by several members of the choir and some friends of the choirmaster. The attendance was good and the performance very creditable. It was for the benefit of the choir fund and Mothers' Meeting. Our thanks are due to those who so kindly volunteered their services.

Our new altar was in place the day before Christmas and was used for the first time and dedicated on Holy Innocents' day at the 10 a. m. service, the Rector using at the offertory a special prayer of benediction, which had been recently licensed by the Bishop of the diocese for use on a similar occasion. By request of the donor it is to be known as "Saint Saviour's Altar." All the early celebrations, except on great festivals, and all daily services will hereafter be said there.

We feel sure all will agree that it will be not only a great convenience in drawing the people together in one place, whenever there are only a few present, instead of their being scattered all over the church; but it is a great enrichment and adornment to the church. Its position also hides the door into the parish building which heretofore when open exposed the choir-room to the view of all who were in the church. Our hearty thanks are due to the kind thought that prompted it.

The Special Christian Social Union services will be continued this month on Sunday evenings with special preachers who have made a particular study of social subjects. The object of these services is especially to prove to the working man that the church is interested in him and sympathises with him and is fitted to be the very best friend he can have.

Domestic Missions.—The congregation will notice that in the package of envelopes for the present quarter was one for this object, and that is the *only* method for contributing to the general missions of the church provided in this parish, except the collections made by the members of the Woman's Auxiliary. We trust *all* these envelopes will be put on the plate before the end of this month, with *something* in them even if the amount is small. Let all feel they are contributing to some extent towards the great work of establishing the church throughout our own land and carrying the Gospel throughout the world. That is the special call of the Epiphany season.

Mrs. Dallas.—The Parish has met with another loss in the death on New Year's eve of the wife of Judge Dallas, Although she had been much of an invalid for some years, so that she rarely could come to church, she never lost her interest in it, and the clergy ministered to her regularly in her home. She was not only a liberal contributor towards the support of the church, but always gave to those extra calls which are ever recurring, to missions, etc.

The daughter of the late Mr. George M. Wharton, who was not only a distinguished lawyer, but one of the most leading churchmen of his day, she inherited from him that knowledge of, and love for, the Church which she retained to the last, and has in turn transmitted to her children.

We are sure she has now entered into that rest and blessedness she so well deserved.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since December 1st:

Mr. Joseph Barton	Miss Barrington
Mrs. Van Pelt	Mrs. Cameron
Mrs. Andrews (3)	Miss Ashburner
Mr. Newman	Miss Wurts (2)
	Mrs. Tait

THE ADVENT SEASON AND CHRISTMASTIDE
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The Ascension News

VOL. XXII. PHILADELPHIA, FEBRUARY, 1909 NO. 2

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For the Junior Brotherhood MISS HODGE	3.00 P. M.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

TRUE AND FALSE CATHOLICISM

Every one who recites the Apostles' Creed professes his faith in "the Holy Catholic Church." But some have a true idea of what that is and some a false idea. What is the true? What do the words mean? First, there is the definite article "the," which means that there is but one Church. That was Christ's intention. He never meant that His disciples should be divided. He said their unity would be the proof of their Divine guidance. If there are divisions among Christians they are wrong—some one is to blame for them.

Then Catholic means universal. That was Christ's conception of what His church should be, one universal society, extending throughout the world, embracing every being. Could there be a more splendid ideal, than that all people of all nations, languages, classes and conditions should be bound together in one universal fraternity, in which each should look upon all others as brothers, caring for and working with and helping each other as brothers should. Until the great body of Christian people comes to be so united and so act, Christ's idea of His Church will not be realized or its work on earth be done.

For this universal body Christ prescribed all that was necessary for its doctrine, discipline and worship, as He said to His Apostles that they were to teach their converts to "observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." Of course for such a body so diffused and so diversely constituted, these things

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

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KALENDAR

February 2. Purification of B. V. M.
" 5. Friday.
" 7. Septuagesima.
" 12. Friday.
" 14. Sexagesima.
" 19. Friday.
" 21. Quinquagesima.
" 24. Ash Wednesday.
" 28. First Sunday in Lent.

All days in Lent are fast.

Record for January

BAPTISMS—
Richard Egbert Houseman (Adult).
Margaret Kelley.
Octavia Ellen Van Pelt. 3

MARRIAGE—
Arthur Westergaard and
Blanche Carolie Remont. 1

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED—
From the Roman Catholic Church—
William LaDroutte Arnette.
From S. Luke's Church, Norfolk, Va.—
Mrs. Myrtle Daisy Arquette.
From S. John's Church, Washington, D. C.—
Hubley Eaton Owen
From the Church of the Saviour—
Richard Mears.
Mrs. Eliza May Mears.

NEW—
Richard Egbert Houseman 6

DIED—
Richard Egbert Houseman.
Mrs. Ellen Alexander. 2

Communions of the sick. 3

Anointing of the sick. 1

BURIALS—
Mrs. Ellen Markoe Dallas.
Richard Egbert Houseman
Octavia Ellen Van Pelt.
Mrs. Mary Strong.
Mrs. Ellen Alexander.

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$261 16
" the poor	30 48
" General Missions	5 20
" Diocesan Missions	1 00
Benevolent purposes	2 10
Of the Sunday Schools	9 18
Total	$309 13

were necessarily few, but they were all that was essential. The reason of the divisions among Christians is that men want to be wiser than Christ, and to have a certainty and uniformity in matters in which He did not see best to grant it. We need more of the tolerance and liberality of Christ.

To this body so constituted and teaching only what He prescribed He promised His continual presence and guidance, "lo, I am with you always"—that is, with the whole body of His disciples—"even until the end of the world." By virtue of that promise it is impossible to believe that the whole Church will ever fall into error. Individuals or groups of individual Christians may fall into error, but not the whole body. Christ never promised infallibility to any one man or section of the church, but to the Church as a whole. So Catholicity is the test of truth. What has been held and taught by Christians always, everywhere and by all must be true by virtue of Christ's promise. Nothing which has not that authority should ever be required as essential in the teaching or practice of the Church. Only a body acting on this principle is truly Catholic.

What is false Catholicism? Manifestly the claim of a section only of the great body of Christians that it and it only, is the Catholic Church and teaches the true faith. Every Protestant body which has separated itself from other Christians

and set up a new organization claiming to teach the true faith, has done this, and has manifestly no authority beyond that of the wisdom or virtue of its founder. And the Church of Rome has done precisely the same thing. It has separated itself from all Christians who will not acknowledge the claim of the Pope to universal jurisdiction. It has excommunicated the eastern church, and all outside of itself in the western church, and claims that it and it only, is the Catholic Church, the body of Christ. If the claim of the Bishop of Rome had been admitted always and everywhere, if it had real Catholic authority, of course it should be received as true. But as a matter, not of theory or denunciation but of evidence and fact, this is not so. Its claim therefore is that of a false Catholicity. Manifestly a part cannot be greater than the whole. If Catholic means universal, then that which constitutes only part of the Christian body, cannot be the Catholic Church.

If it is said that the English Church too is only a part and therefore cannot be the Catholic Church, the answer is that it does not claim to be. It acknowledges the Church of Rome and the Eastern churches as well to be parts of that church. When we say we believe in the Holy Catholic Church, we do not mean only the English branch of it to which we belong, but the whole Church which is constituted of all the baptized. The only divisions among Christians should be geographical ones, so if the Roman Catholic Church were only a national church, as the Greek or English churches, one might pass from one to another and be in communion with all. But Rome claims to be more than that. So as long as it maintains that claim this is impossible. To become a Romanist means to cease to be a Catholic and to become a Schismatic, to cut ourself off from the great body and join a section which is out of communion with the rest, and this by its own act. England never excommunicated Rome. To this day any Roman Catholic can be received at our altars. It is Rome which excommunicates and refuses to acknowledge as Christians any who will not recognize her un-Catholic claims.

To become a Roman Catholic therefore means to act on schismatic principles, to profess a false instead of a true Catholicism.

PARISH NOTES

Confirmation.—The Bishop of the Diocese has appointed the evening of Friday, March 26th, for the annual administration of Confirmation in this parish, and the clergy affectionately call upon every person who is of sufficient age to give in their names for presentation to the Bishop at that time.

The Prayer Book directs that every baptized child shall "be brought to the Bishop to be confirmed by him so soon as it can say the Creed, the Lord's Prayer and the Ten Commandments, and it is sufficiently instructed in the other parts of the Church Catechism." That is, that as soon as a child is old enough to learn and understand what are the obligations of the Christian life he should voluntarily take those obligations on himself, and be brought to receive the laying on of hands of the Bishop, which is the invocation upon, and imparting to, him of the grace of God which is necessary to enable him to keep those vows. No one escapes any responsi-

bility by not being confirmed, because any one who knows what the Christian religion requires is bound to fulfil those requirements whether he promises to do so or not. His being Confirmed is simply the acknowlegment that he recognizes his obligations and is going to seek God's help through the Sacraments to enable him to do what he cannot do in his own strength.

And though Confirmation should be received just at that age when one is beginning to act for and govern himself, yet if for any reason one has not received it then, it should be received at the first opportunity, no matter what one's age may be. We trust therefore no one in this parish who has passed childhood and is not yet Confirmed will allow this opportunity of receiving it pass without availing himself of it. To put it off is to fail in the performance of a manifest duty, to forego a great blessing, and possibly to let slip an opportunity which may never come again.

Instructions preparatory to Confirmation will be given by the Rector on Sundays at 4 p. m. in the Parish Building, and by the Curate on Wednesdays after the Evening Service beginning with the first week in February, and every one desiring to be Confirmed is expected to attend one or both of these courses of instruction.

Unction.—There has been presented to the parish a supply of Oil, which was blessed by one of our Bishops, for use in the Anointing of the Sick. This is one of the most ancient and Scriptural rites of the Church. It is founded upon the statement in S. Mark's Gospel that the Apostles "anointed with oil many that were sick," and S. James' direction in his Epistle that "if any is sick let him call for the Presbyters of the Church and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord." The first English Prayer Book provided a special office for the administration of Unction. And though this was omitted in subsequent revisions, owing doubtless to the abuse which had grown up of using it only as a preparation for death, and not, as S. James says, for the healing of the sick and for the forgiveness of sins The Bishops at the late Lambeth Conference said that it was not to be forbidden to those desiring it, and many of our clergy administer it when requested to do so.

The Stock containing this Oil will be kept in a cupboard we have in the back of our new altar as an appropriate place for it, where it can always be in readiness for use.

Mrs. John Alexander.—In the death of Mrs. Alexander the parish has lost its oldest communicant. Her name was one of the fifty-three names the present Rector found on the list of communicants when he came to the parish in 1880 Of these only six now remain, and Mrs. Alexander's membership considerably outdated any of these. Her husband was at one time a vestryman of the church, and on his death in 1882 she erected the very beautiful window repre-the Annunciation, which is in the west aisle, to his memory. She was devotedly attached to the parish, and though for some years she has been living at a great distance from the church, she came to it as often as her health would allow.

She lived to a good age a godly Christian life, and we pray that she may now rest in peace and that light perpetual may shine upon her.

A New Piano Needed.—The choir is very much in need of a piano for use at rehearsals. The parish at present possesses two instruments, neither of of which is fit to be used, making it necessary to rent one every time an entertainment is given. If any one has a used piano they wish to donate it will be thankfully received or donations may be made toward the purchase of a new one.

The White Envelopes for this quarter are for Diocesan Missions, for the Episcopal and Convention Fund and for the Easter offering. The first two are taxes which this parish has to pay, one of $134.45 for Diocesan Missions and the Sustentation Fund for weak churches and the other for $167.76 for the support of the Bishops and the Convention expenses. And these special envelopes are provided for these purposes that their payment may not come out of the ordinary offerings, which are not in themselves sufficient to meet the current expenses of the church. Our people must bear in mind that in another church they would have to pay their pew rent and contribute to collections for these and like purposes besides. These white envelopes are to take the place of collections, and all our people are asked conscientiously to contribute through them according to their ability.

St. Agnes' Day.—Thursday, January 21st, was St. Agnes' Day and was kept by the guild of little girls as their festival. We began with a choral Celebration of the Holy Communion at 7 a. m., at which there was an attendance of 34. At 6 p. m. 29 were present at a guild supper, after which we attended a moving picture exhibition, followed by a visit to the Automat. The guild spent a happy day and return their thanks to the Rev. John Cook, celebrant at the early Celebration, and to Mrs. Harris, who played the organ at that service.

Sunday School.—We welcome as a new teacher in the Sunday School Mr. Frank B. Wallace. He has a class of boys, who already have evidently become attached to him.

Child Labor Law.—Will not our members interest themselves in and exert what influence they can to secure the passage of a child labor law by the present session of our Legislature, that they may do something to correct the terrible evils resulting from child labor in our factories and stores.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

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The following were received since January 1st:

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Miss Casey	Mrs. Macken

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The Ascension News

VOL. XXII. PHILADELPHIA, MARCH, 1909 NO. 3

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Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

ROMAN CATHOLICISM

We tried to show last month how false is the claim of the Roman Catholic Church, how on the contrary, its position is the denial of true Catholicism. Let us consider now what are its special characteristics. The essence of Romanism is the recognition of the Pope of Rome as the absolute, supreme, universal governor of the Church, having power to rule and decide in all questions civil and ecclesiastical. This claim we know to be unfounded, because there is no evidence for it in Scripture, nor in the early church, and has never at any time been acknowledged by all Christians. It was never acknowledged by the Eastern Church, which is almost as large as the Western and was only received, and that with continual protests, in England for a short time, and for over three hundred years it has been utterly rejected by the Anglican Church and all Protestants. It was manifestly a gradual growth; the earlier Bishops of Rome made no such pretensions as the present Popes. It was due to the political position in which the Bishops of Rome found themselves, owing to the removal of the seat of the Imperial government from that city to Constantinople, leaving the Bishop the chief person there, which had so long been the capital of the civilized world. This was taken advantage of for the acquisition and extension of a purely political power. And the acknowledgment of that claim has resulted in the absolute suppression of the powers of the Episcopate and clergy and the rights of

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS:

Single Copies, by Mail, 50 Cents a Year

KALENDAR

March 3. Ember day.
" 5. Ember day.
" 6. Ember day.
" 7. Second Sunday in Lent.
" 14. Third Sunday in Lent.
" 21 Fourth Sunday in Lent.
" 25. The Annunciation B. V. M.
" 28. Passion Sunday.

All days in Lent are Fasts except Sundays.

Record for February

BAPTISMS—
Jane Agnes Brunner.
Francis Oliver Fullerton.
Mabel Jane Fullerton.
Thomas Byrns. 4

MARRIAGE—
Alfred Stengel, M. D., and
Martha Otis Pepper. 1

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED—
From S. Mark's Church—
Frank Siddons Baisley.
From S. Luke's Church, Milwaukee—
Abbot McClure. 2
Transferred to Christ Church Chapel—
Jane Biddle Hewson,
To S. Bartholomew's Church, New York City—
Mrs. Alice Marion Watson.
To S. Paul's Church.
Mrs. Mary Eva Dunbar. 3

DIED
Mrs. Sarah Ann Scott.
Mrs. Susan Hiller
Mary Barands. 3

Anointing of the sick. 1

Communions of the sick. 3

BURIALS—
Mrs. Sarah Ann Scott.
Mary Berands.
Andrew Kincade McCann.
Mrs. Susan Hiller. 4

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$288 11
" the poor	19 12
" Diocesan Missions	40 44
" the Epis opal and Convention Fund	12 20
" General Missions	35
" the Sunday and Industrial Schools	50
Benevolent purposes	2 29
Of the Sunday Schools	7 90
Total	$370 91

the laity, and even it is claimed of ecumenical councils, the Pope being regarded as superior to all.

It is the very audacity of this claim that is attractive to some minds. They think that here alone they can find that certainty and assurance on all matters they so crave. But what right have they to demand a certainly in all things where God has not seen fit to give it them? In how few things comparatively in the natural world have we absolute certainty and how can we expect more in the subtler spiritual sphere? And if the claim to give this certainty is not well found, what does it amount to? The claim is that the Pope is infallible. But even if that could be proved, it is notoriously not the Pope who speaks in the decrees of the Roman Church, but a body of theologians constituting what is known as the Curia, a number of Italian ecclesiastics for the most part, men utterly out of touch with the great living, throbbing body of the Christian world, and who are at this moment trying to suppress all human thought and progress and hold their followers to the scholastic ideas and definitions which became stereotyped in the Middle Ages. If any one can believe that he can hear the voice of God issuing only from such a source, of course he should become a Roman Catholic. But it is against Scripture, Catholic authority and human reason.

And if any one thinks he will find unity in the Roman Church he is very much mistaken; there are as divergent schools and parties there as elsewhere. The only unity that is found is that secured by despotism, the forceable suppression of freedom of thought or expression. The only true unity is that which comes from real agreement in thought and belief. And there has largely been that unity among Christians in regard to what is essential. It is about non-essentials chiefly that Christians differ. So there should be liberty in regard to those things. So a truly Catholic Church grants that liberty. And it is the glory and the power of our branch of the church that it does so, instead of it being, as some persons look upon it, a sign of weakness.

There are many other things connected with Roman Catholicism, such as the Cult of the Blessed Virgin and of the Saints and the Sacred Heart, the worship of images and relics, the doctrine of Transubstantiation, the withholding the cup from the laity, the doctrine of indulgences and dispensations, the enforced celibacy of the clergy and compulsory confession, etc.; these must all be received by any one becoming a member of that communion. Yet these were all gradual growths in that part of the church, none of which have Scriptural nor Catholic authority.

How any one can leave our great English branch of the Church which is governed by real Catholic principles, and join this body which denies them, we cannot understand. If some few have done so in our day, as some greater ones have done before them, we may be sure their defection will have no greater effect and do nothing to retard the progress of that great body, which we believe has the promise of the future, because beyond all other Christian bodies it is most truly Catholic.

PARISH NOTES

Confirmation will be administered in this parish by the Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese on March 26th at 8 P. M. Preparatory instructions are now being given by the Rector on Sundays at 4 P. M. in the Parish Building and by the Curate on Wednesdays after the 8 P. M. service All persons attending the church who are not yet Confirmed are affectionately urged to avail themselves of this opportunity and to attend one or both of these courses of instruction.

Lenten Services.—The boys of the choir will sing at the daily 5 P. M. service, and there will be a short lecture after it on Fridays. The Penitential Office will be used on Wednesday evenings at 8 P. M.

There is also the daily celebration of the Holy Communion at 7 A. M., except on Thursdays, when it is at 9 A. M.

The Ladies' Aid meets on Wednesdays from 3 to 5 P. M. and will during Lent sew for a missionary box to be sent to the large Indian School at Oneida, Wisconsin, which is now in charge of the Rev. Mr. Thorn, who was formerly a Curate in this parish and who has appealed to us to help him. Donations of money or material for this work are needed.

Gifts to the Church.—A brass altar desk and two brass vases, an oriental rug and a kneeling cushion for the chancel rail of St. Saviour's altar have been presented, and an order for a set of col-

ored cloths for this altar has been given to our embroidery class. They hope to have the white one finished in time for use at Easter.

A former member of the parish has also presented about an hundred bound volumes of most excellent books for our Parish and Sunday School libraries. These libraries are at the disposal of our members, and books can be given out after any service when the Verger is in the Parish Building.

One of our members, who is a bookbinder, has kindly bound for us another set of the copies of the NEWS extending over seven years. This is the third volume we have now, each covering seven years, which gives a full history of the parish for that period of twenty-one years in all, a very valuable thing.

Special Sermons.—The concluding sermon in the course of sermons on social subjects will be preached on Sunday evening, March 7th, by the Rev. Father Huntington, of the Order of the Holy Cross, when, we have no doubt, the church will be filled.

The Rector is preaching this Lent outside of the parish, in Christ Church Chapel, S. Martin's, Radnor; S. David's Manayunk; Christ Church and S. Michael's, Germantown; S. Philip's, West Philadelphia; S. Paul's, 15th and Porter streets, and at the Young Men's Christian Association meetings, at Broad and and Federal streets, on one Sunday afternoon.

The Curate preaches at Newtown, at S. George's, West Philadelphia, at S. Elizabeth's and at S. Mary the Virgin's in New York. He will also give the three hour sermon on Good Friday in S. Luke's Church, Germantown.

Special Collections.—All the offerings on Sunday morning, February 28th, outside of those in the regular envelopes, were for Diocesan Missions. But the total amount received for this object so far is only $42.91 and we have to contribute $100. Will not *each* member of the parish give through the envelopes marked "Diocesan Missions" an offering towards making up this total?

On the last Sunday in this month all the offerings outside the envelopes will be for the Episcopal and Convention Fund, towards which this church has to pay $169. We trust this will be made up at that time or by the envelopes sent out this quarter, which are so maked.

In addition to these payments the church has to make, the ladies of the Missionary Society are now making their collections for the different branches of missionary work of the church at large. What better objects for Lenten self-denial could one have than these different agencies for carrying the light of the Gospel and the ministrations of the church to those who are without them. The whole future of our country and of all countries depends upon the question whether men are Christians or not, and it is for us who have that blessed religion to see that it is carried to others.

St. John's Guild Sociable.—A goodly number of young ladies and men attended the dance given by the guild on Thursday, February 18th. Refreshments and music were provided by a friend.

The Sunday School.—The attendance this winter has been larger than for several previous years, especially of boys. We have a faithful corps of teachers and good work is being done, but some of the classes are too large and another teacher for boys is very much wanted. Will not some one volunteer for this most necessary work. Beautiful stamps prepared by the Society of the Holy Faith in England are given, and four times we have been obliged to increase our order.

Mite Boxes.—Mite boxes for Lent have been distributed, the proceeds to be given to the Rev. Father Hughson for his work among the mountain children in Tennessee.

Children's Rule of Life.—About fifty children made and signed a Rule of Life for Lent, in which they promised to punch a pin-hole on their card every time they broke any item of it, and to show their card to their teacher every Sunday and to one of their pastors at the end of Lent.

MISSIONARY MEETINGS

A missionary rally under the auspices of the Pennsylvania Branch of the Woman's Auxiliary and a committee of the Church Club will be held in Witherspoon Hall, Walnut and Juniper streets, on Tuesday evening, March 23d, at 8 o'clock.

Mr. George C. Thomas will preside, Mr. George Wharton Pepper will speak of diocesan missions. Mr. W. R. Butler, of Mauch Chunk, will speak of missions in our own country, including colored and Indian missions.

The offering will be for missions.

A quiet afternoon for the leaders of the Junior Auxiliary, followed by a service for children conducted by Father Sill, will be held in this church about the middle of Lent.

"I will pray, as for the living, for the dead, each day."

How can I cease to pray for thee. Somewhere
In God's great universe thou art to-day.
Can He not reach thee with His tender care?
Can He not hear me when for thee I pray?
What matters it to Him who hold within
The hollow of His hand all worlds, all space,
That thou art done with earthly pain and sin?
Somewhere within His ken thou hast a place.
Somewhere thou livest, and hast need of Him:
Somewhere thy soul sees higher heights to climb;
And somewhere still, there may be valleys dim
That thou must pass to reach the hills sublime
Then all the more because thou canst not hear
Poor human words of blessing, will I pray—
O true, brave heart! God bless thee! whoso'er
In His great universe thou art to-day.

JULIA DORR.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since February 1st:

Mr. and Mrs. Cope (2)	Mr. Eschback
Miss McKnight	Mrs. Roe
Miss Amy Peters	Mrs. Barrett
Mrs. John Mason	Miss Preston
Miss Jennings	Mr. H. L. Kelley (2)
Miss McIlhenny	Mrs. Carman

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The Ascension News

VOL. XXII. PHILADELPHIA, APRIL, 1909 NO. 4

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DAILY EXCEPT THURSDAYS 7.00 A.M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH SERMON 10.30 A.M.
DAILY . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M
DAILY . . . . . 5.00 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) 8.00 P. M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.30 P.M

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REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE, *Rector*.
334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*.
316 S. Broad Street

WARDENS

THOMAS R. NEILSON, M. D.
WILLIAM C. LLOYD

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

PHILIP F. ALBURGER

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild	3.00 P.M
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	3.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild	3.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.

Superintendent	THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent	MR. F. C. BOTWRIGHT
Librarian	MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist	MRS S. A. HARRIS

BIBLE CLASSES

For Women	3.00 P. M.
	MRS. G. W. HODGE
For Young Men and St. John's Guild	3.00 P. M.
	MISS M. J. GILPIN
For the Junior Brotherhood	3.00 P. M.
	MISS HODGE

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

PRINCIPLES OF THE ENGLISH REFORMATION

In the XVIth Century there was a universal demand for the reformation of the Church in its head and in its members. Even the Popes felt the necessity for it and several councils were called for the purposes of effecting it. But they failed materially to do so. The consequence was that on the Continent the Protestants broke away entirely from the Church and set up in its stead a number of different Christian associations formed according to their individual ideas. But in England a real and permanent reformation of the Church was effected. The Church remained the same as it always had been in its essential principles, but it was reformed and purified from certain abuses and accretions which had grown up in the course of the centuries. All churchmen ought to clearly understand what the principles of that Reformation were.

First and foremost, it consisted in throwing off the usurped authority of the Bishop of Rome by which he had come to claim that he was the Vicar and representative of Christ on earth and the sole, absolute and universal governor of the Church, and of the State as well. How groundless this claim is we tried to show last month. Its rejection was effected in England by the Parliament forbidding any appeals being taken to the Papal Court. All causes were to be settled in England by the Ecclesiastical Courts of the realm. This carried with it, of course, rejection of the claim of the

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KALENDAR

April 4. Palm Sunday.
" 5. Monday before Easter.
" 6. Tuesday before Easter.
" 7. Wednesday before Easter.
" 8. Maundy Thursday.
" 9 Good Friday.
" 10. Easter Even.
" 11. Easter.
" 12. Monday in Easter week.
" 13. Tuesday in Easter week.
" 16. Friday—Fast.
" 18. Low Sunday
" 23. Friday—Fast.
" 25. S. Mark, Evangelist
" 30. Friday—Fast.

All days in Lent are Fasts except Sundays.

Record for March

BAPTISMS—
Mrs. Elizabeth Baily Fritz.
Mrs. Frances Moore.
Ellen Agnes Righter.
Charles Edward Harris.
Harry Worrell Anderson.
Emmerlina Chapman Burns.
Elizabeth Martha McCaw
William John McCaw
Raymond Batchelor Reeves.
Helen Louisa Birmelin.
Emma Elizabeth Birmelin.
Marguerite Leah Mull.
Robert John Kelso. 13

CONFIRMED—
Andrew George Chalmers.
George Brinin Wilson.
Joseph Donaldson Marshall.
Raymond Batchelor Reeves.
Tofeigh George Joseph Sadic.
Charles Edward Harris.
James Francis Fritz
Harry Worrell Anderson.
William John McCaw.
Mrs. Elizabeth Baily Fritz.
Mrs. Emma Rebecca Burke.
Mrs. Maud Owen.
Mrs. Mary Smith.
Mrs. [illegible] Moore.
Emily Peel Logan.
Catharine Gamble Chestnut.
Marguerite Leah Mull.
Rebecca Irene Neill.
Edith Emma Hubley.
Emmerlina Chapman Burns.
Ellen Agnes Righter.
Helen Salem Michael Namee.
Elsie Davison Walker.
Anna Mary Anderson.
Sarah Jane Stewart.
Ella Grubb.
Elizabeth Martha McCaw.
Helen Louisa Birmelin.
Marguerite Anne Davis. 29

COMMUNICANT
Transferred to the Chapel of the Prince of Peace.—
Florence Gertrude Barnes. 4
Mrs. Esther Hermitage Smythe.
Elmer Smythe.
Elizabeth May Smythe.

Communions of the sick. 5

BURIAL—
Thomas Preston Carpenter. 1

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$322 18
" The poor	19 18
" Mothers' Meeting	27 00
" Diocesan Missions	13 76
" the Episcopal and Convention Fund	33 93
" General Missions	2 00
" Ladies' Aid	5 00
" Benevolent purposes	4 84
" Prayer Book Society	9 00
Of the Sunday Schools	7 29
Total	$441 28

Pope to appoint to Bishoprics or Benefices, or to issue dispensations or indulgences or to exercise any authority in the English Church, it being contrary to the universal discipline of the Church that any Bishop should have authority outside his own Diocese, except such as belonged to primates and metropolitans in their respective provinces.

The second great act of reformation was the revision of the liturgy and its translation into the language "understanded of the people." This created our Book of Common Prayer, the most priceless heritage of English people. In doing this the aim was not only to make the words of the worship of the Church

intelligible to those taking part in it, but its acts and ceremonies as well. Hence, these were simplified, many forms which were doubtless very beautiful and symbolical in themselves, but which had become so elaborate and complicated that only an expert could follow or understand them, were omitted, that the worship rendered might be real and intelligent, not blind, mechanical and superstitious. So too all devotions to the Blessed Virgin Mary which exalted her to a place as mediatrix between God and man equal, if not superior, to that of her Divine Son, and of undue honoring of the saints were omitted, the use of the Sacrament of the altar in a way which Christ had not commanded, reserving it for purposes of worship, carrying it about or lifting it up, were omitted. The cup was restored to the laity, and the duty of the reception, as well as of assisting at the offering of the sacrifice was emphasized, and provision made for the administration of the other sacraments in their simplicity and purity.

Together with this reform of the worship return to the earlier discipline of the Church was secured. The compulsory celibacy of the clergy and obligatory confession were done away with, though of course the clergy could still remain unmarried if they chose and any one could use confession if he felt the spiritual need of it. And the discipline of the Church was to be exercised by the parish Priests, the Bishops, and the regular Diocesan and Provincial Courts.

In regard to doctrine the distinct declaration was made by the Convocations representing the clergy that there was no intention of departing from the teachings of the universal church; only those catechisms and decrees issued solely by Papal authority were rejected. And while the thirty-nine articles were set forth as a kind of catechism to instruct the people on certain points then in dispute, only profession of faith in the Catholic Creeds was exacted as necessary to membership in the Church.

Thus no new church was set up or new discipline or worship or faith invented, but the old Church continued the same, delivered from a usurped authority and abuses consequent to it.

And these have continued the characteristics of the Church of England and her daughter churches to this day. It differs from the Roman Catholic Church in that it retains the primitive constitution of the Church in which all Bishops were equal; that it requires belief only in those truths which have been universally accepted, and that while it uses those general elements of worship which have always entered into all worship, it avoids that over elaboration and ceremonial which is apt to become purely mechanical and spectacular, though it allows a wide divergency of use so long as the essentials are preserved. And it differs from the Protestant bodies, on the other hand, in that it has preserved its continuity with the past and appeals for authority for everything it does or teaches to that of the primitive and undivided church, which saves it from the divisions and the merely human teachings and devices, the crudities and eccentricities which those bodies exhibit. The Anglican Communion—as these churches taken as a whole are called—thus stands before the world as the purest branch of the great Catholic Church of Christ, truest to the principles of its Founder. It presents the wisest, sanest, most liberal and most

effective type of the Christian Church in its doctrine, discipline and worship. And on the principle of the survival of the fitest we believe it has the promise of the future, that men will come gradually on the one hand to break away from the unyielding tyranny of Rome, and on the other to abandon the suicidal divisions and negations of Protestantism and find in it the only common ground where all can meet and realize that universal brotherhood which Christ meant His Church should be, guided and energized by His Holy Spirit.

PARISH NOTES

Our Annual Confirmation took place on Friday evening, March 26th. Owing to the sickness of the Bishop-Coadjutor his place was supplied by the Bishop of of Nevada, who has been acting for the Bishop of the Diocese, who is also incapacitated by loss of his eyesight. The Bishop had another appointment for the same evening, but kindly took this also, reaching the church at nine o'clock, thus saving the class from a great disappointment. Twenty-eight in all were Confirmed, though several others had been prepared, but failed to come from one cause or another. This, however, was the largest class Confirmed in the Church for some years, which is very encouraging.

Holy Week.—The services for the last week in Lent will be as follows:

Palm Sunday as usual on Sundays, except that the procession of the clergy and choir round the church takes place just before the mid-day celebration in place of the ordinary introit.

Daily (during the rest of the week), 7 a. m., Holy Communion; 10 a. m. (except Friday), Morning Prayer and Holy Communion; 5 p. m., Evening Prayer; 8 p. m., Stations of the Cross. Addresses on two or more Stations will be made each evening, on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday by the Rector and on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday by the Curate.

Good Friday, 11 a. m., Morning Prayer and Litany, followed by the singing of the Reproaches; 12 to 3 p. m., Preaching of the Cross.

The preacher on Good Friday morning will be the Rector.

The preaching will be interspersed by singing of hymns, during which persons can enter or leave the church if they do not wish to remain during the whole three hours. Copies of the words of the Reproaches will be distributed to those present, which they are requested to leave in the church that they may serve for future use.

Easter Day.—There will be celebrations of the Holy Communions at 6.30, 7.30 and 8.30 a. m., Morning Prayer and Sermon at 10.30 a. m., and Choral Celebration at 11.30 a. m. Children's Easter service at 3.30 p. m. and Choral Service and Sermon by the Rector at 7.45 p. m.

Easter Offering.—We shall require a very large Easter offering this year. Owing chiefly to the losses we have sustained recently by the death of several persons who had been large annual contributors our receipts this year for current expenses are some $500.00 less than for the same period a year ago. This can only be made up now by every one giving at Easter as liberally as possible. The offering should be $1500.00, to enable us to meet our expenses for the year. And will not all who have not yet done so make a special offering for Diocesan Missions and for the Episcopal and Convention Fund? Unless the amount required for these purposes is made up the balance necessary for the purpose will have to come out of the Easter offering.

Contributions for Easter flowers can be placed in the alms box in the vestibule, which will be marked for that purpose, or handed to the treasurer, Miss Parmelee. As we have lately lost by death a lady who for many years contributed largely for the Easter flowers, we trust others will be moved to take her place and secure the church's being properly decorated for the Festival.

The Easter Music to be rendered by the choir will be:

Te Deum in B flat	*King Hall*
Mass—St. Cecilia	*Gounod*
Magnificat in D	*Field*
Anthem. "Break Forth into Joy"	*Barnby*

Parish Library.—We have received a further donation of some thirty volumes for this library, including a copy of the American Encyclopedia Mrs. S. A. Harris has very kindly consented to act as Librarian, and her professional skill has classified and renumbered it She will give out books any Wednesday evening, or at other times when she may be in the church.

Mr. William P. Henszey died on March 23d. He was for some time a Vestryman of this parish. He contributed largely towards paying off the debt of the church, which enabled it to be consecrated. And from time to time he has materially assisted us in other ways. For the last year or two his health was such that he only rarely attended the church, and on this account he resigned his position on the Vestry. But he still kept up his interest in it, and we shall greatly miss him. Our hearty sympathy is extended to his wife on the severence of the tie which so long bound them together.

His funeral took place from the Church of the Redeemer, Bryn Mawr, as that was near his summer home where he resided most of the year, and he was buried in the adjoining cemetery

St. Agnes' Guild.—Just before Lent, in the midst of a drenching rain, 18 of the guild spent an evening at the theatre and greatly enjoyed it, in spite of the weather. They expect to have another outing after Easter.

Flowers for St. Saviour's Altar.—St. Agnes' Guild has received peruission to supply half the flowers every day for the Daily Celebration at the St. Saviour's Altar. They feel it a great privilege to have a share in this way of helping to make their Lord's Throne beautiful.

Little Altar Caretakers.—Every day two girls of the St. Agnes' Guild assist in taking care of the altar, cruets, etc, cleansing the extinguisher, dusting, etc., after the 7 a. m. Celebration. They feel greatly honored at being allowed to do this for their Saviour.

An Entertainment.—Soon after Easter the St. Agnes Guild expect to give an entertainment, not so much to make money as to provide a pleasant evening for their friends and themselves.

Many Baptisms.—A beautiful baptismal service was held on Wednesday evening, March 24th, at 8 p. m. Twelve persons were baptised. The eight women and girls, wearing veils, together with the four male candidates, stood before the font with their witnesses surrounding them and a congregation of 68 in the pews. It rained all the afternoon, but the attendance was good. At the close of the service, 34 met for Confirmation Instruction in the Parish Building.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since March 1st:

Mr. Goodrich	Miss A. Young
Mrs James Ray	Miss C. W. Hare
Mr. Pugh	Mrs H. Connely
Miss Anable	Mrs. Leaming
Miss Perry	Mrs. Echert
Miss A.H.Chamberlaine	Mrs. Pepper

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The Ascension News

VOL. XXII. PHILADELPHIA, MAY, 1909 NO. 5

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

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SERVICES

Holy Communion.

EVERY SUNDAY . . 7.30 and 11.30 A.M.
HOLY DAYS . . . . 7.00 and 10.30 A.M.
DAILY EXCEPT THURSDAYS 7.00 A.M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH SERMON 10.30 A.M.
DAILY . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M.
DAILY . . . . . 5.00 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) 8.00 P.M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.30 P.M.

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The Church is always open for private prayer, and the clergy can be seen after any service

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THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH

Phone, Spruce 32-53 A

CLERGY

REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE, *Rector*.
334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*.
316 S. Broad Street

WARDENS

THOMAS R. NEILSON, M. D.
WILLIAM C. LLOYD

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Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.

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Assistant Superintendent	MR. F. C. BOTWRIGHT
Librarian	MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist	MRS S. A. HARRIS

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For Young Men and St. John's Guild	3.00 P. M.
	MISS M. J. GILPIN
For the Junior Brotherhood	3.00 P. M.
	MISS HODGE

CHILDREN'S EUCHARISTS

By these we mean special Celebrations of the Holy Communion arranged particularly for the attendance of children or the training and encouraging of children to be present at the regular Celebrations provided for grown people. Is it wise and beneficial to do either of these things?

Among many Protestants the Holy Communion is looked upon as a very special and sacred service in which only a few most devout people are expected to take part, at which adults even who are not intending to communicate are not to be present. But any one who is at all familiar with the history of the Christian Church or the constant practice of the great historic branches of the Church knows that this has not been the way in which the Holy Communion has been generally regarded. From the book of the Acts of the Apostles we learn that the great purpose of the coming of Christians together on the Lord's day was for its celebration, and that the Apostles celebrated it even "daily." And from that time on it continued to be used in this way. It is true that for a while, when the Christians were generally surrounded by heathen, none but the faithful were allowed to attend its celebration, because others would not understand it and would misrepresent and mock at it. But when the State became generally Christian no such restrictions were maintained, except in cases of discipline. Those who had lapsed from the faith or been guilty of

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A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
908 Clinton Street

TERMS:
Single Copies, by Mail, 50 Cents a Year

KALENDAR

May 1. SS. Philip and James.
" 2. Third Sunday after Easter.
" 7. Friday—Fast.
" 9. Fourth Sunday after Easter.
" 14. Friday—Fast.
" 16. Rogation Sunday.
" 17. Rogation day.
" 18. Rogation day.
" 19. Rogation day.
" 20. Ascension day.
" 21. Friday—Fast.
" 22. Sunday after Ascension.
" 28. Friday—Fast.
" 30. Whit Sunday.
" 31. Whitsun Monday

Record for April

BAPTISMS—
Henry Daniel Eck.
Mary Virginia Macken.
Walter Sydney Norris.
Benjamin Norris.
Richard Norris.
Henry Kelso.
William Gordan McCann. 7

COMMUNICANTS—NEW—
Charles Edward Harris.
William John McCaw.
James Francis Fritz.
Andrew George Chellman
Raymond Bachelor Reeves
Joseph Doughton Marshall
George Griffin Wilson.
Mrs. Maud Wilson.
Mrs. Frances Moore.
Mrs. Mary Smith.
Mrs. Emma Rebecca Burke.
Mrs. Sarah Gailey Klump.
Marguerite Anne Davis.
Sarah Jane Stewart.
Emily Peel Logan.
Margaret Leah Mull
Rebecca Irene Neill.
Edith Emma Hubley.
Emerline Chapman Burns.
Elsie Davidson Walker.
Anna Mary Anderson.
Helen Agnes Righter.
Ella Grubb.
Elizabeth Martha McCaw.
Helen Louisa Birmelin.
Katharine Gumbes Chestnut.
From the Church of Rome—
Mrs. Righter
From the Church of England—
Mrs. Martha McCaw. 30
From the Church of the Evangelists—
Mrs. Bertha Henderson Coffee
From S. Luke's Church—
James H. Atkinson.
Transferred to the Church of the Ascension, Atlantic City—
Horace Patterson.
Mrs. Rosalie DeLande Patterson. 6
To the Church of S. Luke and the Epiphany—
Mrs. Catherine Stewart.
Died—
Mrs. Susan Lamereux Keese 1
BURIAL—
Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Fisher. 1

OFFERINGS

For current expenses, including Easter offering,	$1031 13
" the Episcopal and Convention Fund	16 85
" Diocesan Missions	3 55
" The Poor	6 02
" Mothers' Meeting	5 00
" Rewards	10 00
" Flowers	25 51
" " for Sunday School	33 25
" the Industrial School	9 00
" Summer work	3 00
" Tract Society	4 00
" Altar Society for year	116 34
At Rector's discretion	6 00
Of the Sunday Schools	8 15
" " Lent Mite Chests	28 08
Total	$1320 78

immoral conduct were for a time prohibited from attendance, and then only gradually on repentance readmitted to the full privileges of membership, being first permitted to be present during the celebration of the mysteries and then finally to become partakers of them. The teaching of the Roman Church is that it is a moral sin for one who has been confirmed not to attend Mass every Sunday and great feast days, and as they confirm children very young this of course applies to them. The general use therefore of the Catholic Church has been to encourage and teach children to

attend and take part in this great Act of Christian worship. And why is it advisable to do this? Just because it is the greatest and most important Act of worship, that which alone combines all the elements of worship, confession, absolution, prayer, praise, instruction, adoration, communion and thanksgiving, and which is distinctively Christian, that which teaches the essential truths of our religion most fully and effectively. So it is that which children should be taught to take part in, that they may learn and have those truths most deeply impressed upon them, and find in it the grace and comfort which they need. In fact, it is especially adapted to children and child-like people, because it is an object lesson; it appeals to the eye as well as the ear. This is admittedly one of the most effective ways of teaching, and is doubtless one of the reasons why our Lord adopted the sacramental way of conveying His grace as He did the parabolic way of teaching.

If the Christian religion is true, it means that its teachings and its practices are of vital importance and necessary for all men of all ages, classes and conditions. And unless people are taught to learn and appreciate and use them when they are young it will be very difficult to do so when they are old. There is no more alarming symptom in connection with the present attitude of men in regard to religion than the widespread neglect of the sacraments and of any religious worship even on the part of so many of our people. Thousands in this so-called Christian land are born, live and die without ever being admitted even to the Christian Church or taking part in any of its rites or having their lives and characters effectively moulded by its teachings.

It is not only wise, therefore, but exceedingly necessary, that we should give our children all the religious teaching and training that we can. And we know of no means of making them come to feel and understand what that religion means and the use its offices can be to them than that of training them to take part in that greatest and most perfect and "most comfortable" act which our Lord commanded "all" His disciples to "do" as His perpetual Memorial, by which His death—in sacrifice for all human sin and the proof and pledge of His infinite love for men—should be "set forth until He come."

PARISH NOTES

Easter.—Our Easter was bright and encouraging. If we did not have the crowd we used to have, which required chairs to be put down each side of the aisles, we had what perhaps was better—a larger attendance at the early services. There were over thirty more communions made than at Easter a year ago—nearly three hundred in all—and though the offerings were not all that were asked for and needed to meet all our current expenses, they were some $200 more than last Easter, about $850 in all.

The church looked very beautiful with a number of new adornments, viz., a new brocade dossel for the rear of the main altar, a new white silk embroidered altar cloth for St. Saviour's altar, new fair lined cloths and credence covers for both altars, the choir appeared in an entirely new set of cottas, three new albs and amices, and two new surplices were also provided for the clergy. All these things were the work of our ladies and those who have assisted them in the embroidery class and the Ladies' Aid. And the Altar Chapter presented the dossel and some of the linen and other material that was used.

The decoration of the chancel was very much augmented by some large and

beautiful palms which were kindly loaned for the occasion by our neighbor, Mr. T. Sully Darley, and by several donations of flowers.

There was also a donation to the church this month of some thirty-four more books for the Parish library, a china tea-set, some coffee cups, a teapot and some china ornaments.

Two new sets of numbers for the hymn boards of the church have been presented by one of our Vestrymen. They were much needed, as the old ones had been in use for over twenty years, and were much defaced and could scarcely be seen at a distance.

St Agnes' Guild presented to the church a cut-glass cruet and stopper from Caldwell & Co. The sacred monogram was engraved upon it. It is the custom of this guild to make a corporate offering to God at every Easter.

Vestry Election.—At the annual election for Vestrymen, held on Easter Monday, those whose terms expired at that date were re elected, so that the Vestry remains the same as last year. And at the meeting of the Vestry held in Easter week the same officers and delegates to convention were re-elected.

Lighting of the Church.— People have often complained that the church was not well lighted at night, and some visiting clergymen recently were much struck with its gloomy appearance. The Vestry have therefore had larger fixtures and burners substituted for those so long in use, and the effect is a great deal better, especially on occasions, as at the week-day services, when only a portion of the church is lighted up.

Improvement of the Grounds of the Church.—The portion of the church property south of the church, which is unoccupied, has long been a great eye sore. Some years ago one of the then Vestrymen had the ground put in order and sown with grass and for a time it looked quite respectable. But in time the soil then placed on it has been entirely washed away and the surface is now only stones and gravel. This has made the yard a resort for all the children in the neighborhood. Games are played here which collect a crowd of onlookers on the street, and the noise, the bad language used, the people standing on the steps of the adjacent house, balls thrown over the fence, etc., have been a great cause of annoyance both to our own people and to the neighbors. Frequent complaints have been made, and the steps taken to put a stop to the nuisance have proved ineffectual, as it would require some one to be on guard all the time to drive intruders away,

The only possible way to end this misuse of the ground and at the same time adorn the property and make it attractive would be to have the whole yard sodded and an iron fence erected on each side of the approach to the parish building. Some bushes and flower-beds might also be set out.

This would of course deprive our own children of the use of the yard as a playground, which we very much regret, as the choir boys and others are so much about the church that they should have some place of the kind for recreation.

But experience has taught us that it is impossible to reserve it for them and exclude others. And if it were kept as a playground it would still be unsightly.

But the question is how to meet the cost of improving the ground, which would be considerable. Is there any one in the congregation who would be be sufficiently interested in this matter to undertake it, as the Vestry have no funds in their hands they can use for such a purpose? If there is, we should be glad to hear from them.

Ascensiontide.—Ascension day, our special parish festival, occurs this year on May 20th, and we hope to keep it with the accompanying festivities we have usually had. The service in the middle of the day will be Morning Prayer at 10.30 a. m., followed by a choral celebration of the Holy Communion. At 8 p. m. there will be shortened choral Evensong with the anniversary sermon by the Rector, which we hope all our parisioners will be sufficiently interested in the church to attend. On the following Sunday evening will be the annual guild service, when all the parish guilds will enter the church in procession, and a special sermon will be preached to them. And on the following Monday, May 24th, will be the annual Parish Tea for our parishioners and any friends they may bring with them, the tickets of admission being twenty-five cents to defray the cost of the entertainment.

The Endowment Fund.—By standing order of the Vestry all the offerings on Ascension day are for this fund. And it is very necessary that the small fund we now have should be largely increased. When even such a wealthy church as S. James', with its large pew rental, has just been making an effort to raise its endowment to $100,000, it is certainly far more necessary that a free church situated as ours is in a poor neighborhood should have a similar means of support, and one which will secure its future, no matter what contingencies may arise. Our fund has been increased during the past year by the addition of $1,000 from the legacy left the church by the late Mr. Keese, and by the investment of $300 from another legacy and the offerings on previous Ascension days, making the total fund now about $13,000. But this is utterly insufficient for the purpose. Are there not those interested in the parish who might make a large addition to this sum either by donations at this festival or by remembering it their wills? And will not those who cannot give largely at least give something in the special envelopes which are sent out with the other envelopes for this purpose this quarter?

Special Sermons.—A special course of sermons has been preached during the Easter season on Sunday evenings alternately by the Rector and Curate on the conditions of the future life. That on the evening of Easter day by the Rector was on "the reasonableness of the Resurrection," on Low Sunday by the Curate on "the characteristics of the resurrection body," on the following Sunday by the Rector on "what the dead are doing." On the first Sunday evening of this month the Curate preached on "the recognition of friends hereafter," on the second Sunday the Rector will discuss the question "whether we may pray for the dead," and on the Sunday following the Curate will preach on "Do the Saints and Angels know what is transpiring on earth?"

St. Agnes' Guild—Eighteen members of the guild, with their superiors and two guests, spent a pleasant evening at a picture show. No portion of the audience was happier or more appreciative than our little people.

On Thursday, April 29th, the guild gave an entertainment of brief plays and recitations and music. The audience was of good size and seemed to enjoy the efforts of the children. A kind friend provided refreshments for all present, which added to the sociability of the occasion. The small amount of profit will be used for summer outings of the guild.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the News is now due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since April 1st:

Mrs. Waterall	Mrs. William Drayton
Miss Carpenter	Miss Goodman

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to your CHURCH
for ASCENION DAY
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THE PARISH YEAR

In his sermon on the evening of Ascension day the Rector as usual reviewed the history of the parish for the past year, it being the twenty-ninth annual occasion in which he has done so, there being now only five other Rectors in the Diocese who have been longer in their cures.

After expressing his thankfulness for this long period of work in this field and for the continuance of his health and strength, he went on to read the statistics for the past year and to comment upon them. In comparing them with those of a year ago he pointed out that in almost every instance they showed an improvement, proving that the parish is not losing ground, in spite of the changes which have taken place by the death of some of its most important members and the general deterioration of the neighborhood, which has caused the removal from it of so many churches. There were five more baptized, three more confirmed, and five more added to the list of communicants, there being forty-eight additions in all. This is a good showing, though it is counterbalanced by the loss of an equal number from death, transfer and revision of the list. This last item includes those whose names have been taken off because of persons leaving the parish who cannot be traced, they not having left any address, which ought never to be the case, or because they have practically ceased to be communicants, which also ought never to be.

The communicants lost by death dur-

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KALENDAR

June 1. Whitsun Tuesday.
" 2. Ember day.
" 4. Ember day.
" 5. Ember day.
" 6. Trinity Sunday.
" 11. S. Barnabas.
" 13. First Sunday after Trinity.
" 18. Friday—Fast.
" 20. Second Sunday after Trinity.
" 24. Nativity. S. John Baptist.
" 27. Third Sunday after Trinity
" 29. S. Peter.

Record for May

BAPTISM—
Harold Thomas Smith. 1

COMMUNICANTS—DIED—
Mrs. Sarah Gaily Klump. 1

BURIALS—
Mrs. Sarah Gaily Klump.
Mrs. Mary Ellen Frazier. 2

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$450 17
" the Poor	54 90
" the Endowment Fund	36 00
" the Episcopal and Convention Fund	2 04
" Diocesan Missions	60
" the Sunday and Industrial Schools	11 20
" Summer work	1 50
" Benevolent purposes	1 83
Of the Sunday School	7 52
Total	$577 84

ing the year were Mrs. Whitehouse, formerly of All Saints' parish, and later living in West Philadelphia and long an invalid; Mrs. Milliken, a member of the parish since 1880, a regular and devout attendant, especially at the early services, as long as her health permitted her; Miss Hendry, also a member from the same date, at one time most useful in the embroidery class, many of the articles she made being still in use; Miss Schock, once a teacher in the Sunday School and very popular with her class; Mrs. Dallas, a devout church woman and liberal subscriber to all the funds of the parish; Mr. Houseman, who became a communicant on his death-bed; Mrs. Alexander, the widow of a former vestryman, at the time of her death the oldest communicant of the parish, one of the few who belonged to it before the present rectorship; Mrs. Brown, an Old Country woman, rarely able to attend the church; Miss Barands, a member of and helper in the Mothers' Meeting; Mrs. Hiller, a member since 1880, keeping up her connection with the parish though living in West Philadelphia, and Mrs. Keese, the widow of our late lamented Senior Warden, who was at one time active in the work of the Mothers' Meeting. May all these members of our Parochial family find rest and light and refreshment in the new life into which they have entered.

The Sunday School has decidedly improved in numbers and in the average attendance during the year; also the younger boys and girls' guilds. The members of the Industrial School remain about the same, and we are much indebted to a number of ladies outside the parish who have assisted as teachers in this work. The Brotherhood of St. Andrew and the work among the men of

the parish needs improvement. Some plans are in hand to effect this another year. The Woman's Guild has raised about the same amount of money as in the previous year and made up two valuable missionary boxes. The Embroidery Chapter has an order for a complete set of altar cloths for the side Altar, part of which has been executed.

The financial items show the total receipts, exclusive of legacies, to have been some $450 more than those of the previous year, but a large part of this year's receipts came from the proceeds of an entertainment and the reviewing stand. The offerings for current expenses were over $200 less than last year, but this is not really a bad showing considering the losses we have sustained. The offerings for purposes outside of the parish were almost exactly the same. A great improvement was made in the erection of the new side Altar, and the putting in of another clerestory window and the endowment fund has been permanently increased by the investment of $1000 of Mr. Keese's legacy. This sum ought to be largely increased in order to make the church permanently safe and to enlarge its work.

The Rector noted with pleasure the large attendance at the night services during the last summer and also of late, and expressed the hope the same will continue during the coming summer. The credit for this is due to the Reverend Curate.

On the whole, the year's review is decidedly encouraging, and greater interest on the part of each individual parishioner will ensure greater advance in the future.

PARISH NOTES

Our Parish Festival, celebrated in the week of the feast from which the parish gets its name, was kept with full as much interest as formerly. It is always hard to get out large congregations on a week day, but there were enough present on the evening of the Ascension to testify to the affection of some at least to their parish church. The turnout of the young people at the guild service was good, and the attendance at the Parish Tea certainly showed appreciation of that event. If our people were not so much scattered as they are the attendance on each of these occasions would have been better still. The members of the Girls' Friendly Society contributed a pantomime and a play to the entertainment for the parish tea, which, with a bountiful spread and an address from the Rector, followed by some dancing of the young people, filled up the evening. The Rector pleaded for greater personal interest and contributions from each member of the congregation, and particularly urged that an effort be made to interest more of the men in the church.

Summer Needs.—Funds to provide a picnic for the Sunday School, a camp for the choir boys, and various outings for some of the mothers and children who have no means of getting away from the city. Contributions for these purposes will be thankfully received. Will not those who are able to go away for a holiday extending over weeks or months do something to provide a similar relaxation for those who have no other holiday but what they get in these ways?

Summer Services.—There will be no changes during the summer until September, when the Curate has his vacation, and the Daily Celebration will be discontinued; except that the Sunday School and children's service will be intermitted from Trinity Sunday to the first Sunday in October.

Summer Sermons.—During July and August the Reverend Curate will preach a series of sermons on Sunday nights upon the subject of various kinds of re

ligion, such as Mormon, Christian Science, Spiritualism, Ethical Culture, Faith Cure, etc.

It is also hoped that some orchestral instruments may be procured, in order to make the hymn singing more rich and enthusiastic. This can only be done through gifts of money with which to employ one or two or three players on wind instruments for the nine Sunday nights.

The Rev. Dr. Campbell Morgan said recently that New York is the greatest summer resort and (in July and August) the greatest missionary field in the world. In a measure this is true of Philadelphia, too; as was indicated in a small way last summer by the fact that the congregation here grew every Sunday night during the nine weeks, until it increased from about 25 at the beginning to 256 at the end.

Will you not be one of nine persons to make a contribution for this purpose? With this assistance even better, perhaps, might be done than last summer.

It will require about $40 or $50 for the nine Sundays.

St. Agnes' Guild.—This society of little girls was so in love with their meetings last summer that they did not suspend them at all; indeed the numbers present were at times greater than in the winter.

So this summer we shall continue to meet as long as the children come, and perhaps that may be all summer.

Sunday School.—The school will close its meetings on June 6th, at which time prizes will be distributed.

The sessions have been better attended this season than for several winters past. This has been the more remarkable, considering the removal from this section of a large number of its members and the gradual deterioration of the neighborhood.

This success has probably been due chiefly to the fact that the Priest-in-charge, the assistant Superintendent and six out of the fifteen teachers have never missed a session during the season; that four other teachers have missed only one or two Sundays through sickness; and that the five other teachers have been absent from four to seven times each.

St. John's, Jr., Guild.—The members of this guild held their spring sports exhibition on May 17th, under the management of their trainer, Mr. Clarence Martz. Twenty-five members took part. Louis King won first prize for the best in drill exercises. James Boggs won three prizes and did good work in all the events: also John Delany, Ritsett, Pike, Cornelius. Samuel Neill succeeded in winning the high jump. Alexander Boggs secured first prize for good attendance and behaviour. The pie-eating contest was won by Willie Boggs, who showed great ambition, taking part in every event. Many others did good work. This guild also helps in the work of the church. Several members serve at the early Celebrations, and their Guild pennies buy the large Wafers for the Blessed Sacrament. At Christmastide Mr. Rodman Wanamaker presented a handsome mat to the guild, and Mr. Alfred Harrison and Mr. Spencer Ervin contributed to help the boys in their athletic sports. It will resume operations in the autumn, upon the Rev. Curate's return from his vacation.

REPORT

The following is the report of the parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop:

Baptisms.—Adults, 13; infants, 19; total, 32.

Confirmed.—Males, 9; females, 20; total, 29.

Communicants added—New, 29; by transfer, 19; total, 48; died, 11; removed, by revision of list, 13; by transfer, 24; total, 48; present number, 524.

Marriages.—Six.

Burials.—Seventeen.

Public Services.—Sunday, 246; on the other days, 973; total, 1219.

Celebrations of Holy Communion.—Four hundred and fifty-eight.

Children Catechised—Times, 242.

Sunday School.—Officers and teachers, 18; scholars, 188.

Other Parish Agencies.—Officers and workers, 75; members, 150; Industrial School teachers, 10; scholars, 60; Mothers' Meeting members, 35.

Money Receipts.—Offerings for all parish purposes, $4,693.74; offerings for purposes outside the parish, $348.45; investments, $521 56; Domations, $1300; other sources, entertainments, etc., $1,395.31; Sunday School, $109.70; Women's Auxiliary, $245 65; Endowment Fund, $37.74; legacy, $100 00; total, $8.752.65

Expenditures.—Parochial current expenses (including salaries of clergy, music, fuel and lighting, care of church building and grounds and ordinary repair of same), $5,091.15; improvements, $1300; support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools, $257 58; for the poor, $118.10; added to Endowment Fund, $1,137.74; miscellaneous, $954.91; total, $9,159.48.

Diocesan.—Episcopal and Convention Fund, $167.76; Diocesan Missions, $100; Episcopal Hospital, $12.37, Sustentation Fund, $34.45; total, $336.08

General Missions.—Sunday School, $28.94; General, $32 35; Foreign, $21.25; Domestic, $112.38; Indian, $75 00; Colored people, $16.40; Prayer Book and Tract Societies, $13.00; United Offering, $15.10; total, $314.46.

Total for all objects, $9.810,02.

Financial Condition.—Aggregate value of property of the parish, real and personal, $80,000; incumbrances: mortgage on the church edifice, parish building and ground, none; other indebtedness, none; Endowment Fund, $13,000.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF MISSIONARY BOX

ONEIDA, Wis., May 14, 1909.

MY DEAR MR. CARMAN,

The box so kindly prepared for the Oneidas by the Ladies' Aid Society of the Church of the Ascension has reached us safely, and I cannot find words adequately to express my appreciation of this labor of love.

The box contained just what we need, and if you could realize how happy the hearts of some of the Indians will be made by your gift I am sure you would feel amply repaid for the time and effort expended during Lent.

Most of the articles will be kept for the Christmas bundles which are distributed each year. Each family receives one and every member of the family is remembered. As last year we made up over 250 of these bundles you can imagine what a task it is.

The box was also a message of good cheer to me. Perhaps you may remember that I was curate at the Ascension many years ago, and I can assure you that it is no small pleasure to be helped by some with whom it was my privilege once to work, and I trust that you may continue to feel some interest in us.

Thanking you and your noble band of co-workers.

Yours faithfully,

W. B. THORN.

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The following were received since April 1st:

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The Ascension News

VOL. XXII. PHILADELPHIA, ~~SEPTEMBER~~ October, 1909 NO. 7

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EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS:
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KALENDAR

October	1.	Friday—Fast
"	2	Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity.
"	8.	Friday—Fast.
"	10.	Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.
"	15.	Friday—Fast.
"	17.	Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.
"	18.	S. Luke, Evangelist.
"	22.	Friday—Fast.
"	24.	Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.
"	28.	S. S. Simon and Jude.
"	29.	Friday—Fast.
"	31.	Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity.

Record for June, July, August and September.

BAPTISM—
Lucie Cummings Holt — 1

MARRIAGE—
Louise Rodirgo and Elizabeth Ludden. — 1

COMMUNICANTS—DIED—
Mrs. Mary Murray
Mrs. Harriet Gertrude Willer.
Eliza H. King. — 3

Communions of the sick — 4

Anointing of the sick — 1

BURIALS—
Rufus Cordova
Mrs. Mary Murray
George O. Massey
Charles Edward Maas
Mrs. Haniel Gertrude Willer — 5

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$718 92
" the Poor	19.25
" the Endowment Fund	1 90
" the Outing Fund	62 68
" the Episcopal and Convention Fund	70
" Diocesan Missions	70
" Domestic Missions	250 00
" the Sunday and Industrial Schools	1 00
" Benevolent purposes	3 53
Total	$1058 38

houses or in places where they have no opportunities of spending a pleasant evening. Even those who are married and have homes of their own, feel the need of something outside their own houses to interest them. Hence it is that so many frequent saloons and pool rooms and other places where they are led into spending their money foolishly and cultivating habits which are injurious to them. And it is the duty of the Church to provide something in place of these things and do all she can to provide for the highest welfare of her sons.

We want also to do all we can to make the men feel that the Church is their truest home and is as necessary for them as it is for their wives and children. There are many men who want their wives to go to church and send their children to Sunday school, but who never think of having anything to do with the Church themselves. This is a great mistake for them, for they need all that the Church can give them in spiritual things to make their lives all that they should be and those joys and comforts which nothing but religion can supply.

And then the Church needs them. The men should be her chief constituency. It is the men who do the voting and occupy all the offices in the State. Why should all the work of the Church be left to the women? The responsibility lies primarily upon the men, they are the heads of the families, and as the temporal support and care of the family rests upon them, so should its spiritual interests. The children naturally look up to their father for example and guidance. So if a man neglects religion it is absurd for him to expect his children to have any respect or use for it. They may attend Sunday school as long as they are compelled to do so, but as soon as they are old enough to act for themselves they will act as their fathers do. This is the saddest thing connected with our Church work, the impossibility of the Church counterbalancing the improper influences of the homes of the people when they are not what they ought to be.

What is needed is to arouse the older men to a sense of their duty and responsibility in spiritual things, to make them appreciate how much the temporal, and probably eternal, interests of each member of their families depend upon their own conduct and example.

And then we want to make the men feel at home in the Church, feel that it is a place which it should be a pleasure and profit for them to attend. And if you can't go anywhere without a pipe in your mouth, why come and bring your pipe with you, and meet other men; be sociable. It is never good for a man to shut himself up to himself and not have any friends or associates or only such as he will meet in a saloon, who will be no good to him. And every man should try and cultivate himself and have some other interests in life beside those of his work or his family.

So we trust every one who is invited will join this club and see what good it can be to him and what he can contribute to make it of use to others. And above all we hope it may lead him to look upon and learn to prize and love the Church as the one thing on earth which can bless and comfort him in every way.

PARISH NOTES.

THE SUMMER.—While as in all city parishes, there has been a great deal of letting down of work during the summer, still in this there has been less than in most churches. The Sunday services, with the exception of the children's service, have been kept up as during the winter. And the Sunday night services, through the exertions of the Reverend Curate have been most successful, with an added after meeting which in some instances was prolonged to eleven o'clock.

In the summer of 1908 we felt much encouraged at the unexpectedly large attendance at these services The attendance grew to 256 on the last Sunday. The after-meeting was also encouraging.

But this summer of 1909 has quite surpassed the previous summer. In 1908 the attendance at the Night Services was 1296, or an average of 130; this year it was 1561, or an average of 156. At the after-meeting last year there were in the Parish Building 404, or an average of 45; this year the attendance at the after-meeting was 711, or an average of 71.

We trust this will continue through the winter, and no efforts will be spared to make it do so. We want the Church to be a real living power, arresting the attention and interest of men and women enabling them to grapple with the problems of their daily life and occupations, and come to feel that the ancient church of the one living God is the most important and helpful factor in their lives. Nothing is sadder or more alarming than the way in which so many are neglectful and feel indifferent to it.

The daily celebration at 7 A. M. was

continued until September with an attendance varying from 5 to 20, and the Thursday celebration at 9 A. M. was made choral and was attended by children as well as by grown people.

Miss Woolverton kindly played the organ.

THE WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICES have continued through the summer with an Instruction each night, and an average attendance of 16. At the Instruction Class after the service, the average attendance has been 12, with sweltering heat in the room at times.

The Rector passed July and August with his family in the Adirondacks where he held services twice each Sunday and the Curate spent September in travelling through Canada to the Pacific coast, returning by way of Arizona.

The summer was fairly cool and comfortable, though we lost three of our communicants by death.

CHOIR CAMP.—Through the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Neilson a very successful camp was held during the second week in August on their beautiful grounds at Florence, N. J. The boys look forward always to this summer outing with great eagerness, and they thoroughly enjoy it when it comes. We thank the kind friends who made this and the Sunday school excursion possible.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL EXCURSION took place on July 10; about 90 children and adults went to Burlington Island Park. The day was beautiful and was spent in various kinds of pleasures. Tickets were given to the children for the Midget Railway, the Merry Go Round, the Razzle-Dazzle, the Swings, etc. Refreshments were served.

Members of the Mothers' Meeting were cordially welcomed among us, and we regretted the absence of Miss Hodge, their Superior, who had been obliged to leave the city for her summer sojourn. A number of the mothers and children were also provided for a week or more in the country.

RESUMPTION OF SUNDAY SCHOOL.—It will begin again its sessions at 2.45 P. M. on Sunday, October 3, 1909. All parents of the scholars should see that their children are on hand. The assistant superintendent has undertaken to see that the school is notified of its opening.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS.—All of our last year's teachers will return to school, excepting Miss Maas. We greatly regret to lose her faithful and intelligent help. We welcome to our midst Miss May Stretch, who will take Miss Maas' class.

A TEACHERS' MEETING was held on Sunday, September 29th, to prepare for the opening of the school.

ST. AGNES' GUILD did not adjourn at all this summer, and the attendance in July and August has been good. Various picture shows, Keith's, Burlington Island Park and some ice cream treats have helped to make the summer sessions pleasant. The children are so interested that the Guild will continue to meet all through September, when the Rev. Director is on his vacation; the Office of Devotion, the Instructions and the games continuing as though he were present.

The average attendance of the Guild at the Holy Communion on Sundays has been 12.

GIFTS.—Eighty illuminated certificates for baptisms, a light summer cassock for the Rector, 100 prayer books and 50 hymnals, a Welsbach light for the vestry room have been presented to the church. A cassock, surplice and stole were sent to a missionary in Georgia, and a surplice to one in Virginia.

APPOINTMENT AS ORGANIST.—We congraduate Mr. Henry Uhlrich on his appointment as organist and choirmaster of St. Elizabeth's Church. For six years he has been a member of our choir and has worked so hard that he deserves promotion.

It is one of the advantages of boy choirs that it gives boys a musical education and often cultivates a taste for music they would not otherwise have had. Some six of our choir boys are now making their living by music, which doubtless never would have been the case if they had not been brought into a choir while boys.

DEATH OF FORMER CURATE.—We regret to note the death of the Rev. Louis A. Lanpher who was Curate of his parish from 1892 to 1898. After leaving here he was for some time a Curate in Orange, N. J., and afterwards in the church of St. Mary, the Virgin, in New York, where his great musical talent found ample scope in the rendering of the elaborate musical services they have there. Later he had a parish in Canada, and finally some work in Boston, Mass.

Many in this parish will remember him for his kindly, cultivated manners, the beautiful way in which he sang the service, and for the pleasure and assiduity with which he visited those especially committed to his care.

May he be rewarded for his good works and rest in peace.

THE WOMEN'S GUILD.—Will not *all* the female communicants of the parish remember that they are considered as belonging to the Women's Guild, which holds its anniversary on SS. Simon and Jude's day, October 28, after the ten o'clock service in the church? The reports of the work of the different chapters of the Guild are then read, and arrangements made for the work of the coming winter. Will not *all* show this much interest in their parish as to attend this *one* general meeting in the year and acquaint themselves with what is going on and see if they cannot each aid it in some way, either by gifts or by personal service. We want so to make our parish a means of help and blessing in every way we can, and each one belonging to it should be glad to have some share in doing so. Come to this meeting.

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GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild	8.00 PM
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P.M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	3.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent	THE CURATE
Assistant Superintendent	MR. F. C. BOTWRIGHT
Librarian	MR. GEORGE H. FAIRCHILD
Organist	MRS S. A. HARRIS

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Men and St. John's Guild (Miss M. J. GILPIN)	3.00 P. M.
For the Junior Brotherhood (MISS HODGE)	3.00 P. M.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A. M.

HOW IS THE BIBLE THE WORD OF GOD?

The Bible, so called because it is "the Book" of all books, is divided into two volumes, called the Old and the New Testaments. The word means what it does when we speak of one's "last will and testament," the declaration of the will of God. Each of these is subdivided into a large number of books written at different times by many different persons; some are histories, some poems, some wise sayings, some letters, some sermons. Now how is such a collection of books of such different kinds, written by so many different persons and at such varying times, some of them centuries apart, how is it, as Christians have always considered it to be the Word of God? The Scriptures answer this themselves, they say in II Peter, I, 21, "Men spake from God, being moved by the Holy Ghost." God being a Spirit can communicate with spirit. We believe that He so communicates with all men to a certain extent. What we call conscience is the voice of God speaking to us, pleading with us to do what is right, warning us against doing what is wrong. And if a man listens to this voice, gives himself up to its leadership, he will find himself so in accord and sympathy with God that he will come to have the mind of God. Some have done this so fully that they have felt that they had authority to speak on God's behalf, in His Name. This is what the old prophets felt when they said, "Thus saith the Lord." They were sure they were

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KALENDAR

November	1.	All Saints—
"	5.	Friday—Fast
"	7.	Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity
"	12	Friday—Fast.
"	14	Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity.
"	19.	Friday—Fast.
"	21.	Sunday next before Advent.
"	26.	Friday—Fast.
"	28.	First Sunday in Advent.
"	30.	S. Andrew

RECORD FOR OCTOBER.

BAPTISM—	
Margaret Helen Franks	2
Thomas Carson Spickler	
MARRIAGE—	
Fredrick William Winkeland	
Mabel Blank Oliver	1
COMMUNICANTS—Transfered to Grace Church—	
Emily Casey	

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$262 47
" the Poor	6.92
" the Schools	3.50
" Benevolent purposes	1.95
Of the Sunday-school	7.00
Total	$281 55

speaking His mind. They were "moved by the Holy Ghost." This is what is meant by inspiration. Only a very few, exceptional men have been thus gifted, and the Holy Scriptures are the words or the record of the deeds of these men.

As there are many different kinds of writings, so there are different degrees of inspiration. This has always been recognized. Those parts of Scripture which contain the actual words which our blessed Lord Himself spoke are, of course, of the highest authority, so the four gospels containing those words and the account of His life and works are the most valuable of all. And we know that that account and those words are true because no four fishermen of Galilee could have conspired together to draw the portraiture of the most perfect character and record of the most sublime and convincing words that were ever uttered, if He whom they depict, and who thus spoke, had not really existed.

Next in value come the writings of those companions of Christ who had most caught His spirit and were taught by Him, which we have in other books of the New Testament.

The most inspired parts of the Old Testament are the Psalms and the writings of the prophets, and the books of wisdom. The historical books did not require a special inspiration. In them we believe rather that we have providentially preserved for us what is essential for us to know of human history. Though even in them we have the manifestation of a knowledge of God's methods and purposes in His dealings with men that we do not have in other histories, which is most invaluable.

But if it is admitted that certain men were moved by the Spirit of God to write what was true and what we could not otherwise have known, how do we know that just these particular men so wrote, and that these books only are inspired? The answer is that this is the deliberate judgment of the whole Christian Church. The Old Testament Scriptures were selected from a number of other writings by the authorities of the Jewish Church after long consideration, and were so accepted by Christ. So on that authority we receive them. The books of the New Testament, likewise, were carefully selected from among many others which were read in the early church, and these were finally set forth and received as those only to be esteemed as inspired, and authority for the determination of what is to be believed.

The church is not founded on the Bible. It existed and taught the Christian faith for many years before any of the New Testament was written, perhaps a hundred years before it was all written. They were written to preserve and expound the faith of the church, and it is on her authority that they are received. But the common judgment of men substantiates this authority. The world has ever felt that these books are superior to all other books. Men have only to read them to find in them a light and guidance and manifest inspiration they find nowhere else. This is the great practical test that any one can apply, and which nothing can invalidate. Hearing is believing. If the Bible speaks to your soul in terms that you feel to be the words of God, you need no other arguments to convince you that its authors, though they be but men and show their human characteristics in their writings, were yet "moved," influenced "by the Holy Ghost," and so what they wrote was, as the whole Christian world has always held it to be, in very deed, "The Word of God."

PARISH NOTES.

MEN'S CLUB.—On the evening of Oct. 19th some fifteen men connected with the parish met and organized themselves into a men's club. They resolved to have a regular meeting one evening each month during the coming winter, at which "a smoker" and some kind of entertainment will be given for the men of the parish. The first meeting will be held Friday, Nov. 12th. A committee, consisting of Mr. M. E. Roberts, Mr. Edward F. Pugh and Mr. P. F. Alburger will have the matter in charge. An invitation will be sent to every man in any way connected with the parish who is over eighteen years of age. It is hoped this will be the means of increasing the interest of many of these men in the church.

COURSES OF SERMONS.—The Rector has been preaching a course of sermons since the first Sunday in September on Sunday evenings on the Bible, with the object of meeting many of the difficulties men feel now-a-days with the Bible, especially the Old Testament. As there are many of our people who do not attend the evening service, and this subject is so important, we print in this number of the News and in the December number a short summary of some of the rules given in those sermons to serve as a guide in interpreting difficult portions of the Scripture.

During the four Sunday nights in Advent the Rev. Curate of the Parish will preach on the four last things, Death and Judgment, Heaven and Hell, to be followed by a question Box and an After-Meeting.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WOMEN'S GUILD was held on St. Simon and Jude's day. A number of the ladies were present, and the reports of the work of the past year were read. The Rector then presented the special needs of the coming season. The most pressing of these is to obtain money to carry on the Mother's Meeting. This is a part of our parish work which has been carried on for many years and is most useful. It is held every Wednesday evening during the winter, after the service in the

church, which the members are expected to attend, and it is often the only church service they can attend, and then in the parish building work is given them, garments, etc, which is sent by the various hospitals to be made up, for which the women are paid. This is a great help to them, many of whom have large families and but small means, and at the same time it is a help to the hospitals, as it saves them from employing a seamstress. Funds for this purpose have been provided by entertainments and other sources. But this year we have no money at all on hand, and must trust to donations being made for it. We hope our people will not allow so good a work to be stopped from lack of funds.

Death of Former Rector.—Last month we chronicled the death of a former curate of the parish, the Rev. Louis A. Lanpher, and this month we note the death of a former rector, the Rt. Rev. William Hobart Hare, Bishop of South Dakota. Mr. Hare first took charge of the church in 1864, when it was in so depressed a condition that it had become a mission chapel of St. Luke's Church. But he soon so improved it that it became again an independent parish of which Mr. Hare was made rector and remained so until 1870, when he became secretary to the Board of Missions. The amount of good which he accomplished is attested by the number of baptisms, confirmations, etc., which the Parish Register shows took place during his rectorship. It is a singular fact that while Mr. Hare was rector, an effort was made to remove the church from its old building on Lombard street to the lot on which the church now stands, and designs were actually prepared for the purpose. It was not until fifteen years later that this was accomplished. Since 1872 Mr. Hare has been the devoted Bishop to the Indians and others in his vast jurisdiction of Southern Dakota. May he rest in peace after his long, laborious life of unselfish service.

Wanted.—We need very much a new piano in the parish building; what we have is not fit to rehearse the choir with, nor is it suitable for an entertainment. Is there not some one connected with the parish having a piano which is not in use, who might be willing to donate it for the purpose?

Howard Hospital Services.—At the request of the City Mission, we of the Church of the Ascension have undertaken to visit the Howard Hospital on the fourth Sunday in every month, at four P. M. A brief service is held, hymns are sung and the patients spoken with individually at their bedsides by those who go with us. Our party consisted of sixteen on Oct. 24th, and the hour was enjoyed by the visitors and we hope by the patients. We would be pleased to have any men or women join us the next time, Sunday Nov. 28th, at four P. M. We meet at the parish building at the close of Sunday school.

St. Agnes' Guild Entertainment.—The annual entertainment of this Guild will take place on Monday, Nov. 22d, at eight P. M.

This yearly affair is the one and only source from which this society of little girls receives the funds with which they pay their guild expenses for the coming year. These expenses are considerable. The Guild also gives to the Parish certain amounts every season. These include all the small wafers for the year for Holy Communion, costing the guild about $9.00; also at Easter, they make a gift, that of last Easter being two cut glass cruets, also half the cost of the flowers for the S. Saviour's Altar every day.

The Guild would be grateful if the congregation would buy as many 10-cent tickets as they can. They will be on sale by the children, and some will be mailed to friends in the congregation about the 1st of November.

Sunday School.—The school resumed its sessions on October 4th with a slightly larger attendance than last year, and on each Sunday since we have done somewhat better than on the corresponding date last year.

A new instruction manual is being imported from England, "The Eldermoti Review," which contains a description of the beautiful and instructive stamps which we have been using, the production of the "Society of the Faith" in England; together with the Church Catechism, and a story with a moral appropriate to the day's lesson.

District Visiting.—The Sunday-school teachers have agreed to undertake a systematic visitation of the whole district surrounding this church. It is proposed to visit every house and endeavor to get any available children to this Sunday School. The work has already begun.

A Mission in Hammonton, N. J.—The Rev. Curate has been asked to preach a mission at St. Mark's Church, Hammonton, N. J. It will begin on the evening of Sunday, November 14th, and continue till Sunday, November 21st. There will be the Mission Sermon every night, followed by an After-Meeting. Then will be the other addresses, conferences, etc., which pertain to a mission.

Will not the members of this congregation help this effort to win souls by their daily intercessions until November 21st; especially by remembering it when at the Blessed Sacrament?

Wednesday Night Service.—The attendance during October has been materially larger than last year. At 8 P. M. a shortened evening service is said, followed by a fifteen-minute address upon the Gospel for the week. At the close of this as many as care to do so go into the Parish Building for an After-Meeting. This attendance at these latter meetings has been for the last three Wednesdays, 33, 31 and 19. The whole closes at 9.30 P. M. Will not some who read this come, at least a few times?

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the News is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since October 1st:

Miss Hamilton, Miss Holbrook, Mrs. Darlington, Mrs. Pfanber, Mr. Naegle.

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The Ascension News

VOL. XXII. PHILADELPHIA, DECEMBER, 1909 NO. 9

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET BELOW SOUTH ALL SEATS FREE

SERVICES

Holy Communion.

EVERY SUNDAY . . 7.30 and 11.30 A.M.
HOLY DAYS . . . . 7.00 and 10.30 A.M.
DAILY EXCEPT THURSDAYS 7.00 A.M.
THURSDAYS . . . . . 9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer.

SUNDAYS, WITH SERMON 10.30 A.M.
DAILY . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

Evensong.

SUNDAYS (with Sermon) . . . 7.45 P.M.
DAILY . . . . . 5.00 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) 8.00 P.M.

Children's Service.

SUNDAYS . . . . . 3.30 P.M.

All the Seats are Free at all Services. God's House is open to all its Children
The Church is always open for private prayer, and the clergy can be seen after any service

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The Ascension News

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH

Phone, Spruce 63-32

CLERGY

Rev. G. Woolsey Hodge, *Rector*,
334 South Thirteenth Street

Rev. H. Page Dyer, *Curate*,
1039 Spruce Street

WARDENS

Thomas R. Neilson, M. D.
William C. Lloyd

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

Philip F. Alburger

SEXTON

Wm. J. Morgan
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew . 8.00 P.M.
Fridays, Girls' Friendly Society . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild . . . . . 7.45 P.M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
Wednesdays, Mothers' Meeting . . . . . 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class . . . . . 10.30 A.M.
First Friday, Missionary Society . . . . 10.30 A.M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P.M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P.M.

Superintendent . . . . . The Curate
Assistant Superintendent . . . Mr. F. C. Botwright
Librarian . . . . . Mr. George H. Fairchild
Organist . . . . . Miss S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Men and St. John's Guild . . . 3.00 P.M.
Miss M. J. Gilpin
For the Junior Brotherhood . . . . . 3.00 P.M.
Miss Hodge

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays . . . . . 10.00 A.M.

HOW TO INTERPRET THE BIBLE.

There are many difficulties people have with the Bible. One is that it contains accounts of miraculous events. But a miracle is not a violation of law, but an effect produced by some one who has a great knowledge of the laws of nature than we have, or who possesses a special spiritual power capable of effecting material things, as our spirits control our bodies. What is no miracle to us would have seemed so to our ancestors or to savages. So, if Christ was the Son of God, as we believe Him to have been, He must have been able to produce results by His superior knowledge and power that which no one else could. This accounts for all the wonderful works recorded in the New Testament as performed by Him. And as His disciples became like Him in some measure they were able to do some of the same things. And we have the record of other holy men in later, and even at the present time, doing some such wonderful things.

As to the miracles of the Old Testament, those which were acts of healing and some physical effects, may have been produced in the same way by especially holy and spiritually gifted men. Others were mere natural events which, to those unacquainted with the laws of nature, seemed to be miraculous. There are others which have been supposed to be supernatural from taking literally statements which were only intended as poetical or parabolic. All Eastern writings abound in such expressions. Accounts which we read as history may have been only hyperboles or parables or allegoric. Then, other things are related as actual events which were really only things

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

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KALENDAR

December 3. **Friday**—Fast.
" 5. **Second** Sunday in Advent.
" 10. Friday—Fast.
" 12. Third Sunday in Advent.
" 15. Amber Day.
" 17. Amber Day.
" 18. Amber Day.
" 19. Fourth Sunday in Advent.
" 21. S. Thomas Apostle.
" 25. Christmas.
" 26. S. Stephen, Martyr.
" 27. S. John Evangelist.
" 28. Holy Innocents.
" 31. Friday, Fast

RECORD FOR November

BAPTISM—
Katherine Eleanor Smith
Louis Sattler Fuchsluger
Willard Freeman Sewall

MARRIAGE—
William Friedrick, and Lydia Packard

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED
From S. James' Milwaukee, Joseph Louis Phillips
From New Mexico, Mrs. Bessie Burns Park
From Kent School Conn. Kenneth Roberts

BURIALS—
Samuel Rogers
William John Boggs
Charles William Smith

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$ 116 25
" the Poor	75
" " Schools	9 85
" " Episcopal Hospital	8 50
" " General Missions	25
" " Episcopal Convention Fund	6.00
" " Mother's Meeting	1.36
" " Benevolent purposes	6 82
Of the Sunday-Schools	
TOTAL	$ 149.23

seen in visions and ecstacies or dreams. In all cases where it is said "God spoke" or that men "saw God," we are not to understand that there was any audible voice or visible appearance, for we are expressly told that God has no shape or form or voice. It was spiritual apprehension and recognition of His will. The application of these rules will remove the difficulty one has with the supernatural element in Scripture

But there are discrepancies in the Bible which trouble many. Different books describe the same events in different ways or make apparently contradictory statements in regard to them. But that is to be expected in different writers. No two persons would see or describe an event in precisely the same language or notice just the same characteristics. The writers of the books of the Bible writing in this way shows that there was no collusion between them and strengthens their value as witnesses. The wonderful thing is that there should be such general and substantial agreement among them, not that there should be some trifling differences. Many of the discrepancies, too, have arisen from the Bible, as we have it bring a translation from one or more languages from that in which it was originally written, and from its being preserved so long in manuscripts in which naturally differences would arise or interpolations be made.

The most important discrepancies, those in the difference of moral teaching between the Old and the New Testament, are due to the fact that the revelation made in the Bible is a progressive one. Men could only be taught the most elementary moral truths at first and gradually lead on to the apprehension of a higher standard. Much of the language of the Bible, too, is mere human language: God is spoken of as if He were a man actuated as men are. Only so could the writers think of Him, or only so could they

be understood by those they were addressing. Many things also are ascribed to God which He only permitted, as when it is said "God hardened Pharoah's heart," meaning thereby the same thing as when it says again, "Pharoah hardened his heart." So, acts of cruelty, or wrong, or hatred, or malediction, were not those which God approved, but were human impulses, or in some cases inspired by a righteous indignation against evil.

The discrepancies between the Bible and the teaching of modern science are naturally the result of the ignorance on the part of the writers of scientific laws. The Bible was not intended to teach science, but morals. And the wonderful thing is that the language of the Bible should be capable of being reconciled to the extent it is with our constantly expanding knowledge of those physical laws of which its authors were unfamiliar.

As regards the whole question of the interpretation of the Bible and the allegation that any one can find in it what he wants, as one person interprets it in one way and one in another, we must remember that the Christian faith does not rest on an interpretation of the Bible because it was given and taught before the New Testament was written. It was written to teach and enforce the faith. So, the church is the true interpreter of the Bible. It is not what an individual thinks he finds there that is its true meaning, but what the whole body of Christians—that is, the Catholic Church—has taught as its true meaning. God's words of infinite wisdom must be hard to understand in all their fulness, they are often "dark **sayings" to our minds. It is only His spirit that can lead us gradually to know all truth, and that leading He has promised to His church as a whole,** so only what all have agreed on is of faith, where there is not agreement, they are open questions. But there is agreement among Christians in regard to all that is essential, all that is necessary to make us wise unto salvation. We know this interpretation of the Bible is true.

PARISH NOTES.

Christmas—On Christmas day, as on all great festivals, there will be celebrations of the Holy Communion at 6.30, 7.30 and 8.30 A. M., and after morning prayer at 10.30 A. M. On this great annual feast of joy let every one seek to have the true joy of Christmas spread abroad in his heart by an act of real communion with God, which means having His spirit imparted to us.

The music at the mid-day service and on the succeeding Sunday, will be the beautiful St. Cecilia Mass.

And let no one come to worship the Lord "empty" on that day, to worship with words or feelings only, but let each prove his sincerity and the reality of his love by a gift, as we give such to our earthly loved ones at this season. This parish depends largely upon the special offerings made at Christmas and Easter to meet its ex-

penses for the year. During the summer we had to borrow some $700 to meet our expenses when so many of our people were out of town. This we must make up in this way. Let each do his share towards it by a generous gift.

Then, too, we want money to provide a Christmas treat for our poorer people in the parish and for our children. Extra price gifts for these purposes may be placed in the alms boxes in the vestibule of the church, which are marked for those purposes or given to the ladies in charge of the Mothers' meeting or the teachers in the Sunday school. The Christmas festival of the children will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 28th, Holy Innocents' Day. There will be a service in the church at 7.30 P. M., followed by an entertainment in the parish building.

Christmas will soon be here with its message of love for all. Will you not remember the poor of our Parish and help us give them the same definite gift as last year? Through the kindness and forethought of some of our friends we were able to pack and send out about twenty-five baskets to those who probably would not have been provided for otherwise. Can't we do even better this year? And then this joyous season will have a deeper meaning for us.

New Altar Cloth—On the first Sunday in Advent St. Saviour's Altar was vested in a new violet cloth made for it by our ladies' embroidery class.

The Men's Club, which was inaugurated in the parish last month, was a great success. Nearly sixty men were present the first night, all but eight being connected with our own parish. The committee which had the matter in charge deserve great credit for the way in which they arranged things and the provision made. The entertainment consisted of pipes and tobacco, coffee, crackers and cheese, and some men of the present and former members of the choir gave a minstrel show. There was also some other singing, all very good. All present seemed to find it a very enjoyable evening.

The club will meet this month on Friday evening, December 10th. The committee in charge will be: Mr. Charles L. Bone, Jr., Mr. Walter M. Newmann, Mr. F. C. Botwright. Invitations will be sent out as before, but any men over eighteen years old or their male friends will be heartily welcome to attend.

Special Sermons.—On the Sunday nights during Advent the Rev. Curate of the parish will preach on the four last things, Death and Judgment, Heaven and Hell. Advent being a penitential season the service will be made very plain. The prayers, versicles and psalms will be said, not sung, and chants used for the Canticles. But there will be an anthem each night as usual.

Industrial School—One or two of the students in the School of Industrial Art have volunteered this winter to teach the boys in our Saturday Industrial School; so, we hope to have some fine and useful work done.

St. Agnes' Guild Entertainment.—The annual entertainment took place on November 22 at 8 P. M. The parish hall was full to overflowing, some standing throughout the evening.

The little girls did themselves much credit and everybody seemed happy. Our thanks are extended to Mr. Boggs for the use of his large phonograph, which gave much pleasure. It was operated by Mr. James Boggs, Mr. William Boggs and Mr. Alex. Boggs, assisted by some of the boys.

Donations to St. Agnes' Guild.—The Guild desires to thank very cordially the many persons in the congregation who so liberally responded to the request to buy tickets. The receipts to date have been larger than ever before and therefore funds are on hand for the support of the Guild for a year ahead.

We would be much pleased if some of those who have shown such interest in the church would attend a meeting occasionally and see what we are actually doing in the way of prayer and instruction and play. We meet every Saturday at 7.45 P. M., summer as well as winter, with no vacation throughout the year.

The Mission at Hammonton, N. J.—The Rev. Curate wishes to express his gratitude to the grown people and children of the parish for their intercessions for the work of the mission. The evident success was due largely to them.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since Mrs. Bonsach, Miss Vogdes, Mrs. Rhein, Miss O'Harra, Miss Williamson, Miss Rousseau, Mr. S. Milliken, Miss Lavinia Smith, Mr. Roberts, Miss Dallas, Mrs. S. L. Smith, Miss Schell, Dr. Coates, Misses Epprecht, Miss Whitehouse, Mrs. Florence Williams.

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VOL. XXIII. PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY, 1910 NO. 1

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MR. RICHARD GILPIN
666 Clinton Street

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KALENDAR

January	1.	Circumcision
"	2.	Second Sunday after Christmas
"	6.	Epiphany
"	7.	Friday—Fast
"	9.	First Sunday after the Epiphany
"	14.	Friday—Fast
"	16.	Second Sunday after the Epiphany
"	21.	Friday—Fast
"	23.	Septuagesma
"	25.	Conversion of S. Paul
"	28.	Friday—Fast
"	30	Sexagesimn

RECORD FOR December

BAPTISM

George Brewer Conger 1

COMMUNICANT Transferred to St. Stephen's Church, Norwood, Pa.

Mrs. Emily May Downes 1

Communions of the Sick

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses, (including Xmas Offering)	$ [illegible]
For the Poor	57.31
" " Christmas Dinners	46.00
" " " Festival and Decorations	36.76
" Mother's Meeting	6.00
" General Missions	1.25
" Diocesan	.25
" The Altar Fund	5.00
" " Sunday and Industrial Schools	1.50
" Benevolent Purposes	1.55
Of the Sunday School	5.46
At the Rector's Discretion	5.00
TOTAL	$165.57

former. Our blessed Lord promised to be with His church to the end of the world, that is with the Church as a whole. He did not promise infallibility to any single Bishop, or to any one part of the Church, but said that "the gates of Hell should never prevail" against His "Church," which would be the case of the whole Church falling into error. So when the whole Church speaks, or agrees on certain things, we may be sure that they are true by virtue of this Divine superintendency. Thus Christians have always believed, and our Lord's words are meaningless or deceptive if this is not true.

Moreover it is the most rational way of determining what is the true teaching of the Christian religion. It is the method we apply in regard to any other teaching. If we want to know what is the truest scientific teaching we trust to what has been the general concensus of the scientific world, rather than to that of a single teacher no matter how original and brilliant he may be, at least until after his teaching has been submitted to the opinion and judgment of other scientists. So what the whole Church has agreed upon as a correct statement of the Christian faith is much more likely to be true, even apart from our Lord's promise in regard to it, than that of any particular theologian or sect.

The most practicable way for the Church to speak as a whole is by General or Oecumenical Councils composed of all the Bishops of the Church, they being the order which alone possesses all the powers of the ministry and to which Christ specially committed the government and teaching of His Church. Such Councils must be free, every one present having the liberty of expressing his mind on the subject under discussion and when all who care to have done so, if a general agreement is reached and decrees issued we may be very sure that they are true,

though we cannot be sure of it until we learn afterwards whether they meet with the general approval of the Church. For no General Council even is the whole Church. It is not possible for all the Bishops of Christendom to attend a single Council, and the Bishops even alone do not constitute the whole Church. Catholicity then is the test of truth. Only that which has been received "always, everywhere and by all" is to be received as a part of the Christian faith.

If we be asked what has this authority of having been universally received, we answer, (1) the Creeds; they have been in use in all parts of the Christian Church, and have always been recognized as teaching the fundamental facts and truths, and they are generally so received by all Christians to-day. Outside the Creeds are the decrees of the seven Oecumenical Councils, those Councils which alone were composed of Bishops representing the whole Church. These decrees teach the doctrine of the Trinity in all its parts, of the Incarnation in all its parts, of the validity of schismatical and heretical baptisms, of the abrogation of the Jewish ceremonial law, and that pictures and images should not receive the honor which should be rendered to God only. Outside of these truths there are many others which have been universally received in the Church, though they have never been the subject of Conciliar decrees, such as that the Bible is the Word of God, the Christian Law of Marriage, the Episcopal government of the Church, the doctrine of the Priesthood, of the Real Presence in the Holy Communion, &c.

As to matters of discipline the law of Catholicity does not apply, the Church being a living organism is free in every part to adapt itself to varying times and conditions. At the same time a custom or discipline which has long and widely prevailed has proportionally that authority and ought not to be abrogated or contravened without grave cause. But all matters of belief which have been universally received should be regarded as parts of the Catholic faith which it "is necessary should be kept whole and undefiled."

PARISH NOTES.

Christmas.—In spite of the great snow storm which interfered with the size of the congregation in the middle of the day and on the succeeding Sunday, we had a good attendance at the early celebrations. There were twenty-five more communicants than on Christmas a year ago, and the offerings were more than double. This was owing to a specially large donation from one member of the congregation, though apart from that the general offerings were somewhat larger. Thus if our offerings for the remainder of the financial year keep up to their former average it will enable us, we trust, to meet our expenses without a deficit.

In addition to the offerings for current expenses, liberal donations were given for Christmas dinners for the poor and for the Children's Festival. Fifteen dinners were provided and other gifts of pies, cake and candies were sent to the different members of the Mother's Meeting.

Christmas Festival.—In the midst of deep snow and biting cold a goodly number of children, teachers and officers of the Sunday School gathered at 7.30 P. M. at the Parish Building on Holy Innocents' Day, December 28th.

They sang carols and said prayers in the church and finally received their gifts at the hands of Santa Claus in the school room. Mr. George Wilson kindly took the part of the good old Patron Saint of the little people and did well.

The Children's Gifts of Toys.—Two new departures were made this year in connection with the Sunday school festival.

The first was that the children not only received gifts from the school, but also they brought gifts for those who were poorer than themselves. And a good number were brought. They will be given to a Home for children and our little people will have the joy of knowing that they have brought happiness into the life of many a boy and girl who has no home with a mother and father.

The Bethlehem Manger.—The second innovation this year was the erection of a creche. A beautiful stable, 3½ ft. long and 2 ft. high and 2 ft. deep, was made and presented by Mr. Botwright, with back and roof and sides, a manger within and window at each end and rustic posts supporting the overhanging eaves in front. Fifteen figures, representing the Christ-child in the manger, Blessed Virgin and St. Joseph, wise men, shepherds, and also various animals were grouped on the stable floor, which was covered with straw. The interior was brightly lighted with concealed candles, a star was suspended in full view and the whole structure was surrounded by and resting upon a mass of evergreen and sprigs of holly. The procession of children entering the guild room singing "Once in Royal David's City," and grouped about the stable, sang the praises of the Christ-child.

The children presented the toys which they had brought and they were placed about the Cradle.

The Christmas Tree.—Upstairs the free distribution of gifts, an interesting exhibition of lightning drawing by a student at the Art School, songs on the graphophone, etc., filled up the balance of the evening.

A treat was given to the members of the choir and of St. Agnes' Guild, through the kindness of one of our vestrymen, of seeing the rehearsal of the Mask and Wig Club performance at their rooms on Quince street. Some seventy-two tickets were provided for two evenings. It was much appreciated.

Gifts.—The church has received a beautiful ecclesiastical calendar for 1910, published in England. It will be hung in the vestibule of the church. Also, from the same donor, a handsome framed head of the Christ, which has been hung in the choir room and one of King Charles the Martyr, the late Bishop of Milwaukee, the Rev. John Mason Neal, the great hymn writer, and a representation of the consecration of Archbishop Parker, which are hung in the sacristy.

Both the Rector and the Curate received some substantial remembrances and Christmas cards. Among the gifts to the latter was a number of boxes, one inside of another. In one was a ten-dollar gold piece, in the next five dollars, in the next two dollars and a half. And the sexton was presented with a ten-dollar gold piece by the young men of the parish, for whom he does a good deal in the course of the year. Various gifts were also interchanged between some of the teachers and scholars in the Sunday school.

Special Sermons.—Those preached by the Rev. Curate on Sunday evenings during Advent, having been so well attended, some of them quite filling the church, he will continue as Sunday evening preacher for the present. His subjects will be announced from week to week and published in the daily papers.

On the morning of the ninth of January the Rev. Mr. Blasey, rector of St. Timothy's Church, Roxborough, will preach on behalf of the principles of the Christian Social Union, and on Sunday morning, the thirteenth of January, the Rev. Thos. J. Garland, secretary of the Third Missionary Department, will preach on behalf of General Missions.

Our Rector is to preach this month in Christ Church, Germantown, and in the Church of the Holy Trinity, West Chester, in the course of sermons arranged by the Christian Social Union.

Photographs of the Church.—One of our vestrymen has had a very fine photograph of the interior of the church taken and also one of St. Saviour's altar. A cut of the former has been kindly made for us by another of our members and appears on the first page of this issue.

The Men's Club.—The second meeting of the club took place on the evening of Friday, Dec. 10th, and was like the preceding one, a great success. Seventy-two men were present and, in addition to pipes and coffee, there was given an exhibition of wrestling, exercises on the parallel bars, etc., by members of the University and Y. M. C. A. athletic teams. One of our choir men and a friend from the Industrial Art School gave illustrations in lightning drawing. This, together with some singing by our male quartette, made a very enjoyable evening.

The next meeting of the club will be on Thursday, January 13th. Invitations will be sent out as before, but all men connected with the parish—over eighteen years of age—are welcome to attend, whether they receive an invitation or not. The committee who will have the entertainment in charge, will be Mr. John S. Newbold, Mr Richard Gilpin and Dr. George M. Coates.

Clothes Wanted. — Partly worn clothes and shoes for adults and children are much needed at the church for our poor people, now that the cold weather is come. If persons in the congregation have anything of the kind to give away and will make up bundles and notify our sexton he will call for them and take them to the church.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due, and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since the last issue.

Miss Massey, Miss Haynes, 2) Miss Barrington, Miss Wurts, (2) Mrs. Ellis, Miss Earley, Miss Ashbridge

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The Ascension News

Vol. XXIII Philadelphia, February, 1910 No. 2

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Holy Communion

Every Sunday.....7.30 and 11.30 A.M.
Holy Days.....7.00 and 10.30 A.M.
Daily except Thursdays....7.00 A.M.
Thursdays.....9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer

Sundays (with Sermon).....10.30 A.M.
Daily.....10.00 A.M.

Evensong

Sundays (with Sermon).....7.45 P.M.
Daily.....5.00 P.M.
Wednesdays (with Address)..8.00 P.M.

Children's Service

Sundays.....3.30 P.M.

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2022 St. Albans Street

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SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P. M.
Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.

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Assistant Superintendent	Mr. F. Botwright
Librarian	Mr. George H. Fairchild
Organist	Mrs. S. A. Harris

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For the Junior Brotherhood, Miss Hodge	3.00 P. M.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays	10.00 A. M.

How to keep Lent.

Lent is one of the oldest institutions connected with the Christian religion, and if it is observed properly it may be of great practical benefit. How should it be kept? We answer first as a time for self-discipline. All moral character requires discipline for its development. It is based on self-control. It is the result of one's ability to choose what is good and reject what is evil, on one's power to resist temptation and to follow what the mind and conscience dictate as right. To acquire this power one must exercise one's self, in self direction. It does not come naturally, and unless one deliberately tries to do this, practices it in lesser things and for a time at least, he will not gain the power which will enable him to do it under all circumstances and at all times.

Every one, therefore, should set himself some special discipline for Lent as a spiritual exercise, either by abstaining from certain kinds of food or amusements, or indulgence of some kind, which may be innocent in themselves, but from which it is well to abstain for a time, for the purpose of acquiring the power and habit of self-control. The church does not lay down a uniform and rigid law in regard to things one should abstain from. She leavs her children to do this for themselves as each may think best. And every Christian should be careful and exact in doing it.

Then Lent is a time for repentance, for self-examination and looking into one's life, seeing how one has been living, noting that in which one has

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS

THE CLERGY

TREASURER

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TERMS:

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Kalendar

February	2.	Purification B. V. M.
"	4.	Friday—Fast
"	6.	Quinquagesima
"	9.	Ash Wednesday
"	13.	First Sunday in Lent
"	20.	Second Sunday in Lent
"	24.	S. Matthias
"	27.	Third Sunday in Lent

All days in Lent are fasts

Record for January

Baptism

Vera Audrey Speeche 1

Communicant received from the Church of the Holy Apostles

Leon Greenhalgh Shelton 1

Died

Mrs. Hannah H. Leaming

Anna Elizabeth Willis 2

Communions of the Sick 1

Burials

Anna Elizabeth Willis

Minnie W. Kline 2

Offerings

For Current expenses	$438.53
" the Poor	31.27
" " Christmas decorations	.30
" " Sunday and Industrial Schools	.25
" General Missions	3.40
" Benevolent purposes	1.15
Of the Sunday School	7.03
TOTAL	$481.93

come short or actually sinned and in resolving to change, to seek forgiveness for the past and to begin again and try to live a new life. All have need of repentance and amendment, to make new efforts to lead better and higher lives.

So it is a time for special prayer. Prayer is a mighty force. It means the communing of the soul with God, seeking his grace and help for ourselves and others. If true and fervent it will be the means of blessing our own souls and bringing down blessings on the world. No one can say just what the effect of prayer is or measure its influence, but Christ and His Apostles and all saints have used it, and the Scriptures tell us it "availeth much." If we look upon it, not as dictation to God, but as it rightly is, petition, which implies submission, we will feel strengthened and comforted ourselves by it and also be sure it will be a means of help to others.

So with Communion, our highest and most perfect act of worship and means of grace. Though the Christian should receive regularly the Holy Communion from time to time, if he will make a rule to receive or at least attend celebrations of it more frequently in Lent, and, if possible, with greater care and deeper devotion, he will find that, too, a means of great spiritual blessing.

Then Lent is a time for special almsgiving. Let one's self denial take this form of abstaining from indulgences and unnecessary gratifications and devoting the money thus saved to useful and beneficial purposes. There is a vast amount of need and suffering in the world, splendid beneficial purposes that might be served if the means for them were at hand. And it certainly is not consistent with the Christian

ideal of life that there should be so much luxury and self-indulgence on the part of some and others, often innocent children, suffering for lack of the necessities of life, and that there should not be funds to provide even for our own people the essentials of religious or secular education, or the Christian means of grace. Let every one ask whether he is devoting a proper and sufficient proportion of his income to unselfish purposes, to meeting the wants or providing the blessing of religion for those who cannot do it for themselves.

Then Lent should be a time, if possible, for special acts of mercy, the engaging in some specific good work, or at least the resolve to make the effort and the sacrifice of living in the future more for others than for ourselves. There are a multitude of agencies and societies and instrumentalities of one kind and another for doing this and none of them have all the agents they need. There is probably no better way of touching the heart and affecting the sensibilities of people than that of coming in personal contact with those who are suffering or in need. A great deal more real benevolence would be manifested if this could be done more than it is. Many who have the means and would be glad to be of service to their fellow simply do not know or appreciate how much need there is.

If one cannot do any actual personal service, let them do it by an agent. See that you do some specific good works in Lent.

Let all resolve at the beginning of this holy season to use it for these different ends, and they will certainly find that it will be of the greatest practical value to them, and a means of blessing to others.

Parish Notes.

Lenten Services.—In addition to the daily Communion at 7 a. m. (Thursdays, 9 a. m.), morning prayer at 10 a. m., and evening prayer at 5 p. m., the Rector proposes to lecture on Tuesdays after evening prayer on the "Call of Lent to Repentance, Faith, Charity, Prayer, Obedience, Good Works." On Wednesday, at the 8 p. m. service, the Litany will be sung and the Curate will preach on Confirmation; Fridays, 5 p. m. there will be visiting preachers. On February 11, the Rev. Joseph L. Miller, formerly Curate at St. Stephen's; February 18, the Rev. George W. Lincoln, Rector of St. John the Baptist Church, Germantown; February 25, the Rev. Harrison B. Wright, Rector of St. Asaph's Church, Bala, and March 4, the Rev. G. La Pla Smith, Rector of St. George's Church, West Philadelphia. The boys of the choir will sing at the daily 5 p. m. evensong.

Special Sermons—The Rector has begun a course of special sermons on Sunday evenings on church unity. He will take up the large religious bodies in turn to consider the original cause of the separations and how these may be overcome and Christians brought together into communion and fellowship, as they should be.

In addition to his duties in his own parish the Rector has undertaken during Lent to preach in the following churches: St. Paul's, Camden, N. J.; St. Andrew's, Wilmington, Del.; Christ Church, Media; St. John the Baptist, Germantown; St. Martin's-in-the-Field and Trinity Church, Southwark.

The Curate will preach in St. Michael's, Germantown; St. Alban's, Olney; St. George's and St. Philip's, West Philadelphia; St. David's Mana-

yunk; Christ Church, Media; St. Andrew's, Mount Holly, N. J.; Christ Church, Palmyra, N. J; St. Paul's, Chester. He will also give the three hours' service on Good Friday in Christ Church, Germantown.

Confirmation will be administered in this parish on Friday, March 11, at 8 p. m., by the Right Rev. Thomas A. Jagger, D.D., who is acting for the Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese during his absence abroad. The clergy call affectionately upon all adults in the parish who have not yet received this blessing to avail themselves of this opportunity for doing so. Confirmation should be received at that period of life when one is beginning to act for one's self in the conscious discharge of the duties of life. But if for any reason it was not received then it should be received on the first opportunity that offers. Confirmation is not only a means of grace itself, but it admits to the Holy Communion, the greatest of all channels of grace to the soul, and no Christian should live without it.

Confirmation Instructions will be given by the Rector on Sundays at 4 p. m., beginning February 6, and by the Curate after the service on Wednesday evenings.

A new piano being absolutely needed for the practicing of the choir and for the many entertainments we have in the parish building, the Vestry authorized the Music Committee to try and secure special subscriptions for the purpose, some $250 being needed. As it would be difficult to secure this sum at once, it was determined to buy it on the installment plan, a number of the members of the parish being asked to subscribe $1 a month each for the purpose until it is paid. We trust a generous response will be made to this appeal.

The Men's Club.—In spite of a stormy night, some sixty men attended the monthly smoker on the evening of January 13. The usual entertainment was provided, and Mr. John Cooper kindly gave some reminiscences of his experiences during the Civil War in addition to which there was some music from a Victor phonograph and on a French horn, by Mr. Aquette.

The meeting this month will be on Thursday, February 10, at which there will be an illustrated lecture on Alaska. The committee in charge will be Dr. Thomas R. Neilson, Albert E. Hurst and Joseph L. Phillips.

A Gift for Basket Ball.—Mr. Thomas B. Shelton has kindly given for use at basket ball games a strong screen net, which will be very useful.

Basket Ball Matches.—The Senior St. John's Guild has played this winter nearly a dozen match games of ball with visiting teams, and has won its full share of victories. From forty to sixty people have attended each game.

Dramatic Entertainment.—On March 31, 8 p. m., an entertainment will be given by St. John's Senior Guild, to which they invite their friends.

Sociables.—Before Christmas the Girls' Friendly Society gave a sociable to which they invited the young men. On January 25 the St. John's Senior Guild gave one in return, to which they invited the Girls' Friendly Society. Refreshments and dancing have made the evenings bright and pleasant.

St. Agnes' Day.—January 21 was the feast of the young saint in whose honor the little girls' guild is named. At 7 a. m. thirty of us met for a choral celebration of the Blessed Sacrament, Mrs. Harris kindly acting as organist for us. At 5.30 p. m. thirty again gathered for supper in the parish building, at which we welcomed as guests Mr. Alburger and Mr. Botwright. At 7.45 p. m. we repaired to the Colonial Theater and spent a delightful evening with moving pictures and vaudeville. Worship first and then a banquet and fun, we thought, was an ideal way of keeping our feast.

Sunday School Party.—Through the generosity of a friend the Sunday school had a "party" on Monday, January 31. Refreshments, games and dancing filled the evening and a fine time we did have.

Miss Anna Elizabeth Willis.—On January 17 there passed to the Church Expectant the soul of one who had fought a good fight and had won her crown. Rarely did a day pass that she was not on her knees before the Blessed Sacrament at 7 a. m. Absolutely regular in the receiving of her Sacraments, faithful to her employer in her daily duty, devout and earnest in her private devotions and life, patient in the midst of pain, affectionate to her friends, including many little children, beloved by the St. Agnes' Guild, of which she was a Superior, a good and dear child of God, she has now gone to receive her reward.

Her burial took place from the church with a choral celebration of the Holy Communion, at which were present many of St. Agnes' Guild and her friends. May she rest in peace.

Missionary Box.

Our ladies sent a very nice box before Christmas to a missionary in Missouri, valued at $75.

The following acknowledgment of it has been received:

Dec. 29, 1909.

Mrs. T. L. Smith,
Philadelphia, Penna.

My dear Mrs. Smith:

Your esteemed favor of the 20th rec'd. The box came to hand yesterday the 28th. My wife joins me in thanking the Woman's Auxiliary of the Church of the Ascension most heartily for your kindness in sending it to us.

The suit and the other things fit very well indeed, and all will be very useful Thank you also for kindly sending me the year book of the Parish. It must be a great pleasure to work in such a Parish. Hoping that you will have a successful year.

Very truly yours,

Missionary Meetings.

A series of Missionary Meetings will be held during Lent on Thursday evenings at 8 o'clock at the Church of S. Luke and the Epiphany. They will take the form of a general discussion between two speakers, one of whom will ask questions in regard to the Missionary work of the Church, the other will answer them.

On Saturday Feb. 19th. at 8 P. M. Bishop Rowe of Alaska will give an illustrated lecture on his work in that country in the Witherspoon Building Walnut and Juniper Sts. Admission will be by tickets. The Rector has some for distribution.

To Subscribers.

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The following were received since the last issue.

Mrs. Van Pelt (2), Miss Hare, Mrs. Beates, Miss Means, Mrs. John Bradley, Mr. Newman, Mr. Barton.

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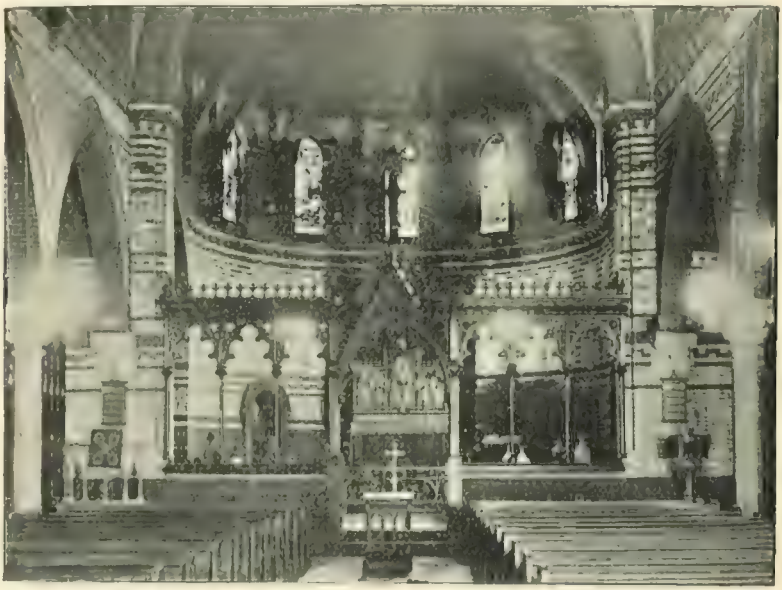
VOL. XXIII PHILADELPHIA, MARCH, 1910 No. 3



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EVERY SUNDAY.....7.30 and 11.30 A.M.
HOLY DAYS.....7.00 and 10.30 A.M.
DAILY EXCEPT THURSDAYS....7.00 A.M.
THURSDAYS.....9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer

SUNDAYS (with Sermon).. ...10.30 A.M.
DAILY .....10.00 A.M.

Evensong

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2022 St. Albans Street

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For the Junior Brotherhood, Miss Hodge	3.00 P. M.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays	10.00 A. M.

The Holy Communion as an Act of Worship.

There are two great purposes of the Holy Communion. It was intended to be the great central act of Christian worship and the chief means of grace.

Let us consider the first of these purposes: It was instituted as St. Paul says, to "set forth the Lord's death till He come." That is, that just as the Passover among the Jews had been ordained to keep ever in mind the great deliverance wrought for them in their being brought forth from Egyptian slavery, so our Lord instituted the Holy Communion to be His "memorial," to keep ever in mind the greater deliverance He wrought for the whole human race by the voluntary sacrifice of Himself in His death upon the cross.

By it that sacrifice is "set forth" (1) to men; it is the preaching of "Christ crucified." This service, by sign and token and action, which all, even the most untutored, can understand, teaches and keeps in mind what Christ did and suffered. It is a great object lesson, making men realize, better than words or a picture would, the meaning of the central fact on which the Christian religion is founded, that God so loved the world that He sent His only begotten Son to live a human life and suffer death on the cross, to prove that love to men and set in motion those agencies which alone could be sufficient to redeem them from sin and death.

It is of this we should think when we attend a Celebration, and it should be kept before the minds of men just as constantly as possible.

(2) By this means the sacrifice of the

it. We have had one or two unusually large donations during the past year which have put us in better shape than we usually are at this time, and liberal gifts from all our parishioners on Easter day ought to enable us to come out without any deficit at the end of the financial year, April 30th. If that happens it will be almost the first time on record. It would be an immense thing. Nothing should give more satisfaction to individuals or to a corporation than the feeling that they are living within their income.

In this parish we have never done that. There has invariably been a deficit at the end of each year which has been a burden until it was worked off by some special means, by entertainments or something of that sort, which is certainly not the ideal way of supporting a church. If all our people will really give liberally according to their ability we may be able to escape that this year.

Diocesan Missions and the Episcopal Fund—The two envelopes for extra parochial purposes sent out this quarter are for these objects. For Diocesan Missions we are taxed $134.86 and for the support of the Bishop and the Convention expenses, $152.66. As yet very few of these envelopes have been returned and these amounts must be paid by Easter. Will not each member of the congregation feel that he must give something towards them?

Easter Flowers.—Every one will expect the church to be made beautiful with flowers on Easter day. But they cannot be gathered in the streets or even in the country as early in the spring as Easter comes, so they have to be bought. One of the Alms boxes in the vestibule of the Church will be set aside for contributions for flowers from Passion Sunday to Easter. If a number of persons would give regularly every month a small sum for flowers to the Treasurer of the Altar Guild we should have enough to supply them as well as two bouquets we have on the Altar every Sunday throughout the year. The Treasurer is Miss Parmelee, her address is 1906 Chestnut Street.

Special Sermons.—The Friday afternoon preachers during the remainder of Lent will be on March 4th, the Rev. G. L. Smith, Rector of S. George's Church, West Philadelphia; March 11th, the Rev. Harry Ransome, Rector of Christ Church, Media; 18th, the Rev. Charles H. Arndt, Rector of Christ Church, Germantown.

The concluding sermons in the course on church unity on Sunday evenings will be preached by the Rector on the evening of March 6th, on "Inter-Communion between the Greek and Episcopal Churches," and on March 13th, "The Ideal Church of the United States."

The Men's Club meeting on Feb. 10th was attended by some seventy men, some being present who had not been present before. The program was an unusually full one including a most interesting lecture on Alaska beautifully illustrated, by Dr. Kelsie, for whose kindness in deliveringit we are much indebted. The next meeting of the Club will be on the evening of March 10th. The Committee having it in charge will be:

Mr. Millard F. Roberts
Mr. Charles L. Borie, Jr.
Mr. Byron Huntington.

The New Piano of which we spoke has been bought and is now in use, much to the satisfaction of the Choir Master, as well as of those who attended the last meeting of the Men's Club. Ten persons have contributed $10 each, and six others have promised $1 a month for ten or twelve a months. We still need $100 to make up the required amount, and shall be glad to receive any contributions either in one amount or in instalments towards it. Mr. M. F. Roberts, Secretary of the Music Committee of the Vestry, whose address is 4031 Locust Street, is acting as Treasurer of the Fund.

Confirmation will be administered in the Church on Friday, March 11th, at 8 p. m. Rt. Rev. Henry D. Robinson, D. D., Missionary Bishop of Nevada, acting, as he did last year, for the Bishop of the Diocese.

The Ladies' Aid meet on Wednesdays during Lent at 3 p. m. in the parish building to sew for the house of the Holy Child for which simple garments are very much needed. Any ladies of the parish will be welcome to join them, and donations of money or material will be very acceptable. Work may be taken away and done at home if preferred.

Sunday School.

MITE BOXES FOR BONTOC.

This season the Lenten offering of the children will be given to the Rev. W. C. Clapp, who is in the Philippine Islands. A difficult and effective work is being accomplished among heathen people, at the sacrifice of comfort and even the risk of life. His work is being done on deeply spiritual lines.

Theatrical Entertainment.

S. John's Guild Dramatic Club will give a grand entertainment in the parish building on Thursday, March 31th, at 8 p. m.

It is hoped that all the Congregation will be interested enough to take tickets which are twenty-five cents each, and encourage this effort to help the Guild and the piano fund.

Our New Printer.

Owing to the failure of our former printer, the printing of the NEWS, beginning with the February issue, was placed in the hands of S. Martin's Press, the printing department of S. Martin's College. We anticipate more satisfactory work than we have had for some time past, and commend S. Martin's to all needing printed matter. By patronizing them you will help a worthy cause in a practical way.

"Giving."

"*Give* as you would if an angel
Awaited your gift at the door!
Give as you would if to-morrow
Found you when waiting was o'er.
Give as you would to the Master,
If you meet His searching look!
Give as you would of your substance
If *His* hand your offering took."

—*Copied.*

To Subscribers.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the News is now due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated

The following were received since the last issue.

Miss Dickerson, Miss Palmer, Miss Pomeroy, Mrs. Hawkins, Miss Mary Newbold, Mrs. Macken, Mr. W. H. Cope, Mrs. W. H. Cope, Mrs. Wirgman, Miss Preston,

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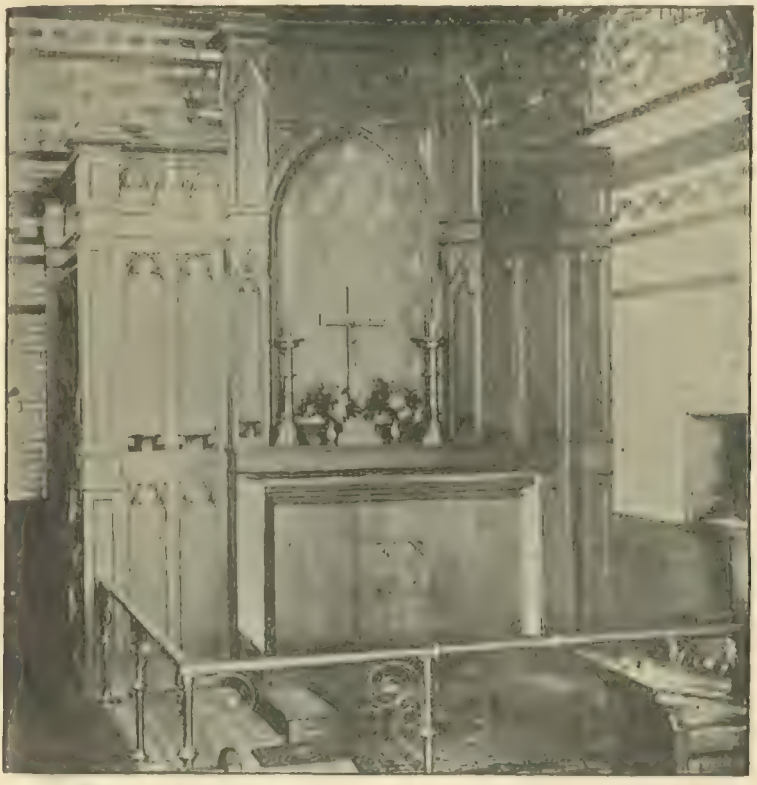
The Ascension News

VOL. XXIII PHILADELPHIA, APRIL, 1910 No. 5



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Broad Street below South — All Seats Free

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HOLY DAYS.....7.00 and 10.30 A.M.
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Children's Service

SUNDAYS.....3.30 P.M.

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as was asked for and is needed, and not as much as we received last Easter. But that is counter-balanced by the fact that our total offerings for the year are about $500 more than for the same period last year.

Special Offerings. Where we are most behind is in our special offerings for Diocesan Missions and for the Episcopal and Convention Fund. For the former we have to pay $134, and have received only $28.67 towards it, and for the latter $152, and we have received only $15.49. Yet these are things the Church must pay. Will not *every* one in the parish put in the plate sometime during this month an offering for each of these objects in the special envelopes.

At the Easter election for the Vestry the following were duly elected :

To serve until Easter, 1913

HARRY B. FRENCH
WALTER M. NEWNAM
JOHN S. NEWBOLD
GEORGE M. COATES, M.D.

Dr. Thomas R. Neilson and Mr. William C. Lloyd were subsequently made Wardens.

The Sunday School had its afternoon service on Easter Day. They sang their carols, listened to addresses and received a potted plant apiece, the money for which had been collected by their friend Mr. Witmer. After that they all went into the School Room and received an Easter Egg.

Children's Stations. At 9 a. m. on Good Friday the children made the Stations. They marched from Station to Station, the cross bearer and two acolytes leading, followed by the vested choir, the Rev. Curate who made the Meditation at each Station and then the School. The Devotion was quite devoutly made by those taking part, including the little people. It was evident that the children were impressed by what they saw or heard and no one could have asked for more reverent and seemly behavior.

St. Agnes' Guild, after a winter of faithful attendance, both at the Guild meeting and Saturday nights and the Blessed Sacrament on Sundays, kept their Easter by making their Communion together at 7.30 a. m. and having a party on Easter Monday. To this they invited the boys of the choir and some friends. A company of forty-nine spent a joyous evening with games, songs and dancing followed by refreshments.

The Guild Room, where the table was set, was draped and decorated quite elaborately and everything was designed and executed by the girls themselves.

The young men and women (17 in number) who were rehearsing for their play, were invited by a committee of the Guild, who provided them as their guests, with ice cream and cake.

Mrs. Harris kindly played dance music for the children, quite elaborate refreshments were provided by the Superiors, the tables being decorated with flowers.

A joyous evening was spent.

Lent and Holy Week. The attendance at the different services this Lent was not all that could be desired though the total number at all the services was not so small.

Those present during the three hours on Good Friday were much edified by the addresses given by the Rev. John M. Page of Lebanon, Pa.

Donations. A small Hymnal to take the place of a very much worn one was presented to the Rector. Some gifts of money, were made to the Curate, Amounting to $15; for which he returns his thanks. One of our Vestrymen has presented the Church with a quartered oak notice board for the vestibule, also had made a type-written list of the contributors through the envelopes. Some donations of Easter flowers were received, and one of our members who was not able to give an Easter offering in money scrubbed the tiles of the chancel herself instead.

St. Agnes' Guild followed its custom of making an Easter offering to the Church. This year it took the form of fine linen with which a lady will make three corporals, and the Guild will have a cross embroidered upon each.

Gift to Bontoc. **The Sunday School has given to the Rev. W. C. Clapp, stationed at Bontoc, Philippines, over $50.00, as their Lenten offering. This is more than twice the amount of last year and the largest during the past seven years.**

The Men's Club meeting in March was as successful as the others have been, nearly seventy men being present. There was the usual smoking and refreshments together with music and recitations, and part of the evening was made interesting by a lecture entitled "How Drawings are reproduced." The talk was given by Mr. Barton K. Huntington who has had some years experience in newspaper work, and at present is studying art in this city. The meeting of the Club this month will take place on the evening of Thursday the 14th. At this time measures will be discussed looking towards making it a permanent organization.

A Cut of S. Saviour Altar has been made by one of our Vestrymen from a photograph lately taken and we print it on the first page of this issue. Copies of this photograph and of the general interior of the Church may be obtained from the Phila. Camera Exchange, 129 S. 11th St. They are fifty cents each.

Home Study of the Holy Scripture.

A great opportunity is given to Churchwomen in the Course of Reading and Study offered by the Society for the Home Study of Holy Scripture and Church History (S. H. S. H. S.), whose headquarters is in the Church Missions House, 281 Fourth Avenue, New York.

For women who cannot find leisure for systematic study, the Reading Classes provide guidance in the wise choice of books, and the books themselves can be procured from the library of the Society with little cost and trouble. A list is furnished to members of over three hundred of the best books.

To those who are able and **willing** to give more time to gaining **intelligent knowledge** of religous **truth**—both historic and dogmatic—are recommended the **Students' Course** on the **Holy Scriptures and Church History, each deeply interesting and requiring less than an hour's daily study** from October to June. There is also a shorter course of Mission Study and Post-graduate Courses on the Psalms, Prophecy and the Prayer Book.

A Philadelphia Branch of the Society has just been formed, and any one interested is requested to communicate with the officers, who will gladly furnish additional information.

President, MISS EDITH W. DALLAS, 1514 Pine Street.
Secretary, MISS ELSIE W. EDWARDS, 2115 Locust Street.
Treasurer, MISS SUSAN D. WILSON, 909 Clinton Street.

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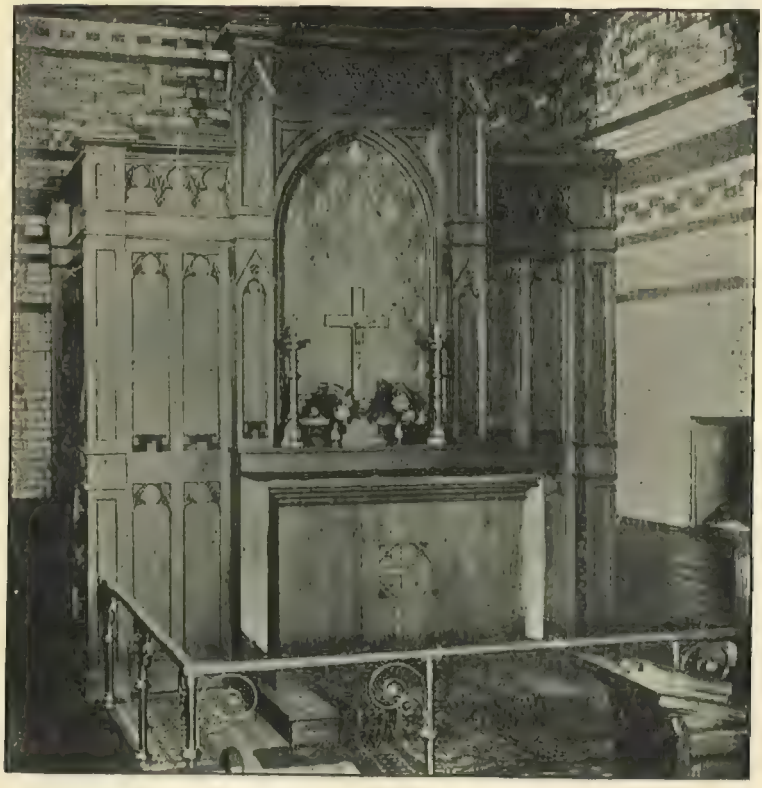

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334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*
1030 Spruce Street

WARDENS

THOMAS R. NEILSON, M.D.
WILLIAM C. LLOYD

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

PHILIP F. ALBURGER

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild	8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P. M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P. M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P. M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.

Superintendent.....The Curate
Assistant Superintendent.....Mr. F. C. Botwright
Librarian.....Mr. George H. Fairchild
Organist.....Mrs. S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Men and St. John's Guild, Miss M. J. Gilpin — 3.00 P. M.
For the Junior Brotherhood, Miss Hodge — 3.00 P. M.

Fasting on Fridays and Other Days.

The Prayer Book, in the Table of Feasts and Fasts, gives Ash-Wednesday and Good Friday as the two great Fasts in the year, and the following as "days of fasting, on which the Church requires such a measure of abstinence as is more especially suited to extraordinary acts and exercises of devotion," viz.: The Forty Days of Lent, the three Ember Days at the beginning of the four seasons of the year, the three Rogation Days before Ascension Day, and all the Fridays in the year except Christmas Day.

Now there are a great many Church people who observe the first of these times---the Forty Days of Lent, more or less strictly as a time of fasting, but who pay no attention to other days which the Church appoints to be observed in the same way, and doing so lose the advantage which the observance of them might bring to them. The use of fasting is plainly prescribed by the New Testament. In the Sermon on the Mount our Lord taught His disciples how they should fast, not ostentatiously, "to be seen of men," as the Pharisees, but so as to be seen and rewarded by God. And while He did not require them to fast while He was with them, and His presence could supply them with all grace, He foretold them that a time would come when they "should fast." He said such works as He did could only result from "prayer and fasting." We find in the book of Acts that the Apostles practiced fasting, and in their Epistles to the several Churches they inculcated it. So, from Church history we learn that multitudes

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY
TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS:
Single Copies, by Mail, 50 Cents a Year

Kalendar

May	1.	SS. Philip and James.
"	2.	Rogation Day.
"	3.	" "
"	4.	" "
"	5.	**Ascension Day.**
"	6.	**Friday. Fast**
"	8.	**Expectation.**
"	13.	**Friday. Fast.**
"	15.	**Whitsunday.**
"	16.	**Whitsun Monday.**
"	17.	**Whitsun Tuesday.**
"	20.	**Friday. Fast.**
"	22.	**Trinity Sunday.**
"	27.	**Friday. Fast.**

Record for April

Baptisms

Marion Frederick Ritsert.
Samuel Carmen Barton.
Frances Willing Peters Biddle.
Georgia Harmony Biddle. 4

Marriage

Joseph Lewis Phillips.
Louisa Bayard Hodge. 1

Communicants added new

James Nelson McCarrick.
Anuita Howard Metcalf. 2

Communicants transferred

To the Church of the Ascension, Gloucester, N. Y.
Mrs. Elizabeth Slater. 1

Died 2

Mrs. Delia Nash Robb. 1

Communions of the Sick 2

Burials

Byron Pomeroy
Mrs. Delia Nash Robb. 2

Offerings

For Current expenses	$228.80
" Diocesan Missions	14.00
" Episcopal and Convention Fund	19.40
" the Poor	24.38
" Prayer Book Society	9.00
" S. John's Senior Guild	58.00
" Benevolent purposes	.83
Of the Sunday School	4.92
TOTAL	$360.23

of Christians from the earliest times fasted, some with the utmost rigor, and that all, everywhere, regarded it as an essential discipline for the perfection of the Christian character. Even the Puritans, who abolished so much that had always belonged to the Christian system, did not give up fasting; they had a regular fast both in the spring and in autumn, and before their communion seasons and at other special occasions.

The object and use of fasting are manifest:

(1) It is most valuable as a discipline, a means by which the soul may learn, and gain the strength to rule and restrain the bodily appetites. The tendency of all our bodily appetites is to over-indulgence and excess, which weakens our power for enjoyment and renders us their slaves. This is seen most strikingly in the victims of intemperance. Now, if a person had been in the habit at certain regular times, of abstaining from what is perfectly lawful and innocent, as an exercise for the purpose of gaining the power of self-control in all things, this could never happen.

(2) It is useful as a means of keeping us in mind of spiritual things, and of their superiority and importance above bodily gratification.

(3) It is a means of afflicting the soul, punishing it as it were, for its sins and shortcomings, exciting in us contrition and desire for better things.

(4) It is necessary to prevent our absorption in earthly and worldy interests. It is impossible for us to fix our attention on or profit by spiritual exercises if we are surfeited with self-indulgences. Who could profit by Lent if all his time and attention was taken up by a round of gaieties and amusements? So, the person who never puts any restraint upon his pleasures and appetites will gradually become hardened and indifferent to spiritual things.

For these and other reasons, fasting as a regular exercise and part of one's life is most valuable. So the Church appoints the special seasons mentioned to be observed for this purpose. Unless there are particular set times for it, prescribed by authority, it will not be generally practiced. And the times prescribed by the Church are very natural ones, the Season of Lent, the Ember Days which remind us of the flight of the seasons and teach us to seek God's blessing on each in turn, and especially to pray for those who are to be ordained to the Sacred Ministry, the regular times for ordination being the Sundays succeeding those days; the Rogation Days as a preparation for the great Feast of the Ascension, and for supplicating especially God's blessing on the fruits of the coming summer; and all Fridays in the year, a weekly remembrance of the day on which our Lord was crucified, as Sunday is of His resurrection.

How we should fast the Church does not prescribe, leaving every one to decide for himself what would be the most advisable but general custom—as a rule most likely to be adapted for all—has prescribed the disuse of meat on Fridays, a custom doubtless which is advantageous as promotive of health as well as a discipline. But whether this rule is followed, or some other which may in instances become advisible, every Christian should be careful to observe these times in some way. The Church, which from her long experience knows what her children need, "requires it." Never choose these times for festivities, parties, etc. Attend Church if possible upon them and in some way always fast. If devoutly used it will be an exercise which is of great spiritual benefit.

PARISH NOTES.

The Ascension. This Feast, which, being the name day of our Church we always observed as our Parish Festival, occurs very early this year. And we shall hope to have, therefore, a larger attendance at its various services than we frequently do when it does not come until the very end of the month. On the day itself there will be Celebrations of the Holy Communion at 7 a. m. and after Morning Prayer at 10.30 a. m. The music at this service will be "Garrett in F," a new Mass. At 8 p. m. there will be the shortened form of Choral Evening Prayer with the Anniversary Sermon by the Rector. It is hoped that all our people will be present at this service as well as at one of the Celebrations in the morning. And as the regular meeting of the Vestry will be held after this service, we trust that will secure their presence.

On the Sunday morning following, May 8th, there will be the Annual Guild Service, in which we hope all the members of the Guilds will take part. They will assemble in the Parish Building a little before the service and enter the church in the following order: members of S. Agnes' Guild, Girls' Friendly Society, members of the Woman's Guild, Junior S. John's Guild, Senior S. John's Guild, members of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew and of the Men's Club. As the Men's Club at their last meeting resolved to attend this service in a body, we trust this will secure a large turnout of the men of the Parish.

On Monday evening, May 9th, the Annual Parish Tea will take place in the Parish Building. The object of this Tea is to bring together all the people of the Parish socially. Twenty-five cents is charged to defray the expenses of the

Tea, while tickets are freely given to all the members of the young people's Guilds and of the Mother's Meeting. It is intended only for adults, not for the children of the Parish. A supper will be provided for the choir boys on Tuesday evening. One of the plays rendered at the S. John's Guild entertainment last month will be repeated at the Tea.

The Endowment Fund. As of late, by order of the Vestry, all the offerings on Ascension day will be for the endowment fund of the Parish. It is much to be desired that this fund should be largely increased. It is really wonderful that this church has been able to be carried on so many years as it has, having the services of two clergymen and with much really good music as we have, on so small an income as it receives. It has been suggested that as this year will complete the seventy-fifth year of the life of the Parish and the thirtieth of the present Rectorship, this occasion should be signalized by a large augmentation of the Endowment Fund, say $10,000 We wish very much it could be done. The Church in its present position on this prominent thoroughfare will always be useful and ought to be maintained especially in view of the removal of so many other Churches from its neighborhood, but how can that be secured if it is to be dependent only on the precarious revenue of the offerings of those who are attracted to its services? We have been pleading for this endowment for many years and still hope for gifts and legacies towards it

The Men's Club met as usual on the evening of April 14. A goodly number were present and an enjoyable entertainment was given by the members of a Mandolin Club which consisted of some ten pieces, and whose services were volunteered. This was followed by an interesting lecture by Mr. W. T. Warner giving his experiences in voyages he made years ago in a Clipper around Cape Horn. There was also some excellent playing by Mr. Roe, a member of the Club, and singing by Mr. Robert G. Neil, After the usual refreshments the Committee on permanent organization reported. Nine suggested Articles and By-laws were read one by one and with some slight modifications adopted. After which the Club proceeded to the election of officers which resulted as follows: President, Mr. Richard Gilpin, Vice-President, Mr, Chas. L. Borie, Jr., Secretary, Mr. Walter M. Newnam, Treasurer, Mr. F. C. Botwright. Board of Governors, in addition to the above named officers and the Chaplain who is one of the Clergy of the Parish, Mr. John S. Newbold, Dr. George M. Coates.

The Envelopes sent out this month are for six months as it would be difficult to distribute them in August, the beginning of the second quarter, when so many are away. We trust that all who can do so will fill them up and return them *before* they leave for the summer, so as to give the church an income to meet its expenses during those months. The special envelopes are for the Poor and for the support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools. There is also a special one for the Endowment Fund; if this is not returned on Ascension Day, it can be put in the plate at any service during the year.

We wish that *everyone* connected with the Parish would apply for a set of envelopes in which to make these offerings, whether they are large or small. That would secure regularity on the part of the giver and enable the Vestry to know on what income they can rely. Forms of application are always found in the rack at the door of the church, and if sent to the Warden or dropped in an in an alms box, the envelopes will be sent in return.

Gifts. S. John's Guild received a very substantial addition to its gymnastic appliance from Mr. P. A. B. Weidner; when new they must have cost some $300, and they are in very good condition. One of our members, Mr. F. C. Botwright, Builder, designed and made and has placed in the vestibule of the church a very large quartered oak notice board It is a great addition to the appearance of the vestibule and will be very useful. Another of our members has had re-written the list of contributors through the envelopes, which is also an improvement over the old list, which had been written by different hands on different size cards.

St. John's Guild Dramatic Club assisted by some members of The Girls Friendly Society gave a most delightful entertainment on March 31st.

Mrs. Arthington Gilpin and Messrs. Myers and Messerschmidt rendered delightful music and songs accompanied by Mrs. Harris. All did well and special mention should be given to Messrs Parke, Wilson, Huntington, Martz and Hughes. Mr. Morgan always excells as Stage Manager being the best friend of the boys. They netted a goodly sum and thanks are due to those members of the Church who so kindly helped and obtained tickets and were interested enough to be present to see such a delightful performance.

ST. AGNES' GUILD.

Basket Ball. The little girls have succumbed to the epidemic of basket-ball and now at their weekly meetings, after their office of Devotion and Instruction, a part of their evening is spent in this exciting game. Anna Schott and Emma Burns have been chosen as leaders of opposing forces and strenuous contests are witnessed. The more sedate Superiors act as judges and they enjoy the battle as much, apparently, as the children.

Gymnastic Exercises. The girls, now that they have entered the field of physicial culture, are very anxious to undertake gymnastic exercises, but their one difficulty is the lack of a Trainer. Is there not some one of the young ladies or some other person in the congregation who would once a week or once every two weeks volunteer to lead the little people in these invigorating and interesting exercises? The children are planning for their gymnastic suits and everything is ready except the Trainer. **Who will help us in this?**

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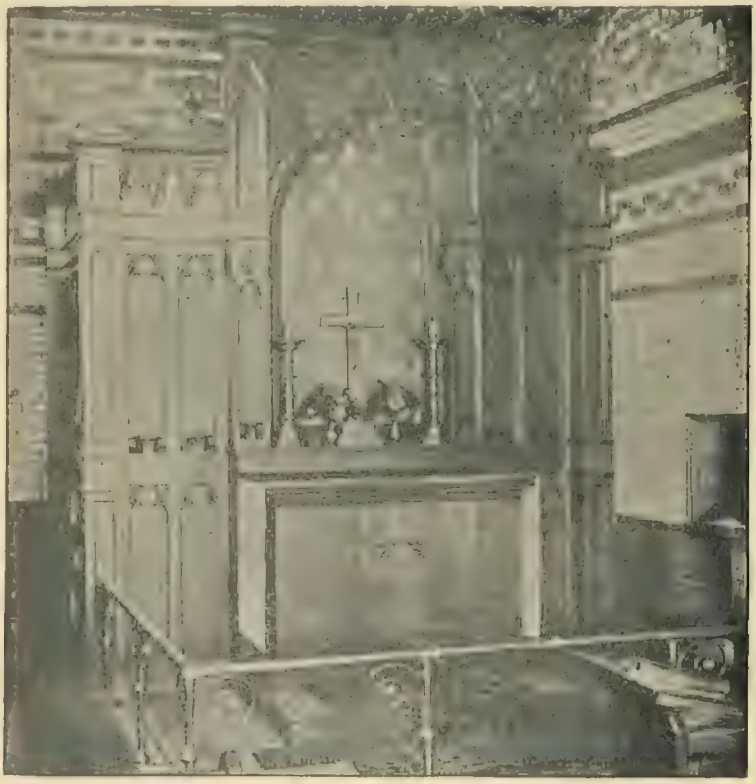

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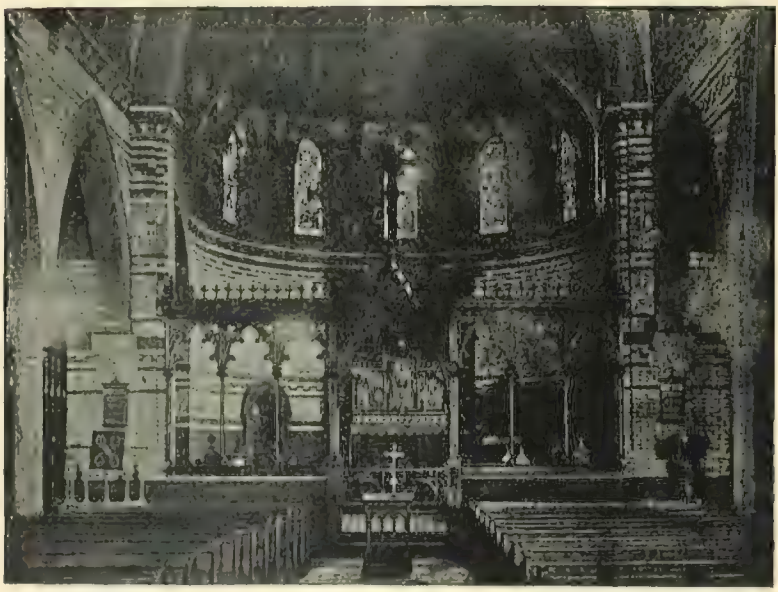
The Ascension News

VOL. XXIII PHILADELPHIA. OCTOBER, 1910 No. 7



Church of the Ascension

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Services

Holy Communion

EVERY SUNDAY.....7.30 and 11.30 A.M.
HOLY DAYS.....7.00 and 10.30 A.M.
DAILY EXCEPT THURSDAYS....7 00 A.M.
THURSDAYS.....9.00 A M.

Morning Prayer

SUNDAYS (with Sermon).. ...10.30 A.M.
DAILY .....10.00 A.M.

Evensong

SUNDAYS (with Sermon).....7.45 P.M.
DAILY .....5.00 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address)..8.00 P.M.

Children's Service

SUNDAYS.....3.30 P.M.

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A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS:

Single Copies, by Mail, 50 Cents a Year

Kalendar

October	2	Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity
"	7	Friday, Fast
"	9	Twentieth Sunday after Trinity
"	14	Friday, Fast
"	16	Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity
"	18	St. Luke, Evangelist
"	21	Friday, Fast
"	23	Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity
"	30	Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity

Record for May

Baptisms

Viola May Wallace
Sabino Garrett Pelaez
Helen Elizabeth Frederich
Bernard Eck
Sarah Jane Shaw
Elmer Shaw
Susan May Rogers
Anna Elizabeth Wilson — 8

Marriages

Alden Jackson Clark and
Miss Jane Nelson Lindsay
Harold Jerome Frantz and
Emma Helen Ransley — 2

Communicants transferred from S. Mark's Church, Denver, Colorado
John Christian Hawkes

To All Saints, Torresdale
Joseph Lewis Phillips
Mrs. Louisa Bayard Phillips — 3

Died

Mrs. Mary Ann Hall
Joseph Wright Crowley
Isabella Gibson — 3

Burials

Thomas Neilson
Isabelle Gibson
Mrs. Mary Ann Hall
Sarah Jane Geiger
Edward McCann — 5

Offerings

For Current expenses	$534.04
" the Poor	50.02
" Sunday and Industrial Schools	7.38
" " Endowment Fund	3.10
" " Episcopal and Convention Fund	1.50
" " Outing Fund	4.00
" " Benevolent purposes of the Sunday School	1.41
Of the Sunday School	4.53
TOTAL	$605.98

land. While the Church is connected with the state in England it is supposed to be represented by Parliament, and in Ireland there is a general body of the whole Church, thus called the representative body.

In this country, when the national Church was first formed, there were, of course, only a few dioceses along the Atlantic seaboard, so that the General Convention, composed of delegates from each of these, formed only a very small body; but now that there are nearly a hundred dioceses and missionary jurisdictions, it is a very large body.

It has become indeed very unwieldy and expensive, and for some time the question has been discussed of cutting the Church up into provinces, leaving to them all local legislation, and having a smaller National Council, composed of delegates from the provinces and meeting only at long intervals. This undoubtedly will be done eventually, as the obtaining legislation by so large a body, meeting for three weeks once in three years, is becoming more and more difficult and unsatisfactory.

But at present the Church in the United States is comprised in one province, which is represented in this General Convention, as it is called, which is composed of two houses, the House of Bishops, in which every Bishop of the Church has a seat, and the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies, which is composed of four clergymen and four laymen from each diocese, and the two houses must agree upon any legislation which is enacted. This is the supreme legislative body of the Church in this country, though, of course, it could not legislate in any way in regard to the essential principles or practice of the faith. That belongs to the whole Church throughout the world, acting through General or Ecumenical Councils, as they are called. But all domestic matters pertaining to the Constitution of the dioceses and the extension of the Church, and of discipline and modes of worship, etc., these are represented by this National Council.

A number of very important matters are coming up before this present Convention, such as the question of adopting a preamble to the written Constitution of the Church, setting forth its principles, of having Suffragan Bishops, that is, Bishops having jurisdiction in a portion of a diocese or over certain classes or races, of the mode of appointment and time of office of the Presiding Bishop or Primates of the whole Church, of the setting forth of an office for the anointing of the sick, of the revision of the Lectionary or Table of Lessons. These and other important matters will be discussed and acted on, and all Church people should follow with interest all the proceedings of the Convention, which will be reported in full in our Church newspapers. And, above all, they should use constantly the Collect in the Prayer Book appointed to be said while any Church Council is in session, that all its proceedings may be directed, sanctified and governed by the mighty power of the Holy Ghost.

PARISH NOTES

Gifts and repairs. The Rector was much pleased on returning home September the first to find that the vestry room had been recarpeted by a new and substantial Brussels carpet, the gift of the ladies of the congregation. It was much needed, as the old one was very much worn.

The church organ has been thoroughly overhauled and put in good condition during the summer, at the cost of $50.

Sunday School. The school usually resumes its sessions on the first Sunday of October, but this year it was thought best the opening of it should be the middle of September. All but one of the teachers will retain their classes this winter, which is a rather unusual fact in schools.

St. Agnes Guild. It has continued its sessions without intermission during the summer, and at times the attendance has been larger than the winter average. They have had their usual amusements, including an excursion to Burlington Island Park and an evening at Keith's. Their meetings continued in September, during the absence of their reverend Director.

The Wednesday Night Services. The midweek night services and brief

instruction continued through the summer, until September, followed by class in Bible study, which considered together various chapters in the Book of Genesis. These Bible studies were based on an interesting and clever book called "Bible Miniatures."

Sunday Night Services. These services have continued during the summer, followed by an After-Meeting; these latter have been most interesting. Questions sent in anonymously by people in the congregation have been discussed by a considerable number in the parish building. A large proportion of them were men. Every week some of these persons have made and kept appointments with the reverend Curate for private conference and instruction. During the month of August there were never less than fifty at these After-Meeting; the services closing on the last Sunday with an attendance of 205 in the church and 76 at the After-Meeting. The reverend Curate is indebted to the Rev. John Cook for his assistance at some of these night services, and we are all greatly obliged to Mrs. Harris for her efficient work on several Sunday nights during the indisposition of the Organist.

A number of young ladies and little girls have acted as an auxiliary choir at these services during the summer, some of whom have been very faithful. They have materially aided in the remarkably hearty congregational singing which has marked these meetings.

Piano Fund. The Accounting Warden, who has acted as Treasurer for the fund of a new piano, which was so greatly needed in the parish building, reports that he still needs $68.00 to make up the $250.00 it cost. Will not some of those in the congregation who have not contributed to this fund give something towards making up the amount?

Our church grounds, which were at last put in order in the spring, have been kept green all summer, with a good lawn interspersed with some plants and flowers. It has made a great improvement in the appearance of the church.

Our finances are very low at the present moment. We have had to borrow money to take us through the summer. Will not all who owe anything on account of their envelopes pay it up as soon as possible? And will not everyone connected with or attending the church, who is not already doing so, take envelopes, or agree to pay a regular sum for the support of the Church? There are a number of people in the parish who are neglectful of their duty in this respect, and do not contribute what in another church they would be obliged to give as a pew rent. The beginning of another winter is a good time to take this matter up. Forms of subscription for envelopes are always found in the rack at the bottom of the church.

Rector's Thirtieth Anniversary. On the last Sunday in November the Rector will complete the thirtieth year of his rectorship. He will preach a sermon on the morning of that day giving a history of the Church during that period. And the Vestry at the meeting in the beginning of the month will probably take action in regard to it.

The Men's Club. At a meeting of the Governors of the club held in June, Mr. Richard Gilpin presented his resignation as President, his many absences from the city making it impossible for him to serve in that capacity. Our Accounting Warden, Mr. Millard F. Roberts, to whom a great deal of the success of the club is already due, was elected in his stead. The first meeting of the club will be on the second Thursday in November.

Special Sermons. The Rector has been preaching on Sunday evenings since the first Sunday in September, a course of special sermons on "Present Day Evils." The special subjects have been "Social Inequalities," "Bad Politics and Graft," "The Decay of Family Life," "Facility of Divorce." Those during this month will be on "Increase of Suicide," "Prostitution," "The Drink Habit," "Gambling," "Luxurious ~~Homes~~ living."

The annual meeting of the Women's Guild takes place on SS. Simon and Jude's day, October 28th, immediately after the 10 A. M. service in the church. The Rector begs all the women in the parish, who can possibly do so, to be present. The annual reports of the past year will be read and the work arranged for the coming season. There are a number of vacancies in our different departments of work calling loudly for volunteers. It is an occasion, too, on which the Rector likes to consult with the ladies in respect to plans for the general welfare of the parish.

The death of Mr. Thomas Neilson occurred in June. Although belonging nominally to a country parish, he had been an attendant of this Church during the winter months for over twenty-five years. Though his health had been declining for some years he came to church as regularly as he possibly could, and we shall all miss the sight of his venerable figure. He had been a devoted churchman all his life. For many years he was Accounting Warden of St. Stephen's Church, and was a member of the governing boards of several religious societies. He was the father of our former Organist and Choirmaster, Mr. Frederick B. Neilson. The funeral took place from the church June 1, the Bishop of Bethlehem and six other clergymen and the full choir being present. May he rest in peace.

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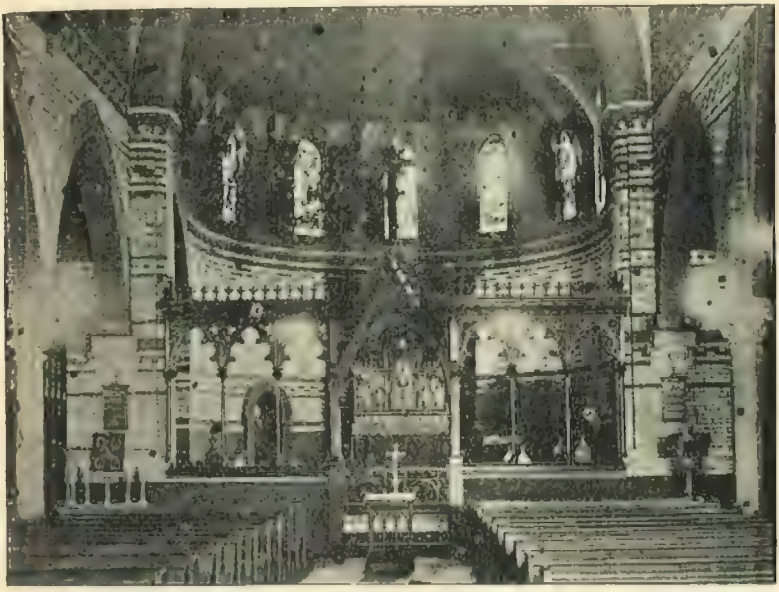

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CLERGY

REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE, *Rector*
334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*
408 South Broad Street

WARDENS

THOMAS R. NEILSON, M.D.
MILLARD F. ROBERTS

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

PHILIP F. ALBURGER

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild	8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P. M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P. M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid	3.00 P. M.
Wednesdays, Mother's Meeting	8.00 P. M.
Thursday, Embroidery Class	10.30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society	10.30 A. M

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P. M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.

Superintendent	The Curate
Assistant Superintendent	Mr. F. C. Botwright
Librarian and	
Organist	Mrs. S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Men and St. John's Guild, Miss M. J. Gilpin	2.45 P. M.
For the Junior Brotherhood, Miss Hodge	2.45 P. M.
For Young Ladies, Miss Stretch	2.45 P. M.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays 10.00 A. M.

What the General Convention Did

Last month we spoke of the important meeting of our great National Council which was then in session at Cincinnati. As it has now adjourned, and as many of our people do not read the Church papers, and reports in the daily papers were very imperfect, it may be well for us to state briefly the chief results of the meeting.

First, the provision for the Consecration of Suffragan Bishops was adopted. That will enable any large Diocese to have one or more Bishops to have charge of a part of the Diocese under the direction of the Diocesan Bishop, and otherwise assist him, or to have the special care of those of a particular race. Such Bishops will probably very soon be elected in New York, in this Diocese and probably in Connecticut.

Then the Constitution of the Board of Missions was changed so as to make it consist of representatives from each of the Missionary Districts, as well as from the General Church, and instead of a Secretary as heretofore, there is to be a President elected by the General Convention, and Bishop Lloyd, the former Secretary, has been elected to that position. The Bishops passed a resolution regarding the famous Canon 19, saying that it never was intended to alter in any way the teaching of the Church in regard to the qualification of those who should minister in our congregations. This seemed to have been so satisfactory to all that no word of discussion of the subject was heard in the Convention.

Very important action was taken in regard to the social work of the Church, a Civil Service Commission being appointed to prosecute it.

Another Commission was appointed to forward the cause of Church unity

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MR. RICHARD GILPIN

904 Clinton Street

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Kalendar

November 1—All Saints
" 4—Friday, Fast
" 6—Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity
" 11—Friday, Fast,
" 13—Twenty-fifth Sunday after Trinity.
" 18—Friday, Fast.
" 20—Sunday next before Advent.
" 24—Thanksgiving Day
" 25—Friday, Fast,
" 27—First Sunday in Advent.
" 30—S. Andrew, Apostle

Record for October

Marriage	Alfredo Pettinecelli and Carolina D'Ancila.	1
Communicant Died	Miss Annie McClay.	2
	Miss Annie Spotswood Allen.	
Communion of the Sick		1
Unction of the Sick		1
Burial	Miss Annie McClay	1

Offerings

For Current expenses	$288.37
" the Poor	10.50
" " Mother's Meeting	14.25
" " Sunday and Industrial Schools	12.00
" " Year Book	2.25
" Benevolent Purposes	.82
Of the Sunday School	6.07
TOTAL	$331.86

by inviting representatives of the various Denominations to discuss their differences in regard to Faith and Order; and a layman, Mr. Pierpont Morgan, has given $100,000 to defray its expenses.

Two new dioceses and five new missionary jurisdiction were created.

Certain alterations in the Lectionary, including new lessons for Lent, the Eves of Holy Days and certain special occasions were licensed for tentative use until the meeting of the next Convention, and a New Mission Hymnal was set forth.

The proposal to drop the term Protestant from the title page of the Prayer Book, though carried by large majority of clergy, was lost by the lay vote of one diocese.

The proposed Preamble to the Constitution adopted by the last Convention was not approved, nor was a proposed substitute for it.

The proposal to set forth a Special Service for the administration of Unction was not carried.

The effort to secure the appointment of a Bishop or Bishops for the Colored people was also lost.

These are the chief points on which action was taken, some of which may prove of great importance. It was a very harmonious and effective Convention. The opening service and many Missionary and other meetings connected with it were largely attended and most enthsiastic. And we can be very thankful for the good spirit that prevailed and the work accomplished, and that nothing was done that need cause any disquietude in the Church, even if some things were *not* done which we could have wished and which we believe would have added to the efficiency and accelerated the progress of the Church.

PARISH NOTES

The Rector's Thirtieth Anniversary will be observed on Sunday, November 27th, when he will preach at the morning service a sermon reviewing the history of the parish since he took charge of it on the last Sunday in November, 1880. Special offerings will be asked from each member of the congregation on that day for the purpose of meeting a deficit in the current expenses of the Church and for the increase of the Endowment Fund. This is very desirable owing to the losses the Parish has sustained by the death of some who were generous contributors and to the fact that there has been for some years no improvement in the neighborhood. Such improvement must eventuately come and it is very essential that the Church should be maintained efficiently at such a central and prominent locality. Our present endowment is only $13,000, a sum utterly insufficient to secure the permanent support of the Church. All the present and former members of the congregation and those who have have been good enough to help us in the past by their contributions are asked to contribute something towards this object, as a thank offering for the good work accomplished by the parish during the last thirty years, and to secure its future.

The Women's Guild anniversary was held as usual on SS. Simon and Jude's Day. The reports of the work of the various chapters for the past year were read, and arrangements made for the coming season. Some changes have been necessarily made in the heads of some of the departments. Mrs. Hare who was head of the Mother's Meeting last winter feels obliged to give up the charge of it, though she and her daughter, Miss Charlotte Hare, will still assist in the work. Miss Alice Young will take the general direction of it with the aid of Miss Henrietta Walsh. The meetings re-commence with this month.

As Miss Mildred Hodge will be married this month she has resigned her charge of the Industrial School. But the school will be carried on by some of the other teachers that were in it last winter.

Mrs. Elizabeth Gilpin has taken the place of Miss Wharton as Secretary for the Girls' Friendly Society, though Miss Wharton will still continue to act as one of the associates.

Men's Club. The first meeting of the Club for this season will be held on the evening of Thursday Nov. 10th. The entertainment this time will be entirely musical the Armonia Mandolin Club have volunteered their services for the occasion. The President of the Club, Mr. M. F. Roberts, Mr. Albert Challman, and Mr. Barton R. Huntington are the hosts of the evening. All the men of the Parish and any of their male friends they care to bring with them are invited to be present. There will be, as usual, refreshments and smoking.

St. Andrew's Brotherhood held its first meeting for the winter in October; seven of the members were present and Mr. Albert Challman was received as a new member.

St. John's Guild has resumed their basket ball on their regular night, and they are also arranging for a sociable in the near future. There is, too, a prospect of getting up a dramatic club composed of the members of St. John's Guild and of the Girls' Friendly Society.

Special Sermons. The Rector will continue his course of sermons on Sunday evenings on "Present Day Evils" until advent. The subjects for the Sundays in this mouth will be "Demoralizing Amusements," "The Misuse of Sunday," and "Neglect of Religion".

Subscriptions to the News. We call attention of our subscribers to the fact that many of them have not yet paid for this year and we are out of funds. Prompt payment of what is due would enable us to meet our obligations.

ENTERTAINMENTS

St. Agnes' Guild will give its Annual Entertainment on Monday, Nov. 21, 1910, in the Parish Building, at 8 p. m.

And this time, the affair will be of a far more elaborate and interesting character than ever before.

Miss Elizabeth Fisher, who has given most delightful evenings at the Bellevue-Stratford and elsewhere, has most kindly consented to present a series of tableaux and other attractions here, making use of our children as far as practicable.

No such ambitious affair has ever in recent years been undertaken in our Parish Building, and we trust the congregation will show their appreciation of Miss Fisher's generosity and kindness; and also that the fund needed for the conduct of the St. Agnes' Guild during the coming saseon may be provided.

Tickets will be sent through the mail (as is an annual custom) and we ask a kind response.

The Sunday School Children gave a presentation of Mrs. Jarley's Wax Works on Oct. 25th, the proceeds being for the benefit of the Sunday School. A large audience was present and it all passed off pleasantly. To Mr. Botwright, Miss Maria Gilpin and Mrs. Harris, especially are our thanks given, and the children are to be commended for their good work both in posing and in selling tickets.

All Souls' Day. On Nov. 2, commonly known as All Souls' Day, those of the faithful departed, whose names are sent to the clergy, will be remembered at the Offering of the Holy Sacrifice at 7 o'clock in the morning; as is the custom in this parish.

Last year over 100 names were sent in for this purpose.

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due and a renewal will be greatly appreciated.

The following were received since June 1st.

Mrs. Thos. H. Fenton
Miss Elisabeth Lloyd.
Mrs. Bird.
Miss Anna Epprecht.
Miss Mary Hamilton.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF EIGHTEEN CENTURIES

"I Believe in the Holy Catholic Church."

SOME HISTORICAL FACTS.

The Church of the Bible is a Visible society, established by Jesus Christ to be the Catholic (or universal) Church. Acts i:3; Eph. i: 22-23; iv: 8-16.

A. D. 35. The Apostles plant Branches of this Church in every city. St. Matt. 28: 19, 20.

A. D. 70. St. Clement says, "St. Paul went to the extreme limit of the West, including Great Britain."

A. D. 180. St. Irenæus says, "Christianity was propagated, especially in the Celtic nations, Germans and Britains."

A. D. 200. Tertullian says, "Some countries of the Britains are subject to Christ."

A. D. 334. Three British Bishops attended the Great Council of Arles, 1200 years before the Reformation and Henry VIII.

A. D. 400. St Chrysostom says, "In the British Isles, Churches are built and Altars erected."

A. D. 500. The Angles and Saxons conquer Britain, and drive the Church largely into Wales, Scotland and Ireland.

A. D. 600. St Augustine having come the convert the Anglo-Saxons, finds a Christian Queen, British Bishops, and Churches—our MOTHER CHURCH of ENGLAND.

A. D. 700. The Britains and Italians unite their missions. The Bishop of Rome was not yet exclusively called Pope, but was beginning to make larger ecclesiastical and spiritual claims, aided by his political power as the Bishop of Rome, the Capital of the then powerful Roman Empire.

A. D. 800. The Bishop of Rome claims authority in England.

A. D. 900. The Pope gains still more temporal political power.

A. D. 1000. The Eastern and Western Branches of the Catholic Church separated from each other.

A. D. 106. William of Normandy conquers England. His Romanism increases the Popes power and claims.

A. D. 1213. King John sells the crown to the Pope and allows the Pope to put his foot upon his neck, as a token of conquest. But the Bishops and the whole English Church and the English Nobles loudly protest against this Papal intrusion.

A. D. 1375. Wickliffe prays for return of the Church to her ancient condition, and translates the Bible into English.

A. D 1400. The movement grows for the cutting off of modern abuses.

A. D. 1534. Henry VIII breaks politically with the Pope; the Church declares that "the Roman Bishop has no greater jurisdiction given to him by God, in this kingdom, than any other foreign Bishop."

A. D. 1547. Edward VI. The Prayer Book is translated into English.

A. D. 1553. Queen Mary Tudor. The Reformation thrown back.

A. D. 1558. Queen Elizabeth. During a number of the earlier years in Elizabeth's reign, it was the custom of the Roman Catholics to attend worship and recieve the Sacrements in the English Church.

A. D. 1570. But later in her reign, in this year, the Roman Church cut herself off from communion with the Anglican Church and has since so continued.

A. D. 1599. The Prayer Book in general use June 24.

A. D. 1611. Our English Bible printed for the Church, by order of the Church and King James.

A. D. 1661. The Prayer Book printed as now in use,

A D. 1786-7. The American Bishops consecrated.

A. D. 1905. The *American Catholic Church* (commonly known as the Episcopal Church) *is the same Church* now as she was 100 years ago, the same as 200 years ago in England, the same as 300 ago during the Reformation, the same as 500 years ago during the Pope's intrusion upon the English Church, the same as 1200 years ago when St. Augustin went to England, the same as 1300 years ago when largely driven into Wales by the Saxons, and the same as 1800 years ago when planted in England by apostolic missionaries according to Christ's directions.

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RECTOR OF THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENION SINCE 1880

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GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild	8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P. M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P. M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid	3.00 P. M.
Wednesdays, Mother's Meeting	8.00 P. M.
Thursday, Embroidery Class	10.30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society	10.30 A. M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P. M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.

Superintendent	The Curate
Assistant Superintendent	Mr. F. C. Botwright
Librarian and	
Organist	Mrs. S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Men and St. John's Guild Miss M. J. Gilpin	2.45 P. M.
For the Junior Brotherhood Miss Hodge	2.45 P. M.
For Young Ladies Miss Stretch	2.45 P. M.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays	10.00 A. M.

THE RECTOR'S THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY.

We print the following letter, issued last month by the Vestry, as many may not otherwise see it:

To the Members, Former Members and Friends of the Church of the Ascension:

As on the last Sunday of this month the Rev. G. Woolsey Hodge, M. A., will complete the thirtieth year of his Rectorship of this Parish, the Vestry desire to make a brief statement of what has been accomplished in that period, and concerning the present condition of the Parish.

In November, 1880, the property of the Parish consisted of an old-fashioned, square, two-story building on Lombard Street above Eleventh. For some years after its erection, in 1836, a flourishing work was conducted there, but afterward, owing to changes in the neighborhood and the erection of other churches which were more attractive, the Parish declined until, in the year above mentioned, only thirty-two persons were reported as communicants: there was only a handful of people attending the services, and it was $700 in debt. Since then, the property on Lombard Street was sold and the present lot on Broad Street, below South purchased, and the Church and Parish building erected, all of which has been paid for, and an endowment fund of some $13,000 accumulated, making the total value of the property of the Parish, real and personal, about $80,000. Since 1880 there have been 916 baptisms, 215 marriages, 530 burials, 773 have been confirmed and 1690 added to the communicant list, of whom about 500 are still actively con-

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS

THE CLERGY

TREASURER

MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS:

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Kalendar

December	1—Friday, Fast.	
"	4—Second Sunday in Advent.	
"	9—Friday, Fast.	
"	11—Third Sunday in Advent.	
"	14—Ember Day, Fast.	
"	16—Ember Day, Fast.	
"	17—Ember Day, Fast.	
"	18—Fourth Sunday in Advent.	
"	21—S. Thomas Apostle.	
"	23—Friday, Fast.	
"	25—Christmas Day.	
"	27—S. John Evangelist.	
"	28—Holy Innocents.	
"	30—Friday, Fast.	

Record for October

Baptism.	May Anna Moore.	1
Marriages	Henry Paul Busch and Lydia Leaming Smith.	
	George Morrison Cortes M.D. and Mildred Aspinwall Hodge	
	William B. Anderson and Lillian Lippman	
	Walter Winpenney Brooks and Ida Florian Yeager	4
Communicant Died	Edward McCann	1
Burials	Mrs. Annie Spotwood Allen	
	Edward McCann	
	Joseph N. Caldwell	1
	George F. Leland	

Offerings

For Current expenses		$241.73
"	Appeal of the Vestry	652.28
"	the Poor	40.30
"	General Missions	10.52
"	The Sunday and Industrial School	3.45
"	" Episcopal Hospital	22.72
	TOTAL	$971.00

nected with the Parish. During all this period the Church has had the services of two clergymen and from four to five services have been maintained every Sunday, winter and summer, and three to four every week-day; and some agency connected with the Parish work is conducted every evening in the week in the Parish building, and the Church has always been left open throughout the day for private prayer. The total receipts during these thirty years from free-will offerings, for the Church has been conducted on the voluntary principle, no pews or seats having ever been sold or rented, have been $219,339.55, and from legacies, $27,485.64. The spiritual results of this work cannot be estimated in figures, but from the unvarying adherence to certain principles on which it has been conducted, and from the interest and attachment manifested toward it by many of its parishioners, we may be sure that they are widespreading and lasting.

As to the present condition and needs of the Parish the Vestry begs to submit the fact that during the whole of the time since the present Church was erected there has been no improvement whatever in the neighborhood, but, on the contrary, a steady deterioration of the district south of the Church, owing to the migration of persons once living there to the newer and more attractive sections of the city and adjacent country, their places being taken by negroes and foreigners, the work and support of the Church has become increasingly difficult. Few persons of means have, of late years, connected themselves with the Parish, while it has lost, by death and removal, many who were formerly attached to it. Yet we believe that, owing to its

central and prominent position and to the fact that the character of the population in the different sections of our city is constantly changing, the site of the Church should not be abandoned, as has been done in so many other instances. What we need is the substantial increase of our endowment. All the other churches in the old section of the city: Christ Church, St. Peter's, St. Andrew's, St. Stephen's, St. Luke's and the Epiphany, St. Mark's, the Holy Trinity, Holy Trinity Chapel and St. James' have each endowments running from the neighborhood of $100,000 to $500,000, and all but one of them charge pew rents in addition. It is manifest, therefore, that our small endowment of $13,000 and our free-will offerings, mostly from people in very moderate circumstances, is utterly inadequate to carry on the Church effectively or to provide against contingencies in the future.

Could these thirty years of unbroken service in this Parish, the completion of which occurs, too, about the seventy-fifth anniversary of its formation, be better commemorated than by the raising of our endowment fund to an amount sufficient to provide for meeting the present expenses of the Church and to secure its future? For some years we have been falling some five or six hundred dollars short in meeting our current expenses; we are owing over that amount now. Will not each one to whom this letter is sent place in the enclosed envelope a special contribution for these purposes? Will not all who have, at any time, been connected with the Parish, or have contributed toward its erection, and all those who believe in the principle for which it stands—that all the seats in God's House should be free to all, be glad to aid in this effort to put it upon a permanently safe foundation?

On the last Sunday morning of this month the Rector will preach a sermon, giving a detailed history of the Parish for the last thirty years, and we are anxious that the returns from this appeal may be in hand by that time.

Signed by order of the Vestry:

THOMAS R. NEILSON, M. D.,
Rector's Warden.
MILLARD F. ROBERTS,
Accounting Warden.
JOHN D. HENDERSON,
Secretary.

November 3, 1910.

PARISH NOTES.

The Rector's thirtieth anniversary was celebrated, as arranged, on the last Sunday in November. Though it was the first Sunday in Advent, the mid-day service was kept as a festival with white vestments, the singing of the Te Deum, Gloria in Excelsis, etc. The Church was beautifully decorated with palms by Mr. A. T. Moore, florist, of 1639 North Broad Street, who had formerly been a choir boy in our Parish. Many of the old members of the Parish, as well as an unusual number of our own members, were present on the occasion. The Rector preached a sermon, giving a brief history of the Parish since its inception in 1836, and especially for the last thirty years. He pointed out the advance that had been made and the good work accomplished in spite of the very discouraging conditions of the immediate neighborhood of the Church. In conclusion, he dwelt upon his anxiety in regard to the future of the Church, and pointed out that the only way to secure it from possible disaster was largely to increase the small endowment of $13,000 we now have. By direction of the Vestry, the appeal we print was issued to effect this end. The returns so far received, including the offering last Sunday, are $652.28.

It is hoped that those who have not yet responded to this appeal will still do so. The envelopes inclosed with the appeal may be sent, filled, to the Church by mail, or placed on the plate at any service.

New Processional Cross.

The Rector's anniversary was marked by the presentation to the Church of another very massive and elaborate processional cross. It was given originally to St. Jude's Church, on North Franklin Street. When that Parish was amalgamated with the Church of the Nativity, at Eleventh and Mt. Vernon Streets, the cross was returned to the donor, who now presents it to our Parish. It was carried for the first time at the morning service last Sunday. It will be a great ornament to the Church, and will be used on Festival occasions.

Special Sermons.

Beginning with this month, the Rev. Curate of the Parish will preach on Sunday evenings a special course of sermons. The subject of his sermon on December 4th will be "A South African and Foreign Missions"; on December 11th, "Which is the Unpardonable Sin?"; on December 18th, "The Way God Answers Prayers"; on December 25th, "The Blessed Virgin Mary."

Christmas Day,

which occurs this year on Sunday, will be celebrated as other Sundays, except that there will be additional celebrations of the Holy Communion at 6.30 and 8.30 A. M., as well as at 7.30 and 11.30; and there will be a special Children's Christmas Service at 3.30 P. M.

The children will also meet in the Church on the evening of Wednesday, December 28th, being Holy Innocents' Day, when they will sing their Christmas carols, and afterward have a Christmas tree and other entertainment in the Parish Building.

The Christmas Offering

will be, as usual, for the purpose of enabling the Church to meet the current expenses of the Church for the year. So many do not attend the **Church regularly, or are absent for so large a part of the year, that it is only by special gifts at Christmas and Easter that they make up the sum they should give through the year, and the Church be put in a position to meet its** regular expenses. We trust every one will give as largely as they can. And we also need special contributions for the Children's Christmas Festival, and to provide Christmas dinners for those in the Parish who cannot get them for themselves.

At this season of joy and good-will to all let us do what we can to give as much pleasure as possible to those who have but little of it in their lives.

The music will be: Te Deum—Field, in D; Jubilate—Williams, in C; Mass—Stainer, in F; Magnificat—Field, in D; Anthem—"Now When Jesus Was Born," Stephenson.

Sociable.

A very pleasant sociable was given on Tuesday evening, November 28th, by St. John's Guild to the Girls' Friendly Society. Two musicians furnished the music for the dancing, which was kept up until 10 o'clock, when a grand march was struck up, and all present proceeded to the Guild room, where a sumptuous repast of fried oysters and salad, rolls, coffee, ice cream and cake, was served. Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. Shelton and Mrs. Linton assisted Miss Maria Gilpin in preparand serving the entertainment.

The Men's Club.

The first meeting of the club—which meets ordinarily on the second Thursday of each month during the winter—was held November 10th.

There were some sixty-six men present, most of them enrolling as members, and it was very gratifying to see so many young men that are new to our Parish.

The "Armonia Mandolin Club" gave some fine music, and we are indebted to Mr. Roe, Mr. Manderson and others for their part in the entertainment.

Refreshments were served, after which the Rector gave a short talk on the necessity of all men leading the right kind of healthy lives.

On leaving, all voted the affair a most enjoyable one, and are looking forward to the next, when an entertainment will be provided.

The next meeting will be Thursday, December 8th, at which time will be given a very humorous lecture-entertainment, with beautiful lantern views, abounding with quaint old-world stories, legends, jokes and folklore, by Prof. Sutton Fletcher.

St. Agnes' Guild Entertainment.

What was said to have been the most attractive entertainment given in the Parish Building for many years took place on the evening of November 21, 1910.

It consisted of tableaux arranged by Miss Elizabeth Fisher, those posing being the children and superiors of St. Agnes' Guild, together with a few friends of the Guild in the Parish.

A large gilded molding covered with netting provided the framing of the tableaux, and the posing and draping were artistically done by Miss Fisher. Twenty-one electric lights brilliantly illuminated each tableau.

The children of the Guild sang several choruses, interspersed with vocal and instrumental solos.

We are greatly indebted to John W. Maginnis and his brother for arranging the electric lighting, and to Mr. Metcalf, of the Woods Electric Auto Company, for the gratuitous use of current from an automobile.

Thanksgiving Entertainment.

On the evening of the Wednesday after Thanksgiving a bountiful feast of turkey, cranberries, peas, beats, cold slaw, potatoes, cake and fruit was provided for the members of the mothers meeting by the ladies in charge.

Sunday-School Parties.

On November 22d Mrs. McGinnis gave a party to her large class of boys. They were authorized to invite some of their girl friends, also. This a number of them did, and a merry evening was spent, ending with refreshments and a dance.

Miss Mary Stretch's class of young ladies have formed themselves into a sociable, and meet every week, with their teacher, at the home of one or other of the class. This is a new idea in our Sunday School, and is one to be commended to other classes.

The teachers of the Primary School also gave a party to the little ones under their care. Games and refreshments filled the evening.

Junior St. John's Guild.

On Monday, December 5th, at 8 P. M., will be resumed the meetings for the winter of the Junior Branch of St. John's Guild. With our gymnasium enriched with additional apparatus, and with Clarence Martz to train the boys, we should have good attendance and results this season.

The Death of Edward McCann,

which occurred last month, is regretted by the members of St. John's Guild, Young Men's Bible Class and the Men's Club, to all of which he belonged. His funeral took place from the Church, a large number of firemen, of which organization he was a member, being present.

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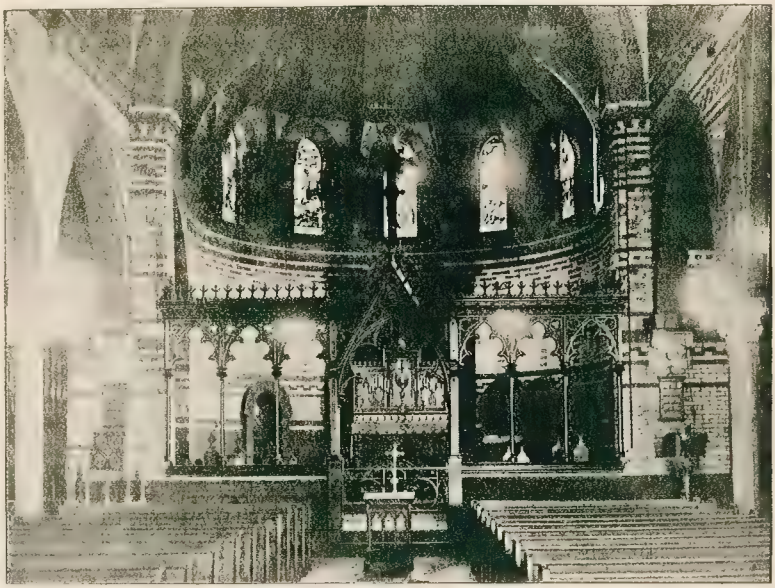
Vol. XXIV Philadelphia. January, 1911 No. 1



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Holy Days.....7.00 and 10.30 A.M.
Daily except Thursdays....7 00 A.M.
Thursdays.....9.00 A M.

Morning Prayer

Sundays (with Sermon).. ...10.30 A.M.
Daily .....10.00 A.M.

Evensong

Sundays (with Sermon).....7.45 P.M.
Daily .....5.00 P.M.
Wednesdays (with Address)..8.00 P.M.

Children's Service

Sundays.....3.30 P.M.

All the Seats are Free at all Services **God's House is open to all its Children**

The Church is always open for private prayer, and the Clergy can be seen after any service

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Organist	Mrs. S. A. Harris

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For the Junior Brotherhood (Miss Hodge)	2.45 P. M.
For Young Ladies (Miss Stretch)	2.45 P. M.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays	10.00 A. M.

THE USE OF RITUAL.

There is a great difference of opinion as to the way in which the worship of God should be conducted. All Christians agree upon propriety of the stated, public worship of Almighty God. But some think that that worship should be made as solemn and dignified as possible in beautiful buildings, with the use of a prescribed liturgy and with such adjuncts as the use of music, vestments, lights, etc. Others think it should be in a plain, unadorned house, with extemporaneous forms and without any ritual accessories. They think that this conduces to more real, spiritual worship. The most extreme carrying out of this principle is by the Quakers, in their severe plain Meeting Houses, and exclusion of all forms or premeditation, even the use of music. But all Protestant Denominations, more or less, conduct their worship on these lines, whereas every branch of the Catholic Church, including our own, has always used ritual. Why is this?

Because, first, it secures order. The worship of God is too important and serious a matter to be left to chance and haphazzard. It should be performed regularly and systematically so as to insure its due and proper celebration and the ends for which it is instituted. If we observe order and rule in our legislative and judicial assemblies, still more should we when we meet together to pay our homage to God. So its effect is greatly enhanced by decency and order.

Secondly, it solemnizes and inspires. The beautiful Church, filled with sacred symbols and hallowed with holy associations, the appropriateness of the vestments and other ritual adjuncts, and the solemn beautiful words of the carefully compiled liturgy, with its accompanying music, impresses the soul with a sense of

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Kalendar

January 1—Circumcision
" 6—Epiphany, Fast
" 8—First Sunday after the Epiphany.
" 13—Friday, Fast.
" 15—Second Sunday after Epiphany.
" 20—Friday, Fast.
" 22—Third Sunday after the Epiphany.
" 25—Conversion of S. Paul.
" 27—Friday, Fast.
" 29—Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany.

Record for December

Baptisms

Edwin Paul Eisenger
Anna Roberta Estella Willoughby
Esther Mildred Lindsay 3

Communicants received from the Church of Ireland, Agnes Maria Hamilton

From Beverley, Mass., Benjamin Hubert Giles.

From Christ Church, Hackensack, N. J., Mrs. Matilda F. O'Brien. 3

Transfered to St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Philadelphia, Mrs. Elizabeth Haxall Combes, Clare Winn, Marguerite Caney Winn.

To the Memorial Church of S. Paul, Mrs. Rosalie Sarah Grosholz.

To Epiphany Chapel, Sherwood, Albert Edward Hurst, Mrs. Mary Loag Hurst, Henry Clay Hurst.

To S. Peter's Church, Mrs. Lizzie Spear Fenton, Powell Fenton, Beatrice Fenton.
To S. Clement's Church, Edith Wharton Dallas. 12

Communions of the sick 2

Offerings

For Current expenses	$577.46
" Appeal of the Vestry	12 00
" the Poor	83 40
" Christmas Festival	20 60
" General Missions	2 79
" Domestic Missions	10 00
" the Altar Fund	5 00
" Benevolent Purposes	77
" At the discretion of the Rector	5 00
Of the Sunday School	6 55
TOTAL	$723.57

the importance and sacredness of the act in which it is engaged, and elevates it above the thoughts and feelings which are natural to it. We are none of us, or at least the general run of men are not, spiritual enough to dispense with these things, or fail to be affected by them. We are impressed and solemnized by them and feel their appropriateness and influence.

Thirdly, it teaches. It has the force of an object lesson. It appeals to the eye as well as to the ear. And that is often the most forcible mode of appeal. We venture to say that most persons learn more and are more impressed by what they see than by the words which are addressed them.

Of course, the use of ritual can be carried to extremes. It can be made so elaborate and complicated that only a few experts can understand it, and its performance requires so much attention that its spiritual significance is lost sight of. It was its use in this extravagant way that caused the revulsion against any ritual at all and conveyed the impression that it was inconsistent with true spiritual worship. The wisest position in regard to it seems to us is that taken by our Book of Common Prayer which is a compilation of the oldest and most universally used services of the Christian Church, and retains all the great essentials of music, vestments, lights, etc., which have been so generally employed, and yet which is in the vulgar tongue, and is so simple and easy to follow that all can understand and take part in it, and see and feel its beauty and effectiveness. Of course, the Prayer Book itself can be rendered in various ways, and this is wise, so that different tastes can be consulted and gratified so long as its great essential

principles of order and reasonableness and beauty are conserved.

The distinguishing characteristic of the services of the Episcopal Church is that they are liturgical and are accompanied by a dignified and beautiful ritual which is reasonable and easily understood and followed without being over elaborate and intricate, and so in danger of becoming a mere mechanical performance. And on the other hand it preserves the services of the Church from degenerating into what is vulgar, unedifying, devoid of solemnity or decency.

Any one who has become familiar with the attractive and elevating ritual of the Episcopal Church will never be satisfied with an extemporaneous and free and easy method of conducting divine worship.

PARISH NOTES

Christmas. We were favored with good weather, and the congregation being reinforced by the boys of St. Martin's College, the numbers at the services were somewhat larger than last year. The total number of communions made was 241 against 195 a year ago.

The music was well rendered by the choir and our new Processional Cross was carried.

The Offertory amounted to $414.78.

On the day before Christmas some fourteen dinners, consisting of chicken, celery, cranberries and potatoes, or pies, cake and candy were sent out to the members of the Mothers' Meeting and some others.

Our thanks are due to the members of the congregation who responded to the appeal for this purpose.

The Sunday School Christmas Festival

The festival took place on the night of Holy Innocents' Day, Wednesday, December 28th. As usual, the children attended in good numbers and were as happy as children are on the festive occasions of Christmas-tide.

The children met in the parish building and marched into the Church singing a carol. After a brief office, addresses were made by the Rev. Rector and Curate and Mr. Botwright. At the close of the service the procession marched before the beautiful little Creche in the parish building.

The Creche

Perhaps the most beautiful feature of the festival was the Creche. Last year Mr. Botwright made it for us and this year superintended its erection and adornment. It was placed in the choir room and illuminated with concealed electric lights and candles. The fifteen figures of Our Lord, His Mother and St. Joseph, the Three Wise Men and the Shepherds, sheep and cattle, were arranged in the Stable with care and taste by the teachers.

Toys for the Poor

Around the Creche, the children placed a large collection of toys brought by them as gifts to children who are poorer than they. This is a good lesson to teach them and they seemed to enjoy giving them.

Christmas Tree

They then marched upstairs and found a large Tree bright with electric lights and gay toys and draperies. For this decoration we are indebted to Mr. Carrol Hodge, and Mr. Richard Gilpin, Mr. Andrew Lindsay and Mr. Morgan.

Entertainment

There followed an entertainment provided by Mr. Andrew Lindsay and Mr. James Atkinson, which was greatly enjoyed by the audience.

Each child was presented with a gift and a box of candy.

St. John's Junior Guild

This organization of boys has again begun its meetings, which have been well attended; the office said and instruction given at each meeting have been participated in with heartiness and reverent behavior.

The evening always closes with Basket Ball or Gymnastic exercises. Miss Maria Gilpin still visits us and helps us by her presence and interest.

The Men's Club

had a successful meeting in December, nearly sixty men being present. In addition to the usual entertainment an instructive and humorous lecture, illustrated by lantern slides, was delivered by a professional lecturer. The next meeting will be on Thursday evening, January 12th, when a vaudeville will be given by some of the members of the club. All the men connected with the parish are invited to come and bring any of their male friends with them. There is no charge whatever, the club being carried on by the dues of the members and some special subscriptions for the purpose.

The Boys of St. Martin's College

have been attending our Church for the last few Sundays, owing to the closing of the Church of the Evangelists with which the college was connected. We are very glad to welcome them and shall continue to do so until arrangements can be made for the reopening of their own Church.

This college is a most admirable charity and ought not on any account to be allowed to fall through. It supplies a great want of providing for a class of destitute boys, for whom there is no other home except the Roman Catholic institutions. The college has an excellent plant and all it needs for its success is an efficient head and an endowment, which we are sure can be secured when the public comes to recognize its usefulness. The boys, by their admirable behavior in Church, show under what excellent discipline they have been.

Special Sermons

The Rector will begin on the second Sunday morning of this month a course of sermons on the Sacramental System of the Church, showing its purpose and importance, and treating of the number and characteristics of the sacraments.

The Curate will preach on Sunday evenings of this month on the following subjects: January 1st, "Five Lifeless Things in the Bethlehem Cave;" January 8, "Oriental Stargazers." The other subjects will be announced later.

Confirmation

The Bishop of the Diocese has appointed the evening of March 31st for the annual administration of Confirmation in this parish. We trust that all persons in any way connected with the Church, young and old, who have not yet been confirmed, will give their name to the clergy for presentation to the Bishop at that time. Special instructions preparatory to it will be given beginning next month.

The Bishop of Wyoming, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Thomas, formerly Rector of the Church of the Holy Apostles, in this city, will probably officiate in place of the Bishop of the Diocese, who is incapacitated by sickness.

Piano Fund

All that was subscribed for the new piano has been paid and there remains $58 due to complete the purchase. Will not those who have not yet contributed to this most necessary object give something to make up this amount? The piano has been in use for a year and MUST be paid for.

Our Method of Church Support

We rent no pews or sittings in this Church. The seats are open to all. You are at liberty to sit anywhere you like; if you want the same place every Sunday, you can almost always have it by coming to Church rather early.

Our only revenue is derived from the Sunday offerings of the people, collected morning and evening. The regular parishioners are expected to make systematic offerings *through the envelopes* provided for that purpose. The worshipper signs a promise like that appended to this notice, puts it in the alms basin or in the poor box, envelopes will then be sent to him and at the stated times he puts his money into an envelope and offers it when the collection is made.

By this plan rich and poor fare alike in the Church; he who can give five dollars a week has no more privileges than one who can give but five cents.

Each one determines for himself what he ought to give, and no one knows what the amount is, except the Rector and accounting warden.

No one is bound for any longer period than he chooses, because the pledges can be discontinued at any time by notifying the warden to that effect.

Every envelope-giver is sent a statement of his account once in three months.

This envelope-system has worked well in the parish during the past. We believe it can be made still more effective, however, and would respectfully urge all regular Church attendants to help in the matter, by making pledges if they do not already give in that way, or by increasing the amount of their present pledges if they are able to do so.

FORM OF PLEDGE

I will give.....per week (or.....per month) through the envelopes to the support of the Church of the Ascension until such time as I give notice to the contrary.

Name.....

Address.....

Date.....

N. B.—Fill out this blank and put in the alms basin or poor box.

To Subscribers

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The following were received since October 31st:

Mrs. Roberts, Mrs. Heuzbey (2), Miss Vodges, Dr. Coates. Mrs. Parish, Miss Goodman, Mr. Christian, Mr. Roe (2), Mrs. Darlington (2), Miss O'Hara, Miss Dallas, Miss Peter, Miss Ashbridge, Miss Carpenter, Miss May Hopkins, Miss Whitehouse, Mr. Newman, donation $1.50.

Memorial Gifts
For Christmas-tide and the EPIPHANY SEASON
Are you not going to make one to your Parish Church?

Write for illustrated data and photographs.

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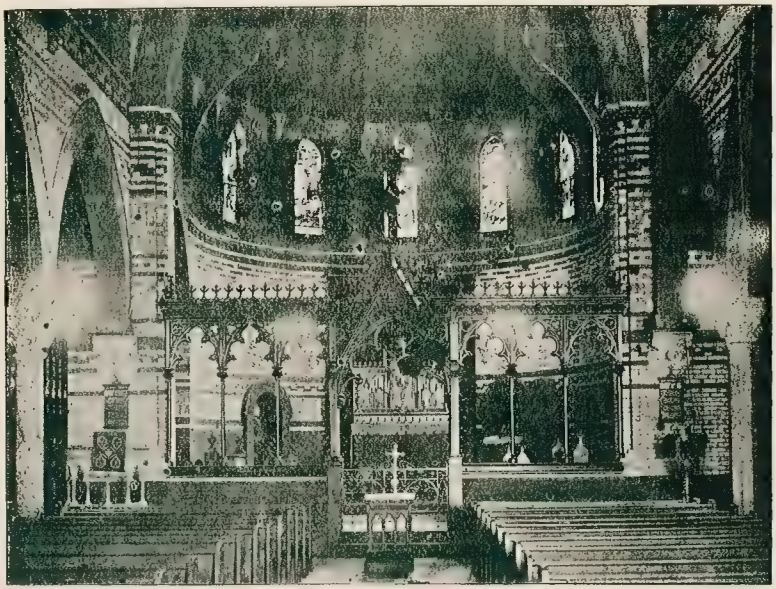
NEW YORK

The Ascension News

VOL. XXIV PHILADELPHIA. FEBRUARY, 1911 No. 2



Church of the Ascension

Broad Street, Below South All Seats Free

Services

Holy Communion

EVERY SUNDAY.....7.30 and 11.30 A.M.
HOLY DAYS.....7.00 and 10.30 A.M.
DAILY EXCEPT THURSDAYS....7 00 A.M.
THURSDAYS.....9.00 A M.

Morning Prayer

SUNDAYS (with Sermon).. ...10.30 A.M.
DAILY .....10.00 A.M.

Evensong

SUNDAYS (with Sermon).....7.45 P.M.
DAILY .....5.00 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address)..8.00 P.M.

Children's Service

SUNDAYS.....3.30 P.M.

All the Seats are Free at all Services **God's House is open to all its Children**

The Church is always open for private prayer, and the Clergy can be seen after any service

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334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*
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2022 St. Albans Street

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Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P. M

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First Friday, Missionary Society	10.30 A. M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P. M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.

Superintendent	The Curate
Assistant Superintendent	Mr. F. C. Botwright
Librarian and	
Organist	Mrs. S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Men and St. John's Guild — Miss M. J. Gilpin	2.45 P. M.
For the Junior Brotherhood — Miss Hodge	2.45 P. M.
For Young Ladies — Miss Stretch	2.45 P. M.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays	10.00 A. M.

POSTURES IN CHURCH

There are a great many people who do not understand the different postures which we assume in our Church worship, what they call the "getting up and down." Generally, in the Protestant Churches, people go in the Church just as they would into a place of entertainment and sit down and look on and listen to what is said or sung without even changing their posture once, and it bewilders them when in an Episcopal Church they see the people all standing up at one time, or kneeling down or sitting down at another. But the reasons for doing so are very simple, and when once understood they must seem to all most appropriate and useful.

The rules governing these changes of posture are very simple. When we are singing praises to God, or professing our faith in Him, or being solemnly addressed by the officiating minister we stand, that is the most natural and reverent attitude. When we are worshiping, praying to God or confessing our sins, we kneel, that is the attitude most expressive and appropriate to such an action and calculated to impress us with a sense of its solemnity. And when the people have something read or spoken to them, especially if it is to continue for some time, they sit and listen to it. If these simple rules are kept in mind, they will explain every change that is made in our service, and no one need hesitate as to what is the right thing to do.

They are simply a part of good manners and necessary for the cultivation of that sense of reverence and devotion which we should have when we engage in the worship of God. Just as there are certain things which we expect and exact in our intercourse with our fellow men, as bowing when we meet, taking

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

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Kalendar

Feburary 2—Purification B. V. M.
" 3—Friday, Fast
" 5—Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany
" 10—Friday, Fast
" 12—Septuagesima
" 17—Friday, Fast
" 19—Sexagesima
" 24—S. Matthias
" 26—Quinquagesima

Record for January

Communicants.	Received former member, Anna L. Spinney.	1
	Transferred to S. Stephen's Church Emma Louisa Caroline Schubert. To Calvary Monumental Church, Sarah Spangle Early. To S. Philip's Church, Mrs. Louise Cade Boyd. To S. Ambrose Church, John Francis Gill, Mrs. Margaret Elizabeth Gill, William McKinley Gill.	6
Died.	Mrs. Fanny Brooks Eayre.	
	Mrs. Clara Louisa Conger.	2
Burials	Milton Ray	
	Mrs. Annie Carrigan.	2
Communion of the sick		1

Offerings

For Current expenses	$433.07
" the Poor	13.00
" Christmas Festival	2.00
" General Missions	1.45
" Missionary box	43.25
" Benevolent Purposes	.99
Of the Sunday School	7.86
Total,	$501.62

off the hat, shaking hands, rising when spoken to offering a seat, etc., so these attitudes in our worship of God are appropriate to the various acts in which we are engaged and are necessary to make us realize their character and importance.

When, therefore, these things are neglected, and we see people either bolt up right in their seats or talking at ease all through the service, athletic young men who would go through any physical exertion to win a game, who will not take the trouble to stand up during a hymn or to get down on their knees in prayer, only lazily leaning forward a little, what are we to conclude? Surely either that such people have never been taught what are good manners in a church or that they are utterly inappreciative or indifferent to the act in which they are engaged. If one realized the greatness and holiness of God, and man's lowliness, he certainly would feel that kneeling was the most proper and expressive way to worship and pray to Him, and standing to sing His praises. Of course, it is possible to pray to and praise God in any attitude, but it is most becoming, proper and helpful to assume an appropriate one. If people have any physical infirmity which prevents them standing or kneeling, they can be excused from doing so, as you would excuse them in private intercourse from acts which you would otherwise expect. If a person could not kneel without great pain, even at the altar, they can receive the sacrament standing, or if they could not even stand, then sitting. But for healthful, ordinary people not to observe the proper posture of worship in their approach to Almighty God, stamps them either as very uninstructed or as very indifferent to so a just and important an action.

And the observance of these postures is very essential to preserving in the

minds of people a sense of the importance and solemnity of divine worship. While they may be performed carelessly and thoughtlessly, to neglect them certainly will not aid to cultivating reverence.

PARISH NOTES

Gifts to the Church. Three dozen pairs of fine gymnasium shoes were donated by Mr. Rodman Wanamaker for the use of our Guilds. This is one of several donations Mr. Wanamaker has made, all in memory of his friend Mr. Spencer Ervin, who was once so much interested in our boys. The Church has also received a number of coal orders and some bundles of clothing and provisions for entertainment of the Mother's Meeting and the Girls' Friendly Society and for some of the classes in the Sunday School.

Need. Linen for new cottas for the choir.

Men's Club. The usual monthly meeting of this Club was held in the Parish building, Thursday evening, January 12th.

There were about 70 men there, and they had a fine entertainment, consisting of a monologue and impromptu songs and piano solos by members of the Club, followed by coffee and refreshments. It was very gratifying to see a number of new men join the club.

The next meeting will be Thursday evening, February 9th, when all men of the parish are cordially invited to attend.

The hosts will be Philip F. Alburger, James McCarrick, Andrew Chalman.

Quarter's Envelopes. With this month a new set of envelopes is sent out for the coming quarter. So it is the time for any in the parish who are not using them to begin to do so. Every one should contribute towards the Church according to his ability, and this is the way to do it. It secures system and regularity, and enables the vestry to know what it can depend upon. See that your name is in the list of contributors to the Church which is hanging in the vestibule.

Forms of subscriptions can be found in the rack in the Church near the door. There is a special envelope for the Easter offering and one for Diocesan Missions and for the Episcopal Fund in this quarter's set.

New way of raising the Episcopal and Convention Fund. At the suggestion of one of the members of the Vestry we have adopted this year a new way of obtaining the means of paying the Episcopal and Convention fund tax on this parish. Few of our people realize that in addition to paying the expenses of the parish and salaries of the Clergy, Choirmaster, and Sexton, heating and lighting the Church, keeping it in repair, etc., each parish is also taxed a certain proportion on its income to pay the necessary expenses of the Diocese, the salaries of the Bishop and his Coadjutor, the Secretaries and other expenses of the Diocesan Convention. These things have to be provided for just as much as the support of the parish, and so every one should contribute his share. Hitherto we have enclosed an envelope with each set sent out the beginning of this quarter with the total amount of the tax printed on it, leaving it to each one to give what he chose. But the amount received in this way has each year been inadequate, and the remainder had to be taken out of the general offerings for the support of the Church, which is one of the reasons we have always had a deficit at the end of the year. So this year a bill is enclosed with this special envelope stating what amount of the total each one is expected to give, that amount being proportioned according to the sum he gives yearly for the support of the parish. And if every one will put in his or her envelope that amount, which, in most cases is very small, the total sum required will be received.

Diocesan Missions and the Sustentation Fund. These are practical taxes which this parish is expected to pay every year for Diocesan puposes, one for the establishment and carrying on of Missions in the new or weaker portions of the Diocese and the other to help sustain feeble Churches. These taxes amount for our parish to about the same sum as for the Episcopal and Convention Fund. If therefore every one will put in the

envelope marked "Diocesan Missions" the same sum that he is asked to contribute to the Episcopal Fund these taxes will be paid. This can be put on the plate at any service during the quarter beginning this month.

Special Sermons. The Rector will preach on the morning of Feb. 5th, continuing his course on the Sacraments on the Holy Communion; Feb. 12th on Marriage; Feb. 19th on Holy Orders; Feb. 26th on Unction.

The Curate will preach on the Sunday evenings during February.

Missionary Box. The following acknowledgements have been received from the missionary and his wife of the very nice box our ladies sent off before Christmas.

Mrs. L. T. Smith

MY DEAR MADAM—

The pleasure of giving must be great since that of receiving is pleasant.

This our first box is such a delight, that we shall eat and drink and wash and sleep and, perchance, dream, in blessful recollections of the Women's Auxiliary of the Church of the Ascension, Philadelphia, during 1911. You have touched us very tenderly and imparted a new sense of the nearness of kin and the friendly things which Missions mean.

For work here is being much owned and blessed. We have just completed an addition to the Church, for the use of the young people who attend Indian Institute. The white congregation has become greatly interested in the welfare of these young men and young women.

Will you not accept and convey my grateful blessing on your Church, your guilds, your homes and yourselves and believe me to be your friend always.

Flandrean. S. D.
New Year's, 1911.

Dec. 31, 1910.

MY DEAR MRS. SMITH.

The box of linen arrived safely to-day and I assure you it is greatly appreciated. The quality of the things is so good it is a pleasure to handle them. The patterns of the table cloths and napkins are beautiful and I shall take great pleasure in using that dainty work basket. I can make use of everything the ladies so kindly sent, and will you please convey to them my thanks, and say that the box contributed largely to our Xmas pleasure. The name of "Wanamaker" brought up many pleasant memories, as I used to pass through Philadelphia so often on my way to St. Mary's at Burlington, my Alma Mater. I hope some time in the future I may meet some of the ladies of the Auxiliary and then be able to thank them in person.

Confirmation Instructions are being given every Wednesday evening after the 8 p. m. service by the Rev. Curate, and the Rector will meet any one wishing to speak to him on the subject after any service or by appointment.

The Confirmation will be on the evening of Friday, March 31st.

St. Agnes' Day. Saturday, Jan. 21, was the Feast Day of St. Agnes' Guild of little girls.

At 7 a. m. there was a choral Celebration of the Holy Communion, at which Mrs. Haris kindly played the organ and a congregation of twenty-eight gathered to do honor to our Divine Lord.

At 6 p. m. the children gathered for their Guild Tea; twenty-one guests being present.

After their feast, they repaired to the Theatre for an evening of amusement.

The Choir. The honor boys of the choir for the month of January are Samuel Bailey and William Irwin, both having been present at every service and rehearsal.

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Mr. Cameron, Mrs. H. P. Busch, Mrs. Shelton, Mrs. Ellis, Miss Schell, Miss Wurts, Miss Holbrook, Miss Alice Smith, Miss Dickerson, Miss Hare.

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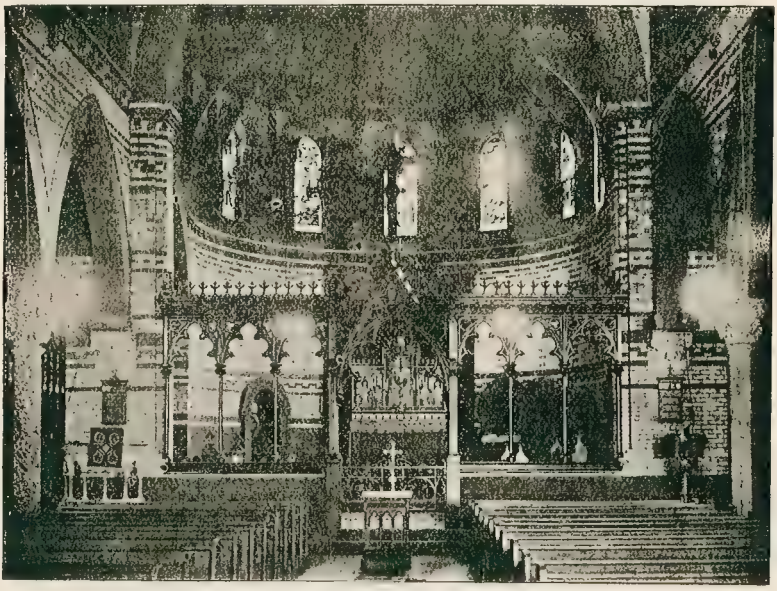
VOL. XXIV PHILADELPHIA. MARCH, 1911 No. 3



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For Young Ladies (Miss Stretch)	2.45 P. M

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays	10.00 A. M.

WHAT IS WORLDLINESS

One of the vows which every Christian makes when he is baptized is, that he will renounce "the world."

What is meant by that? Certainly not that he will go out of the world, or that he is to give up all earthly possessions and enjoyments.

What does it mean then? It means first that living in a world or society of men, none of whom are perfect and many of whom are bad, we will not follow nor be led by their teachings or example. We will not be governed by mere worldly maxims or policy, doing only that which is easiest, or pleasantest or which will pay best, apart from the moral quality or result of actions We are all terribly tempted to do this. It is so natural and plausible to say to ourselves, everybody does so and so, or men of position and learning do so, why should I set for myself a higher standard? If all the world does so why should I do otherwise? But the profession of the Christian is just this, to do what he knows to be right no matter who or what authority may teach otherwise. Yet many "follow the multitude to do evil," and it requires a great effort to resist the temptation to do the same.

Then another temptation to worldliness is to love too much what the Prayer Book calls "the pomps and vanities of this wicked world," that is things which are empty and worthless in themselves compared with higher things. Thus if a man has no thought of anything but of making money or of succeeding in business, or is so absorbed in pleasure seeking, or a woman in her personal appearance and attractiveness or gaiety or dress, that is worldliness.

It is not that it is wrong to have possessions or to work for them or to enjoy

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EDITORS

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TREASURER

MR. RICHARD GILPIN

904 Clinton Street

TERMS:

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Kalendar

March 1. Ash Wednesday.
" 5. First Sunday in Lent.
" 8. Ember Day.
" 10. Ember Day.
" 11. Ember Day.
" 12. Second Sunday in Lent.
" 19. Third Sunday in Lent.
" 25. Annunciation B. V. M.
" 26. Fourth Sunday in Lent.

All the days in Lent except Sundays are Fast days.

Record for February

Baptisms.	Robert James Kelso Marie Antoinette White. Mary Anna Ware.	1 3
Marriages.	Mirko Vaisy Belinski and Martha Martin Smythe	1
Communicants.	Received new Franklin Gaunt Marter.	
From the Church of the Ascension, Gloucester, N. J.	Mrs. Elisabeth Slater.	2
Transferred to St. John's Church, Lower Merion,	Mrs. Lillian Shallcross, Maud Helen Davies.	2
Communion of the Sick.		1
Uncion of the Sick.		1
Burial.	Mrs. Clara Louisa Conger.	1

Offerings

For Current expenses	$354.51
" the Episcopal Convention Fund	58.55
" Diocesan Missions	18.30
" General Missions	3.00
" the Poor	8.20
" New Piano	236.00
" Benevolent Purposes	1.27
Of the Sunday School	5.41
Total	$685.24

the good things of life, but that we should make these the one and only pursuit and interest of our lives.

And many do this. It is hard to do otherwise and, things which are present and material are so attractive and seductive it is very difficult to resist their allurements and seek, and sacrifice one's ease and pleasure for, what is higher and better. This is probably the strongest temptation to which most persons are subjected.

A man may not deny or blaspheme God, or give way to his animal passions, who is yet easily captivated by seductions of the world. Especially in this age and land of ease and luxury and wealth there are doubtless more who sin in this way than in any other.

How, then, can we be guarded against it? We answer by trying always to observe the due proportion of things, by systematically and conscientiously giving a due portion of our time and means to high and proper purposes.

Let every man be careful and inflexible in performing his religious duties, going to Church every Sunday, saying his prayers every day, receiving communion regularly. This will keep him in mind of higher things and prevent his becoming absorbed entirely in wordly things. And let him give a due part of his possessions and of his time as well, to religious and charitable works.

God has created us with capacity for enjoyment and given us richly all things to enjoy, but He does not mean that we should become the slaves of these things or care only for them. Man has a spiritual being as well as a natural life, and he should seek and cultivate the things of the spirit as well as those of the world, and the only way to ensure this is to follow carefully and faithfully the teachings and practices of religion.

Lent is especially the time for us to make the effort to do this.

LENT

The solemn season of Lent is again upon us with its call to repentance, to the beginning again of a new and better life, to self-denial, to devotion, to acts of charity and mercy.

It is one of the oldest institutions of our religion, a season which if rightly used may be of the greatest spiritual benefit.

Let us all try to use it as it should be used, give up amusements and self-indulgence, really fast, be more frequent at Church and sacrament, take up holy readingand meditation, make greater sacrifices for the sake of others, and we shall find it a source of real spiritual blessing and benefit.

Let all in the parish try to keep a good Lent, and they will be better and happier men and women if they do.

PARISH NOTES

Lenten Services. Our services during Lent will be daily Communion at 7 a. m. except on Thursday when it is at 9 a. m., daily Morning Prayer at 10 a. m. and Evening Prayer at 5 p. m.

The boys of the choir will be present, and sing at the daily Evening Prayer.

The Rector will deliver a short lecture every Tuesday afternoon, and a visiting clergyman an address every Friday.

On Wednesday evening there is a second service at 8 o'clock with a lecture by the Rev Curate, followed by a Confirmation instruction.

As these services are at such different hours, it gives every one in the Parish the opportunity to attend at some time.

Gifts. St. Saviour's altar has been enriched by the addition of two more statues, those of St. Peter and St. Paul. Two more will be put in place later, which will add very much to its appearance.

We were much gratified to receive from a member of this congregation a cheque for $50 to complete the payment for the new piano, $240 in all, a discount having been given for its payment before the stipulated time.

The Altar Society also received a donation towards the purchase of linen needed for cottas for the choir.

The Ladies' Aid will work during Lent for the Maternity Hospital at Tenth and Fitzwater Sts., a most worthy and needy charity. The Aid meets every Wednesday at 3 p. m. Any ladies attending the church are invited to join with them.

Confirmation will be administered on the evening of Friday, March 31.

The Rector will meet by appointment any who cannot attend the regular instructions on Wednesday evenings.

Special Sermons. The Rector will preach on Sunday evenings this month a special course of sermons on "Sin." What it is, its causes, its effects and how to get rid of it. He has therefore refused all invitations to preach elsewhere on Sundays. But on week-days he will preach at the Holy Comforter, St. Simon the Cyrenian, and Calvary Churches, and two days each at the noon-day services at St. Andrew's Church, Wilmington, and St. Paul's Church, Camden.

The three hours service in the church on Good Friday this year will be conducted by our former Curate the Rev. William Bernard Gilpin, now Rector of Trinity Church, Hoboken, N. J.

The Rev. Curate will preach this Lent at St. Philips; Good Shepherd; St. Lukes, Kensington; St. George's, St. Stephen's Norwood; St. John's, Lancaster; St. Paul's, Chester; Ascension, Gloucester; Christ Church, Palmyra; St. James, the

Less, Falls of Schuykill; The Good Shepherd, Rosemont; St. John's Norristown; St. Mark's, Hammonton, N J.,. Trinity, Collingdale; St Mary's, Baltimore Md.; St. Luke's, Germantown; St. Barnabas' Guild, St. Alban's, Olney; and he will also conduct the Three Hour Devotions at Trinity Church, Hoboken, N. J., exchanging with Mr. Gilpin.

Men's Club.. The usual monthly meeting of this Club was held Thursday evening, February 9th, and by many it was thought to be a record breaker. We think this was on account of our entertainment being by our own members (except the pianist.) It is very gratifying the way all the fellows are taking hold and taking so much interest.

After coffee and refreshments, we had college and popular songs.

The next "Club-Night" will be Thursday, March 9th, when all men of the parish are cordially invited to come and bring a friend.

St. John's Guild at its regular annual meeting in January elected Mr. B. K. Huntington as President, Mr. George Morgan Secretary, and Mr. Raymond Reeves, Treasurer. The Guild is in a flourishing condition and plans a number of things of interest for all the young men of the Church, and their friends. It extends a call for recruits, all are welcome.

The Girls' Friendly Society has received a number of new members from that formally held at the Chapel of the Messiah at Broad and Federal Streets, which has been given up, and we shall be glad to welcome here all who belonged there. It meets every Tuesday evening. There is a regular teacher in gymnastics employed, and on the last Tuesday of each month there is a dance in which the members of St. John's Guild take part.

The Mothers' Meeting has been very successful this winter under Miss Young and Miss Walsh. Other ladies have visited the members of the Guild at their homes. In addition to the work given out every Wednesday, a supper has been provided for the members, many of whom bring their children with them.

Death of the Bishop.—Out of respect for the Bishop and at the request of his successor, the Bishop's seat in the chancel will continue draped for thirty days, and Chopin's Funeral March was played after the morning service on two successive Sundays.

The honor boys of the choir for the month are, Frederich Blitzford, Warren Medde, Willian Irvin, John Owens, who have been present at every service and rehearsal. Two medals are to be presented at Easter; one to the boy best behaved in Church and one to the boy who has shown the most improvement in singing.

NOTICES

Lenten Missionary meeting of the Women's Auxiliary in the Church of the Holy Trinity on March 20th, from 2.45 to 4.45 p. m. Speakers, Bishop Thomas of Wyoming, the Rev. Dr. Mortimer, the Rev. H. C. McHenry and others.

Missionary Meeting in S. Mark's Church, Tuesday, March 7th at 8.15 p. m. and day intercession for missions with addresses, March 8th from 7 a. m. till noon. Conducted by the Rev. George Craig Stewart, of Evanston, Illinois.

Memorial to Bishop Whitaker. The Bishop of the Diocese has called for a popular subscription of one dollar each from every man woman and child in the Diocese to erect a Church in West Philadelphia as a memorial to the late Bishop Whitaker.

All subscriptions for this object sent to the Church, or placed in the plate in an envelope so marked, will be forwarded to the Diocesan Treasurer.

To Subscribers

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the News is now due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since the the last issue: Mr. W. M. Newnam, Mr. W. H. Cope, Mrs. W. H. Cope, Miss Means, Miss McIlhenny, Mrs. Macken, Miss Johnson, Miss Barrington.

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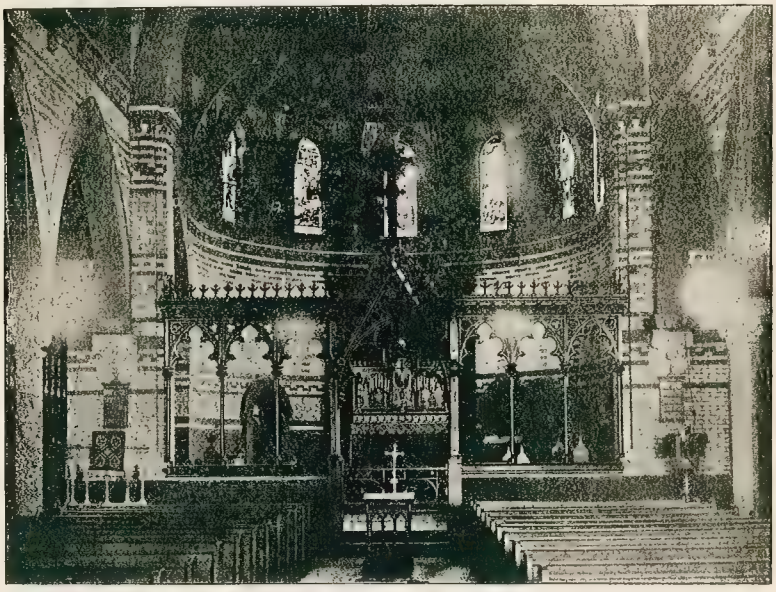
The Ascension News

VOL. XXIV PHILADELPHIA, APRIL, 1911 NO. 4



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DAILY .....10.00 A.M.

Evensong

SUNDAYS (with Sermon).....7.45 P.M.
DAILY .....5.00 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address)..8.00 P.M.

Children's Service

SUNDAYS.....3.30 P.M.

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GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild	8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	8.00 P. M
Thursdays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P. M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P. M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid	3.00 P. M.
Wednesdays, Mother's Meeting	8.00 P. M.
Thursday, Embroidery Class	10.30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society	10.30 A. M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P. M.
Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.

Superintendent	The Curate
Assistant Superintendent	Mr. F. C. Botwright
Librarian and	
Organist	Mrs. S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Men and St. John's Guild, Miss M. J. Gilpin	2.45 P. M.
For the Junior Brotherhood, Miss Hodge	2.45 P. M.
For Young Ladies, Miss Stretch	2.45 P. M.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays	10.00 A. M.

SHOULD THERE BE DIFFERENT DENOMINATIONS OF CHRISTIANS?

Everywhere among English speaking people, and the same is true of other nations as well, we find Christians divided into different "Denominations." That is, there are many separate bodies, each having its own special doctrines, or government, or forms of worship, designated by a term describing its peculiar characteristics. Thus there is a large body of Christians called Presbyterians, because their peculiarity is that they are governed by Presbyterys or Elders. They have no Bishops. Another is called Baptist, because that describes their idea as to the proper form of Baptism. Another called Methodists, because, originally, they were very methodical in their religious observances. Another, Congregational, because they hold that each congregation is an independent body, and so on. Now, is this right? Is it right and wise that Christians should be so divided into these comparatively small bodies, each trying to keep up its own establishments and to teach and propagate its own special doctrines and ideas? Is it not manifest from a practical point of view that these divisions entail a great waste of force and money, weaken the Church and its influence in the eyes of the world and tend to make men disregard and neglect it altogether?

And is it not manifestly contrary to the will and intention of the Author of our religion who prayed that all His disciples should "be one," and of the teaching of all of the New Testament in which divisions among Christians are again and again condemned?

And is it right that those who profess the same religion in its essence, worship the same God, believe in the same Saviour,

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish.

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
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Kalendar

APRIL	2.	Passion Sunday
"	9.	Palm Sunday.
"	10.	Monday before Easter.
"	11.	Tuesday before Easter.
"	12.	Wednesday before Easter.
"	13.	Maunday Thursday.
"	14.	Good Friday.
"	15.	Easter Even.
"	16.	Easter Day.
"	17.	Monday in Easter Week.
"	18.	Tuesday in Easter Week.
"	21.	Friday Fast.
"	23.	Low Sunday.
"	25.	S. Mark Evangelist.
"	28.	Friday Fast.
"	30.	Second Sunday after Easter.

Record for March

Baptisms.
Adults—Frank Cody Austin.
Charles Weldon Austin.
Carl Albert Tharaldsen.
Walter Harleigh Blundell.
William Lloyd Blundell.
Henry James Russell.
Ralph Buffet.
Helen Elizabeth Smith. 9
James Fritz.
Infants—Walter Irving Copeland.
Howard Hill.
Clara Haxall Combs. 3
Confirmed:
Charles Polk Eck.
Henry Paul Busch.
Ralph Buffet.
William Francis Aimes.
John Willard Russell.
William Leonard Deshields.
William Lloyd Blundell.
Walter Harleigh Blundell.
Charles Weldon Austin.
Frank Cody Austin.
Robert George Watson.
Henry James Russell.
William Howard Freas.
Carl Tharaldsen.
Thomas Shannon McClay.
Joseph Thomas Cornelius.
William James Harrington.
Albert Edward Zahn.
Mrs. Mary McDermott.
Helen Eva Bird Allen
Emma Elisabeth Fritz.
Anni Marie Harrington.
Katherine Oliver Schlessing.
Helen Elizabeth Smith 24
Communicant—Died
Franklin Guant Marter. 1
Burial—Franklin Gaunt Marter. 1

Offerings

For Current expenses	$220.10
" the Episcopal Convention Fund	9.30
" Diocesan Missions	37.83
" Deaf Missions	5.00
" the Poor	6.74
" Endowment Fund	16.00
" the Sunday and Industrial Schools	.25
" " Bishop's Purse	6.49
" Benevolent Purposes	2.42
Of the Sunday School	7.80
Total	$311.93

seek the influences of the same Holy Spirit, regard the same Bible as the ultimate standard of their belief and practice, is it right that they should be divided up and separated from one another in more or less antagonistic bodies having different names?

And when we look into the origin of these various bodies we find that it was due to dissention and disputes, and the pride of self-opinion, or personal preference of individuals. The cause of many of the divisions has now been forgotten, or the issues then involved are now absolutely dead. Why, then, should the divisions be kept up?

It is true that those who now belong to them are not personally responsible for their origin, yet do they not become responsible for keeping them up, when there is no justification for them doing so?

If it is asked which should be given up and which retained, we answer, all separate organizations should be abolished and

all special designations, that there should be no longer Denominations of Christians, but that all should come together in our body, described, as the Church is always spoken of in the New Testament, as the Church in a certain locality, viz: the Church in Corinth or the Church in Rome.

To effect this, representatives of all the Denominations should come together, determine upon what they could agree and require nothing but that as necessary to membership in the one body. Unity does not mean uniformity. There might still be great differences in modes of worship and other characteristics of the Church. But, just as in the family, or in a nation, there should be real, substantial unity, so there should be in the Body of Christ. Only so can that body present to the world the ideal, and accomplish the ends for which Christ intended it.

For this end let us not cease to labor and to pray.

PARISH NOTES

Holy Week. The services during Holy Week will be daily Celebrations of the Holy Communion at 7 A. M., and after Morning Prayer at 10 A. M., except on Good Friday. Daily Evening Prayer at 5 P. M., with lecture on Tuesday afternoon, and at 8 P. M. the Stations of the Cross will be observed.

On Good Friday they will also be observed at 9 A. M., for the Children of the Parish. The Mid-Day Services will begin at 11 A. M., with Morning Prayer and the Litany, followed by the singing of the Reproaches and the Preaching of the Cross from 12 to 3 P. M. The Preacher will be the Rev. Wm. Bernard Gilpin, one of our former Curates, now Rector of Trinity Church, Hoboken, N. J.

On Palm Sunday there will be the usual procession of palms before the Mid-Day Celebration at 11.30 A. M.

Easter-day. There will be Celebrations at 6.30, 7.30, 8.30, and 11.30 A. M.

Financial statement. In order that our people may know what amount is required for our Easter offering, we give the following statement of what is now owing by the Parish and must be paid before May 1.

Amount borrowed during summer,	$500
Amount due the Rector for salary	500
Coal bill	225
Total	$1225

In addition to this there is whatever amount remains unpaid on account of the assessment for the Episcopal and Convention Fund and for Diocesan Missions.

The only way in which these obligations can be met will be by all members of the the congregation, or attendants at the services of the Church, making as large an offering as they possibly can.

Special offerings for the Easter Flowers may be placed in the Alms Box in the Vestibule marked for that purpose.

New Memorial Window, Our Chancel has been enriched by the addition of a new painted window, erected to the memory of the late Mr. William Platt Pepper so long a devoted member and Vestryman of our parish. Its subject is Christ before Pilate, one of the series adopted for all the windows in the Church.

There remain two more to be placed in the Chancel, which we wish very much could be put in. The Rector has the designs for them which he will be happy to show to any one contemplating putting up a memorial.

The Church Club meeting last month was the most largely attended we have had, seventy-six men being present. Some of the members gave a Minstrel show. Mr. Andrew Lindsay and Mr. James Atkinson being the end men. W.

were particularly glad to welcome back our old friends Messrs Myers and Messrs Schindt whose singing added much to the entertainment.

The next Club Night will not be until April 27th, as the regular meeting night would occur in Holy Week. A special effort will be made to render this very attractive.

St. John's Guild held a "Fellowship Dinner" in the parish building on Thursday evening, March 23, and it was voted one of the most successful events of the Guild in years. Twenty-five members were present and after dinner, speeches made by the old and new members of the Guild were quite interesting. A colored pastel drawing entitled, "The Acolyte," was presented to the Guild by the President, Mr. B. K. Huntington, who painted the picture. A speech of acceptance was made by the Rector on behalf of Miss Gilpin for the society. One of our choir boys, Wm. Irvin, posed for and is the original of the drawing. The general inclination is to have more of these "dinners" to bring together our own members in good fellowship and to increase membership!

Entertainment; all are invited to come to a little play in two acts entitled "The Nigger Night School" and "Aunt Jerusha's Quilting Party," to be given on Monday evening, April 17, at 8. P.M., in the parish building by some of the junior boys and girls of the Sunday-school. Tickets, which are 10 and 15 cents, can be purchased from any of the children or from Mr. F.C. Botwright and Mrs. J. H. McGinnis who have charge of the play.

Special Sermons. The Rector will continue as preacher at the Sunday Evening services during this month. His subject on the evening of Passion Sunday will be "The Mystery of Pain;" on Palm Sunday, "The Power of Sacrifice;" on Easter evening, "The Resurrection of the Body." He will then begin a series of sermons on "What the Episcopal Church Stands For." The first sermon being on "Authority," and the second on "Unity."

Easter Music. Christ Our Passover, Wiegand; Te Deum, Sullivan in D; Jubilate, William in C; Mass, Tours in F; Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, Roberts in E.

Sunday School Mite Boxes. This Lent, as last, the proceeds of the Sunday School Mite Boxes will be sent to the Rev. W. C. Clapp, Boutoc, Phillipine Islands. Dr. Clapp is doing a noble work there, having to contend with the difficulties inherent in labour among the uncivilized heathen, and now that his work has become large and successful the Roman Catholics have sent a staff of Clergy and Sisters, who are doing what they can to obstruct his work.

It is to be hoped that the collection will be large enough to be of real help to him.

The Honor Boys of the choir are Wm. Irvin, Wm. Graham and John Owens, who have been present at every rehearsal and service. The Rector will present the medals to the boys at the evening service on Easter-day.

To Subscribers

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated. The following were received since February: Mr. Henry Kelly, Miss McKnight, Miss Preston, Mr. Barton, Mrs. Kolkund, Miss Palmer, Mrs. Wagner, Mrs. Waterall, Mrs. Beates.

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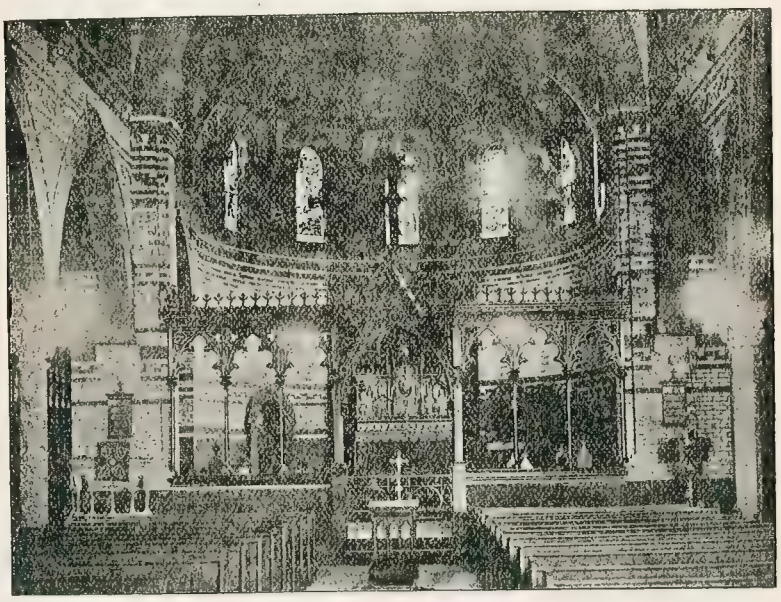

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GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild	8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P. M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P. M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesdays, Mothers' Aid	3.00 P. M.
Wednesdays, Mothers' Meeting	8.00 P. M.
Thursday, Embroidery Class	10.30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society	10.30 A. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.45 P. M.
Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.

Superintendent	The Curate
Assistant Superintendent	Mr. F. C. Botwright
Librarian and Organist	Mrs. S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Men and St. John's Guild, Miss M. J. Gilpin	2.45 P. M.
For the Junior Brotherhood, Miss Hodge	2.45 P. M.
For Young Ladies, Miss Stretch	2.45 P. M.

THE CITY CHURCH.

The condition of the Churches in the central part of the city has altered very much in the last few years. Formerly wealthy people lived in the city the greater part of the year, going away only for two or three months in the summer, and working people lived in the center of the city near their places of work. Now, the wealthier classes are living for the most part in the country altogether and coming to the city only for three or four months in the winter. And since the introduction of the Trolleys, working people have removed to the suburbs, coming and going to their work in the city.

And the houses they formely lived in are now occupied by negroes and foreigners. This affects our Churches most seriously, the wealthy people cannot take much interest or do much work in a Church they attend only for a few months in the year. And the foreign population is a most difficult field for the church to work in. What should be done then? Should our churches all be moved away from the centre of the city as has been done to so large an extent? Some thirty churches have been torn down and removed from the district south of Market Street and east of Broad during the last twenty-five years. We think this would be a great mistake, as there are still multitudes of people living in that part of the city and many of them the class of people who need the offices of the Church most, the poor, the degraded, the vicious. The Churches should be maintained among such people just as a witness to better things, and to work for their improvement. Moreover the foreigners will not always be foreigners, their children are learning the language

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS

THE CLERGY

TREASURER

MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

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Kalendar

MAY	1.	S. S. Philip and James
"	5.	Friday—Fast
"	7.	Third Sunday after Easter
"	12.	Friday—Fast
"	14.	Fourth Sunday after Easter
"	19.	Friday
"	21.	Rogation Sunday
"	22.	Rogation Monday
"	23.	Rogation Tuesday
"	24.	Rogation Wednesday
"	25.	Ascention Day
"	26.	Friday Fast
"	28.	Expectation Sunday

Record for April

Baptism.—Eleanor Elizabeth Norris

Confirmation (In the Church of the Transfiguration)
James Francis Fritz

Communicants Added new
Albert Edward Zahn
Joseph Thomas Corneline
Henry James Russell
John Willard Russell
William Francis Amies
Walter Harleigh Blundel
William Howard Frees
Carl Tharalsen
Frank Cody Austin
William Lloyd Blundell
William Weldon Austin
Robert George Watson
Henry Paul Busch
Miss Mary McDermott
Helen Mary Smith
Katharyn Olin Schlessing
Annie Marie Harrington
Emma Elizabeth Fritz
William James Hartington
James Francis Fritz
William Howard Dashield 21

From the Church of the Missiah:
Mrs. Grace Hall Cobb
Mrs. Jane Gallagher
Wm. F. Whitehurst
Mrs. Mary Whitehurst
Wm. F. Horsecroft 5

Died
Marion Graham 1

Communicant of the Sick 3

Burials
Marion Graham
Mrs. Iola Hannah Perks 2

Offerings

For Current Expenses (including Easter offering) -	$833.43
" the Poor - - - - - - - - - -	44.79
" Foreign Missions, Sunday School Mite Boxes -	57.28
" General Missions - - - - - - - -	1.40
" Diocesan " - - - - - - - -	16.21
" Episcopal and Convention Fund - - - - -	19.00
" Bishop Whitaker memorial - - - - -	69.50
" Prayer Booh Society - - - - - -	8.00
" Periodical " - - - - - - - - -	2.00
" Benevolent Purposes - - - - - -	.79
" Ladies Aid expenses - - - - - -	16.00
" United offering - - - - - - - -	34.00
" expense of Men's Club for year - - - -	100.13
" Missions by Women's Auxiliary for year - -	91.25
At Rectors discretion - - - - - - - -	5.00
Of the Snnday School - - - - - - - -	9.32
Total	$1345.25

and are becoming rapidly Americanised. And as they become such, their native Churches will no longer be able to minister to them nor attract them, and they will actually drift, as the Irish and the Germans have before them, into the Episcopal Church. Moreover one wave of population succeeds another. A district which has been filled with colored people may in a few years be occupied by the white.

But how can the Church be maintained under such circumstances? We answer by endownments. Just as in the old Country, Churches are universally supported by endowments in some form or other, so have if our Churches are to be permanent institutions they must be endowed. And they must be endowed sufficiently to carry on an institutional work. There should be in each Church not only a staff of clergy but of lay workers as well, especially of religious women whose whole lives can be devoted to going into the homes of the inhabitants and being mothers and sisters to those who really need friendly ministrations.

And parish buildings should be erected and furnished with every appliance, open every day and evening in the week to be literal homes to those who have no home, worthy of the name, of their own and so are apt to drift into the haunts of vice.

Do not let us lose the vantage ground we possess in any Church we have in the centre of the city, but let us see that it is properly and sufficiently equipped to do the hardest work that perhaps any Church is called upou to do.

Parish Notes

Easter was a bright day in the Parish. Though we did not have the crowd at at the Mid-day Service, necessitating chairs down the aisles, as we used to have before the fashionable exodus to Atlantic City, to spend this great day on the Boardwalk, we had what is better, a large attendance at the early services. Over three hundred in all making their Communions.

The Church looked beautiful and the music was good.

The Offerings amounted to some $600. This, though equal to the average of other years, is only half of the amount needed to meet our current expenses up May 1st, which means that we add to the deficit we had last year, another deficit for this year, about $1000 in all. This will have to be met in some way. And at the meeting of the Vestry, held after Easter, it seemed to be the general opinion that the only way to do so was by having a Bazaar or Entertainment of some kind in the Autumn.

We trust therefore our ladies will keep this in view and think over during the Summer what would be the best thing to do and make what preparations they can. It is some years since we have had to do anything of the kind, but the time seems to have come round again when it is a necessity.

Gifts to the Church. Two more statues have been placed on the Reredos of St. Saviour's Atar, one is the figure of S. Lawrence who is represented in ancient Deaconal Vestments with the girdiron in his hand by which he suffered martyrdom. The other is St. Catharine who wears a crown and carries in one hand a sword, and in the other the wheel on which she was broken. S. Agnes Guild presented the Church with two large handsome Prayer Books for the Priests desks, which were very much needed, the old ones have been in daily use since 1893 and were very ragged

A friend of the Parish presented a very useful oak tray with brass handles to carry in and out of the Church the various vessels which stand on the Credence.

On the evening af Easter day, the Rector presented on behalf of the Choirmaster a silver medal to the boy who had proved the most efficient in singing during the past year—Master Alexander Boggs, and also on behalf of one of the Vestrymen, Mr. Walter M. Newman; a similar medal to the boy who had been best behaved and reverent in Church—Master Edward Irwin.

Acknowledgment. The Rector takes this method of acknowledging an "Easter Offering" of $25, which he received anonymously by mail "from one who was not present on Easter day."

Ascension Day comes very late this year, on the 25th of this month, but we trust, as it is our Special Parish Festival it will be observed as such by all attending the Church. The services will be the same as on Sunday, at 7 and 10.30 A. M.

There being a Special Choral Service in the evening at 8 o'clock, when the Rector will preach the Anniversary Sermon which all interested in the Parish should hear.

On the following Sunday evening will be the Annual Guild Service, when all the members of the Guilds will enter the Church in procession and have a Special Sermon preached to them.

And on the following Monday will be the Annual Parish Tea to which all the adults of the Parish are invited, tickets 25 cents. We trust there will be a large turn out.

The Assension-day offerings will be as usual for this endowment fund. This is to keep before the congregation, the need to increase this fund to an amount to enable the Church to meet its annual expenses and protect it from the danger of vicisitudes in the future.

Special Sermons. The Rector will continue ths course of sermons on Sunday evening on "What the Episcopal Church Stands For," on May 7, "Order," May 14, "Beauty," May 21, "Devotion."

Periodical Club

Are there any persons in the Parish who would join the Church Periodical Club by sending a magazine regularly to someone? Miss S. E. Gilpin, 904 Clinton Street, Librarian for this Parish, will be very glad to hear from anyone and will give addresses to all who will help in this good work, which gives reading matter to those who are not able to subscribe to any paper, and who live in isolated places and have no Library advantages.

Sunday School Easter Service

On Easter Day in the afternoon the School had its Service. The children sang their Carols, addresses were made, the contents of the Lenten Mite Boxes were presented, a pot of flowers was given to everyone present, the attendance was quite equal to, if not larger than last year, prizes were awarded by Mr. Botwright to those who had earned them, everything passed off well and all seemed happy.

Sunday School Party

A Party was provided for the school on Monday, April 24. In the neighborhood of a hundred and fifty children and teachers were present and nothing occurred to mear the enjoyment of all.

Games, dancing, brief addresses and refreshments filled the time.

Two gifts were made to Mr. Botwright as expressive of the appreciation and affection of the school for him, one of them being particulary from the class of Mrs. John M. McGinnis.

We welcomed most heartily several young ladies who have recently connected themselves with the school and who proved themselves very successful and efficient in helping to amuse and care for the young folks.

Sunday School Mite Boxes

On Easter Day the scholars returned a little over fifty dollars in their Boxes and still the receipts continue. It looks as if we might have something like sixty dollars to send to Dr. Clapp in the Phillipine Island as our contribution towards his work. This is the largest collection for several years; at Easter 1908, the amount sent being $24.14, in 1909, $28.98 in 1910, $47.11.

Entertainment by S. S. Class

On Monday, April 17, Mrs. McGinnis' class assisted by the older girls of the school, gave an excellent show, "The Nigger Night School" and "Aunt Jennimas Quilting Party." The audience filled the room and greatly appreciated it. Much credit is due to Mr. and Mrs. McGinnis and others who assisted them. Mr. George Morgan added to the pleasure of the evening by his musical selections on the piano.

Men's Club

This club had its last meeting for this season—Thursday night April 27, about seventy men attended and a pleasing feature was the number of new young men.

The entertainment was unusally good, thanks to Mr. Barton Huntington and some of his friends, who gave a one act play, also Messrs. Myers, Messerschmidt, Alstetter, McNeill and Fairchild, Master Clark, son of one of our old choir boys, did some fine singing and dancing.

Refreshments and college songs wound up a most successful winter for the club.

To Subscribers

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated The following were received since March :

Mrs. Rhein	Miss Monges
" Bradley	" Lavinia Smith
" Counelly (2)	" Hare
" Borie (2)	" Massey
" Newbold	" Warts
" Mason	Misses Macartney

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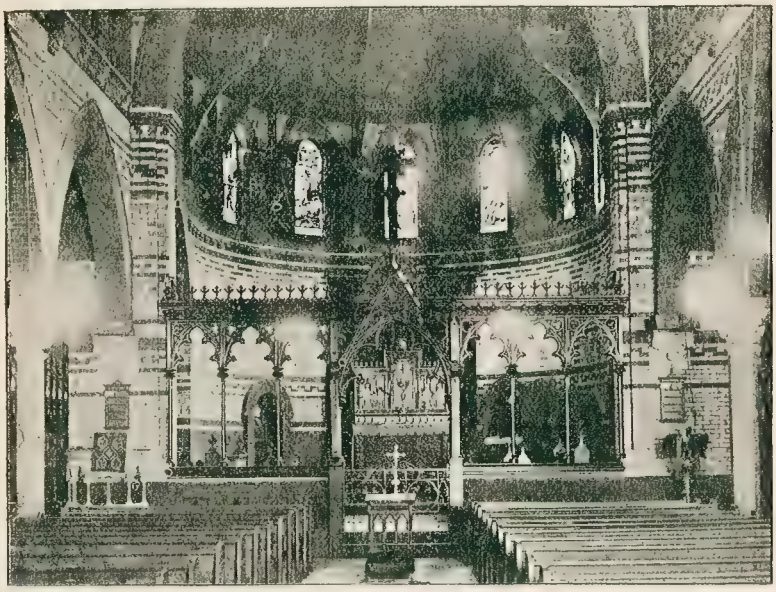
Vol. XXIV Philadelphia. June, 1911 No. 6



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Holy Days.....7.00 and 10.30 A.M.
Daily except Thursdays....7 00 A.M.
Thursdays.....9.00 A M.

Morning Prayer

Sundays (with Sermon).. ...10.30 A.M.
Daily .....10.00 A.M.

Evensong

Sundays (with Sermon).....7.45 P.M.
Daily .....5.00 P.M.
Wednesdays (with Address)..8.00 P.M

Children's Service

Sundays.....3.30 P.M.

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The Church is always open for private prayer, and the Clergy can be seen after any service

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Assistant Superintendent	Mr. F. C. Botwright
Librarian and Organist	Mrs. S. A. Harris

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For Young Men and St. John's Guild Miss M. J. Gilpin	2.45 P. M.
For the Junior Brotherhood Miss Hodge	2.45 P. M.
For Young Ladies Miss Stretch	2.45 P. M.

The Parish Year

The Rector as usual on the evening of Ascension day, preached his Anniversary Sermon, of which we here give an extract for the benefit of those who were not present. He began by saying that it was the thirty-first occassion on which he had been permitted to keep this Festival in this Parish, a period of unbroken service and of unbroken progress. If the Parish has not attained the proportions we had hoped it would, at least it has never gone back, but an even level of success has been maintained. He is thankful for the continuance of his own health and strength and that he has still the assistance of the same Curate, Vestrymen, Choir Master, Verger and workers generally that he has had for some years, with several additions.

In comparing the statistics with last year it appears that there were 13 more baptisms, 10 more confirmed and 10 more new names added to the communicant list, though there were 30 more taken off owing to deaths and removals. Those who died during the year were Mr. William Moore Wharton, for some years a Vestryman and the Accounting Warden; Mrs. Elmira Mintzer, Miss Isabella Gibson, Mrs. Mary Ann Hall, Dr. Joseph W. Crowley, Mrs. Annie McClay, Mrs. Annie Spottiswood Allen, Edward McCann, who had been a Sunday School boy, Choir boy and member of St. John's Guild, Mrs. Fanny Brooks Eayre, Mrs. Clara Louise Conger, Franklin Garnet Marer, and Miss Marian Graham, a member of St. Mary's Guild. May they rest in peace and may light perpetual shine upon them.

There were four more marriages and the same number of burials as last year.

The attendance at the Church Services has been larger owing to the accession

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EDITORS

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TREASURER

MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

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Kalendar

JUNE	2.	Friday—Fast
"	4.	Whitsun-day
"	5.	Monday in Whitsun-tide
"	6.	Tuesday in Whitsun-tide
"	7.	Ember Day—Fast
"	9.	Ember Day—Fast
"	10.	Ember Day—Fast
"	11.	Trinity Sunday
"	16.	Friday—Fast
"	18.	First Sunday after Trinity
"	24.	Nativity of St. John Baptist
"	25.	Second Sunday after Trinity
"	29.	St. Peter, Apostle
"	30.	Friday—Fast

Record for May

Baptisms.—Louisa Bayard Phillips
George William Smith 2

Communicants received from the Church of the Saviour
May Saylor Stretch
Marian Monachesi Stretch
From the Church of the Messiah
May Ella Cannon
Jennie Cannon
Catharine Marie Cannon
Martha Jane Airey
Anna Rebecca Airey
Mary Jane Airey
Rose Annie Airey
Francis Airey
Margaret Emily Kent
From the Church of the Nativity
Martha Jane Airey 12

Offerings

For Current Expenses	$327.25
" the Endowment Fund	77.40
" the Poor	39.18
" the Sunday and Industrial Schools	1.50
" General Missions	1.00
" Diocesan "	6.10
" Bishop Whitaker Memorial	3.00
" Episcopal and Convention Fund	1.75
" Benevolent Purposes	.38
Of the Sunday School	6.59
Total	$464.15

of some of the former members of the Churches of the Evangelist and Messiah, which have been closed, and the boys of St. Martin's College. The Sunday School and the Young Peoples' Guilds have also been well kept up, The Girls' Friendly Society and the Men's Club being particularly well attended. The Mothers' Meeting was made especially attractive by a Supper being provided for the members each Wednesday evening.

The ladies of the Embroidery Class have completed the entire set of Altar Cloths for St. Saviour's Altar and the Missionary Chapter of the Women's Guild sent off a large missionary box to the West, and the Ladies' Aid one to the Maternity Hospital in this city.

The financial statistics show that the total receipts are some $800 more than last year. This being about the amount expended for improvements, make the other receipts about the same. Those for the poor and the schools and Diocesan Missions were larger, the latter including $73.50 for the Bishop Whitaker Memorial.

The improvements consisted of the embelishing of St. Saviour's altar with six beautifully-carved Statues, the putting in the chancel a stained-glass window in memory of Mr. William Platt Pepper, the overhauling of the organ and sodding and fencing the ground south of the Church.

The review of the year is distinctly encouraging in spite of the continued degenerating of the district south of the Church and numerous removals to the country.

Our most serious trouble is a deficit of about $1000 in our current expense account, the result of deficits last year and this year.

The fact is we are conducting the Church on too expensive a footing, more than our regular income justifies. But we have been going on so long on this basis, that it would seem a pity to cut things down for the sake of a few hundred dollars a year. Cannot our people combine to make up that amount? In the meantime something must be done in the Autumn to wipe out our indebtedness.

Parish Notes

Gifts. A framed Card setting forth the obligation of observing Ascension Day to be hung in the Church Vestibule. Also a hand-made notice of the Parish Tea.

Ascension Day was observed as usual as our special Parish Festival. The attendance is never what it ought to be, and as it occurred so late this year it was less than usual. We had, however, a meeting of a good number of the ladies after the Mid-day service on Ascension to arrange for the Parish Tea and talk over what could be done to meet our indebtedness. Some plans were suggested which we trust can be successfully carried out. The attendance at the Parish Tea, as always, was very good and there was a very bountiful supply of Ice Cream, Strawberries, Cake and Coffee. An amusing play was given by some of the young people under the direction of Mrs. McGinnes.

Supper was given on the evening of May 4th, by the Superintendent of the Sunday School, to which he invited the Choir, members of the Vestry, the Teachers of the Sunday School and some others. Nearly forty sat down to a very sumptuous and delicious repast.

An Entertainment will be given in the Parish Building on the evening of June 20th for the work of the Girls' Friendly Society. It will consist of two plays. The actors will be chiefly some former members of the Church of the Messiah, whom we are glad to welcome here.

The Girls' Friendly has had a very successful Winter, eight new members were received into it on the evening of the Sunday after the Ascension.

Special Preacher. The Rev. Curate will be the preacher at the Sunday evening services, beginning with this month and continuing until September.

Sunday School Prizes

On Trinity Sunday, June 11th, at 3.30 P. M. the Prizes for the year will be given. 36 First Prizes will be given to those who have not missed more than one session during the year and 12 Second Prizes to those who have not missed more than three times.

There are Prizes for those who recited the entire contents of a Book of Instructions and also one for the scholar who has attended most regularly the Celebrations of the Holy Communion.

A personal gift of an umbrella will be made to Mr. Botwright by the Teachers and Scholars of the School.

Sunday School Excursion

Burlington Island Park has been engaged for the School for Saturday, June 17th, for their Annual Excursion.

The scholars and teachers will meet for a Choral Celebration of Holy Communion at 6.30 A. M., Mrs. Harris kindly playing the organ for us.

At the close of the Celebration, tickets will be distributed and we will board

our steamer, looking forward to a happy day.

Any friends of the School are invited to join. The tickets will be free for the School, to others the cost will be 50 cents for adults and 25 cents for children. Sports with prizes will be held in the afternoon.

Acknowledgement of Box

THE MATERNITY HOSPITAL:—
734 S. 10th Street
Phila., Pa., May 2, 1911

My Dear Miss Carmen:—

I wish to thank you very much for the very nice box of Infants' Clothes which I received from the Ladies' Aid of the Church of the Ascension—everything was so nice and useful.

Thanking you for the articles, I am

Very sincerely yours,
MARY D. ROCHE, Supt.

Report

The following is the report of the Parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop:

Baptisms.—Adults, 9; infants, 23; total, 32.

Confirmed.—Males, 19; females, 6: total, 25.

Communicants added.—New, 21; by transfer, 13; total, 44; died, 12; removed by revision of list, 14; by transfer, 28; total, 54; present number, 504.

Marriages.—9.

Burials.—18.

Public Services.—Sunday, 246; on the other days, 970; total, 1216.

Celebrations of Holy Communion.—436.

Children Catechised.—Times, 246.

Sunday School.—Officers and teachers, 20; scholars, 123.

Other Parish Agencies.—Officers and workers, 75; members, 150; Industrial School Teachers, 10; scholars, 32; Mothers' Meeting, members, 25.

Money Receipts.—Offerings for all Parish purposes, $5,988.16; offerings for purposes outside the Parish, $299.00; investments, $598.03; other sources, entertainments, etc., $69.25; Sunday School, $124.03; Women's Auxiliary, $259 40; Endowment Fund, $234.18; total, $7552.05.

Expenditures.—Parochial current expenses (including salaries of clergy, music, fuel and lighting, care of church building and grounds and ordinary repair of same), $5033.67; support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools, $246.05; for the Poor, $388.72; added to Endowment Fund, $234.18; miscellaneous, $786.63; total, $7453.95.

Diocesan.—Episcopal and Convention Fund, $152.73; Diocesan Missions, $100; Episcopal Hospital, $22.22; Sustentation Fund, $33.50; total, $423 74; Bishop Whitaker Memorial, $73.50; Bishop's Fund, $6.49.

General Missions.—Sunday School, $49.28; General, $14.00; Foreign, $20.80; Domestic, $64.55, Indian, $19.05; Colored people, $16.70; Prayer Book and Tract Societies, $14.00; United Offering, $34.00; total $232.28. Total for all objects, $8109.37.

Financial Condition.—Aggregate value of property of the Parish, real and personal, $82,000; incumbrances: mortgage on the Church edifice, Parish building and ground, none! other indebtedness, $1100; Endowment Fund, $13,500.

To Subscribers

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the News is due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since the last issue.

Miss Chamberlain, Miss Carpenter, Miss Haynes, Miss Roussean, Mr. Samuel Milliken, Miss Jennings, Miss Hofmann.

Was It You?

There was somebody who said an unkind word which hurt somebody else. *Was It You?*

There was somebody who was thoughtless and selfish in his manner and mode of living. *Was It You?*

There was somebody who harshly criticised the actions of somebody else. *Was It You?*

There was somebody who found fault with her friend. *Was It You?*

There was somebody who borrowed a book and kept it for months. *Was It You?*

There was somebody who never stopped to think who was hurt by a sarcastic word. *Was It You?*

There was somebody, who, day in and day out, never did anything to make any body else happy. *Was It You?*

—James Freeman Clark

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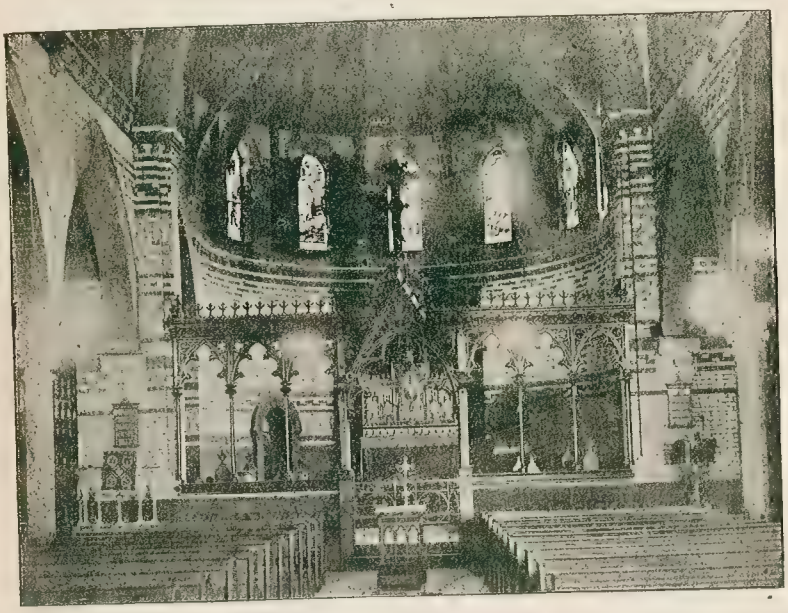
The Ascension News

Vol. XXIV Philadelphia. October, 1911 No. 7



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Services

Holy Communion

Every Sunday.....7.30 and 11.30 A.M.
Holy Days.....7.00 and 10.30 A.M.
Daily except Thursdays....7 00 A.M.
Thursdays.....9.00 A M.

Morning Prayer

Sundays (with Sermon).. ...10.30 A.M.
Daily .....10.00 A.M.

Evensong

Sundays (with Sermon) .....7.45 P.M.
Daily .....5.00 P.M.
Wednesdays (with Address)..8.00 P.M

Children's Service

Sundays.....3.30 P.M.

All the Seats are Free at all Services **God's House is open to all its Children**

The Church is always open for private prayer, and the Clergy can be seen after any service

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2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

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Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P. M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.45 P. M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.

Superintendent	The Curate
Assistant Superintendent	Mr. F. C. Botwright
Librarian and Organist	Mrs. S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Men and St. John's Guild, Miss M. J. Gilpin	2.45 P. M
For the Junior Brotherhood, Miss Hodge	2.45 P. M.
For Young Ladies, Miss Stretch	2.45 P. M.

The Sacraments

The Sacraments constitute a very large and important part of the Christian system. But they are not as well understood, appreciated and used as they should be.

The Church Catechism teaches that a Sacrament is "an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace given unto us; ordained by Christ Himself, as a means whereby we receive the same and a pledge to assure us thereof."

There are therefore two parts in a Sacrament; the material part, that which is "outward and visible," as water in Baptism, laying on of hands in Confirmation or Ordination, Bread and Wine in the Holy Communion, etc.; and an "inward and spiritual grace." These two distinct parts correspond, and are related, to man's nature which is both material and spiritual. And just as in man we do not know how the spirit is related to or uses the body, so we do not know how in a Sacrament the outward and visible part is related to the inward and spiritual grace. We can see to a certain extent how the outward is valuable as a sign, how it appeals to the physical senses, as an object lesson, one of the most powerful ways in which human beings can be influenced. But the Church teaches, and it is a matter of experience, that beyond that, the Spirit of God, whose agency is always involved in the celebration of a Sacrament, uses the material part, as the spirit of man uses his body, so that it becomes the agent or vehicle through which the grace and help of God is conveyed to the devout recipient. They are therefore "means of grace" as the Catechism says.

This is what many fail to appreciate. They look upon them only as signs,

The Ascension News

A Monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
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Kalendar

OCTOBER	1	Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity
"	6	Friday—Fast
"	8	Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity
"	13	Friday—Fast
"	15	Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity
"	18	St. Luke, Evangelist
"	20	Friday—Fast
"	22	Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity
"	27	Friday—Fast
"	28	S. S. Simon and Jude
"	29	Twentieth Sunday after Trinity

Record for June, July, August and September

Baptisms.—Infants—Elizabeth Deacon Hill		
John Malcolm Hill		
Adults—Mary Harrison Stewart		
Eugene Leonard Johnston		2
Marriages—George Harrison Wave and Annie Ellen Rementer		
Elwood James Cain and Helen Joyce Schott		
Johnson Bradley and Elizabeth Waters		3
Communicant added by transfer from the Chapel of the Holy Comforter		
Mrs. Mary Davis Miller		1
Communicants died		
Mrs. Lulu Irene Hemphill		
Benjamin Franklin Holbrook		
Mamie Boggs		
John Gibson McCall		4
Communion of the sick		3
Unction of the sick		1
Burials—Mrs. Lulu Irene Hemphill		
George Watson Fitzgerald		
Mamie Boggs		
Leighton Coleman Ritchie		
Benjamin Franklin Holbrook		
Mrs. Mabel Agnes Moitz		
John Gibson McCall		7

Offerings

For Current Expenses	$558.48
" General Missions	500.00
" the Poor	36.13
" " Schools	7.45
" " Endowment Fund	4.25
" Benevolent Purposes	1.38
Of the Sunday School	1.87
Total	$1,109.56

declarations or representations of goodness and virtue, a man has already acquired without them. But rightly understood and that which makes them so valuable and their use so necessary, is that they are the means by which we obtain God's help to do what we cannot do in our own strength.

Of course they are not mere mechanical means, and magic working instrumentalities, by which a man is made good by the simple reception of them irrespective of his spiritual intention. They are like seeds which have the mysterious principle of life within them, but that life is only developed if it falls into proper ground and under favorable conditions. There is always grace in the Sacraments, but they must be received with the right disposition in order to produce their effects. Hence there must always be a due preparation of heart and life for the proper and beneficial reception of a Sacrament. This explains what is pointed out as a reason why they are not efficacious, that many receive them who are manifestly no better than those who do not. But the fault is not in the Sacrament. There was grace in it which would have produced spiritual results, had it not been received carelessly or hypocritically.

Those who "faithfully and devoutly" receive them, find them most helpful, most "divine and comfortable."

For a valid Sacrament there must be always the proper matter, form and minister, those which Christ has Himself ordained, nothing else could be substituted. And there must always be the intention of doing what Christ intended. They would have no effect if celebrated in jest or mockery.

As to their number, it was a long time before the exact number of seven was settled upon in the Catholic Church, but that finally came to be agreed upon in both in the East and West. But in the Anglican Communion a distinction is made between the two great Sacraments of "Baptism and the Supper of the Lord" which are "generally necessary to salvation," and the others "commonly called Sacraments," Confirmation, Penance, Orders, Matrimony and Unction, all of which have the same nature of Sacraments, but are of less importance, or not binding upon all, as are the two greater ones.

As these all however have this Sacramental character, they ought to be understood and used by those who have the opportunity, or call, to use them. So we propose each month this winter to speak of one of them in turn showing what is its value and purpose, that our people may learn to appreciate and use them as they should.

Parrish Notes

Summer Services. As usual during July and August, the Rector was away on his holiday; the services being maintained during his absence by the Rev. Curate, who (as in former summers) was successful in accomplishing the hard task of securing good congregations on Sunday nights These services were followed by After Meetings in the Parish building at which there was frequently as many as eighty persons present, a *majority* of whom sometimes were *men*. At these meetings questions were asked and answered and a great deal of instruction was thus conveyed.

During September the Rector preached a course of four sermons on "The Mistakes of Protestantism," showing the extremes to which the Reformation had been carried in some places, and how advisable it was that those mistakes should be rectified.

An Entertainment was given in the Parish Building on the evening of June 20th for the benefit of the Girls' Friendly and the Choir Outing Fund. It consisted of two plays. Those taking part were Messrs. Albert Challman, John F. Whittich, Dr. J. Warren Manning, Jr., J. Edward Wallace, S. Kirder Kent, Frank Horscroff, Paul Watson, Henry Lippincott and Charles Zahn and the Misses Mary Moore, Gertrude Monahan, Irene and Greta Kent, Ida and Amelia Klofach, Lucie Hays, Frances Whitehouse, Elizabeth Searle, Elizabeth Brady, Anna Carpenter, Ethel Wiley, Martha and Anna Airey, May Chambers, Anna Anderson and Ida Trice. Mrs. Harris and Mr. George Morgan acted as Pianists.

A large audience was present and about $35 was cleared over the expenses.

Sunday School Picnic. The annual excursion of the Sunday School was held at Burlington Island Park, Saturday, June 17th.

The day was started by the attendance of the members of the school at a Choral Celebration of the Blessed Sacrament at which Mrs. Harris had charge of the music.

The Rev. Curate and the Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Botwright, did everything in their power to make everybody have a good time, and tickets were distributed to the children for rides on the merry-go-round and other amusements.

There were present, as guests of the school, the boys of the choir and when the boat reached Philadelphia on the return trip everybody felt that the picnic was

one of the best the school has had.

Death of a Vestryman. Mr. John Gibson McCall who had been a Vestryman of this Parish since 1900, died at his country home at Wawa, Pa., Sept. 21st. He had been in declining health for some years. Last year he was obliged to be away from the city all winter and the year before he was so feeble that he was seldom able to get to Church. Our deepest sympathy is extended to his widow in her great loss. His funeral took place at St. Mary's Church, West Philadelphia, as he had been Confirmed and married in that Church and it was adjacent to his brother-in-law's house from which he was buried. May he rest in peace.

Other deaths. No less than seven deaths have occured among our members during the last three months. Among them was that of Mr. Benjamin F. Holbrook, who has long been a very regular attendant of the Church service and whose venerable figure we shall much miss. He was in his eighty-third year.

St. Martin's College Boys are again attending the Church. A place was rented for them in the country for two months during the summer, which they enjoyed very much; but they are back again in the city and will continue to attend service here until the affairs of the College and the Church of the Evangelists are finally straightened out and a permanent head of the College is selected.

Winter Services. Beginning with this month the full complement of services for the winter is resumed, as well as the sessions of the Sunday School.

Annual Meeting of the Women's Guild. As the day selected for the Consecration of the new Bishop Coadjutor and Bishop Suffragan is that of S. S. Simon and Jude the anniversary day of the Guild, it will have to be postponed to the following Monday, October 30th, immediately after Morning Prayers. And we hope that every female Communicant of the Parish who can possibly do so will be present, not only to arrange the work for the ensuing season, but also to consult as to what can be done to meet the deficit in our current expenses. A meeting for this purpose was held in May at which some twenty-five ladies were present, but nothing definite was decided on. So something else must now be done.

Obligatory Offerings

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL

An obligation rests upon every member of the Church to contribute to the needs and objects of the Church. This obligation is twofold: (*a*) To pay a share of the cost of what he receives. This is a matter of common honesty. A man who uses and enjoys in any parish the fabric, furniture, warming, lighting, cleaning of the church, and the services of the clergy, without paying his share, obtains these advantages, so far as their cost is not covered by endowments, at the expense of other people. (*b*) To give, that others may receive. The extension of Christ's kingdom at home and abroad and works of mercy, are illustrations of the activities under this head which are essential to any living Church. A man who fails to take his share in such works forgets that he is a member of the Divine Society, to the obligations of which he is pledged by his Baptism.

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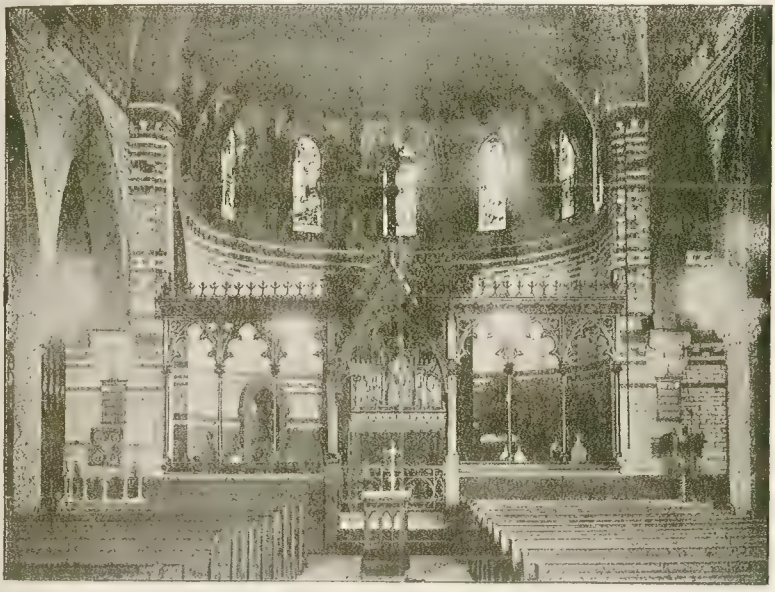
VOL. XXIV PHILADELPHIA. NOVEMBER, 1911 No. 8



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HOLY DAYS.....7.00 and 10.30 A.M.
DAILY EXCEPT THURSDAYS....7 00 A.M.
THURSDAYS.....9.00 A.M.

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DAILY .....10.00 A.M.

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2022 St. Albans Street

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Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society 8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild ..... 8.00 P. M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild ..... 7.45 P. M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid ..... 3.00 P. M.
Wednesdays, Mother's Meeting .. 8.00 P. M.
Thursday, Embroidery Class .....10.30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society ..10.30 A. M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P. M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.
Superintendent ..... The Curate
Assistant Superintendent Mr. F. C. Botwright
Librarian and .....
Organist ..... Mrs. S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Men and St. John's Guild 2.45 P.M.
Miss M. J. Gilpin
For the Junior Brotherhood ..... 2.45 P.M.
Miss Hodge
For Young Ladies ..... 2.45 P.M.
Miss Stretch

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturday .....10.00 A.M.

BAPTISM.

Baptism is the initial Sacrament. It is the mode ordained by Christ for initiation into that corporate body which He formed to carry on His work in the world. A man is not a Christian until he is baptized, any more than a foreigner could be a citizen of the United States until he is naturalized. A man might live in this country and say that in heart he was a citizen but that would not make him one or entitle him to its privileges until he took out his naturalization papers. So a man may say that he believes in the Christian religion, but he is not a member of the Church nor entitled to its privileges until he is baptized.

Christ chose this method of admission into His Church doubtless because it was a very simple one and which could be administered everywhere, for man can only live where there is water, and because it was a rite familiar to those of His day, being used by the Jews in the admission of proselytes, and even by heathen nations for the same purpose. It seems ever to have been an instinctive idea that for one to approach, or be united in any sense, to God he must be washed, made clean and outward washing signifies the necessary spiritual cleansing.

So that necessity of clealiness is the first thing it teaches. And then from the primitive mode of its administration of dipping the whole body under the water, a new birth is represented, a death and burial unto sin, and a rising again to live a righteous life. As St. Paul

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS

THE CLERGY

TREASURER

MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS:

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Kalendar

November	1	All Saints
"	2	All Souls
"	3	Friday, Fast
"	5	Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity
"	10	Friday, Fast
"	12	Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity
"	17	Friday, Fast
"	19	Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity
"	24	Friday, Fast
"	26	Sunday next before Advent
"	30	St. Andrew, Apostle, Thanksgiving

RECORD FOR OCTOBER

Baptisms		
	George Ballentine Fraser Walter Winpenny Brooks George McCann	3
Communicant Died		
	George Wharton	1
Communion of the Sick		1
Burial		
	Mrs Julia Hunt	1

OFFERINGS

For Current expenses	$263.89
" the Endowment Fund	5.00
" " Poor	10.35
" " Sunday and Industrial Schools	3.35
" Benevolent purpose	.51
Of the Sunday School	6.57
Total	$289.61

says, "we who are baptized die to sin and rise again to righteousness."

It is most impressive and important therefore as the sign and pledge—on God's part—of these things.

But it is more than that, it is the instrument by which this change is effective. Just as the signing of a deed transfers property, or secures the pardon of a prisoner or the adoption of a child, those legal rights being thus obtained, so, as the Catechism says, "in baptism we are made members of Christ, children of God, and inheritors of the kingdom of Heaven."

It is therefore a very real and essential transaction. It brings the recipient into a new relation to God. It is God's official declaration of pardon of sin. In the case of a child it is the condoning of the fact that it has a sinful nature, and in that of an adult the remission of any actual transgressions he may have committed,—provided it is accompanied with repentence and faith. So baptism imparts a new nature. As we are told of those whose baptism is recorded in the Scriptures that the Holy Spirit descended upon them, so we must believe that at every baptism—unless a bar is deliberately erected in the heart against its influence,—the same Holy Spirit must come, spreading abroad its heavenly regenerating influences.

So it fixes a character upon the recipient. It can never be repeated. A person once baptized is always a Christian with all the duties and responsibilities, as well as the privileges of a Christian, just as a naturalized citizen of a country is always a citizen. He may be a very disloyal one, but he is still a citizen. So a Christian may be a very indifferent or bad Christian, but he is still a Christian,

and must be judged as such though the benefits he receives in baptism will be in proportion to the way in which he improves the blessings it bestows. It should be a continual reminder to us of "our profession which is to follow our Saviour, Christ, and to be made like unto Him."

The essentials in Baptism are water, in which the person may be either dipped or it may be poured upon some portion of the body, with the use of the words "in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost." Baptism should be administered by one in Holy Order to secure its being properly done and duly registered, but in case of necessity a lay man or woman may administer it, so great is its importance, "where it may be had."

✠

PARISH NOTES.

The Annual Meeting of the Women's Guild was held October 30th. After reading the reports of the different branches of work for the past year, and a statement by the Rector of the special needs for the coming winter, a general discussion took place as to the best method of assisting the Vestry of the parish in raising the amount needed to meet the deficit in our Current expenses. After considering various means of obtaining money through a fair or entertainment of some sort, it was unanimously resolved that it would be far better to try and raise the sum needed by subscription, and that for this purpose a meeting of the whole congregation should be called, and the necessity for meeting our obligations put forcibly before them. And it was thought that the best time to do this would be on a Sunday morning after the morning service, which might be shortened on this occasion to give time for that purpose. These recommendations the Rector was requested to convey to the Vestry.

The Rector heartily approved of this action, as he does not consider that fairs and entertainments are the proper methods of supporting churches. Anyone who appreciates the value of the church to himself and to the community should be willing and glad to contribute to its support and thus avoid the necessity of resorting to these questionable and incongruous ways of raising money for religious purposes.

✠

CLERESTORY WINDOWS.

The Rector has received from the firm furnishing the stained glass for the church, designs for three more of the upper windows in the Nave. One of these has been already taken as a memorial of a member of the parish lately deceased. Are there not others who would like to put in the remaining two and thus complete the group of three? The subjects are the Apostles, St. Matthew, St. Thomas, and St. James the Less.

✠

MARRIAGE OF THE CHOIR MASTER.

Our Choir Master is receiving congratulations on his marriage which took place in Grace Church, Haddington, N. J., on October 18th. He and his wife will continue to reside in Haddington.

THE MEN'S CLUB.

The Men's Club will be resumed this month. Notice of it will be sent to those who have attended it before.

✠

ST. ANDREW'S BROTHERHOOD.

The Corporate Communion of the Brotherhood will take place on the morning of the first Sunday in Advent, December 3rd. We mention it now as the next issue of this paper will not be until the week after that date.

✠

GIFT.

Two Welsbach lights have been placed in the Church on the top of the first column near St. Saviour's Altar. They throw a much stronger light on the Altar, and are also useful for the daily offices which are said at there giving more light than the gas bracket and at less cost. They were put in by the St. Agnes Guild as their Easter offering.

✠

GIRLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

If there are any women who would like to help with the work amongst the girls of the Parish, will they not communicate with

Miss S. E. Gilpin,
904 Clinton St.,

the Secretary of the Girls' Friendly Society, who is very anxious to build up this splendid work and needs much help to carry it on as it should be done.

✠

RUMMAGE SALE.

A Rummage Sale will be held by the Girls' Friendly Society on Saturday evening, Nov. 18th, in the Parish House.

Will every member of the congregation see if there are not some things they would like to get rid of, and all contributions of cast-off clothing, and household and personal effects will be gratefully received.

✠

ST. AGNES' GUILD.

Their annual entertainment will take place this year on Monday, Nov. 27, at 8.00 P. M.

The proceeds of this affair is their only source of revenue each year, save their dues of one cent a week.

Out of their little fund they not only pay all of their own expenses but also supply all of the small wafers used during the year at the Holy Communion, in addition to an Easter Gift to the Church. Last year this took the form of two new Prayer Books for the Clergy Stalls for the daily morning and evening prayer.

MASQUERADE PARTY.

On Monday, Oct. 30th, such a party was held and greatly enjoyed. All the participants were in masks and we never had such strikingly beautiful guests before. Two had faces both before and behind, so it was difficult to tell whether your friend had her face or back to you as you talked with her.

About thirty-five were present. Dancing, refreshments and games filled the evening.

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the News is now due and a renewal will be greatly appreciated.

The following were received since September:

Mrs. Darlington (2), Mrs. Pfandener (2).

✠

MISSIONARY MEETING.

The Annual Missionary Service of the Pennsylvania Branch of the Woman's Auxiliary will be held in the Church of the Holy Trinity, Walnut and 19th Streets, on Friday, Nov. 10, from 10 A. M. until 4.30 P. M.

The speakers will be the Rt. Rev. S. M. Griswold, D. D., the Rt. Rev. F. F. Johnson, D. D., the Rev. H. St. George Tucker of Tokyo, and the Rev. W. A. R. Goodwin. The Bishop of the Diocese will preside.

✠

A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING.

The above action of the ladies was approved at a subsequent meeting of the Vestry, and it was resolved that such a meeting be held. The Vestry also resolved to adopt what is known as "the Duplex Envelope System," by which it is believed the income of the Parish can be largely increased, thus preventing the Church from getting into debt in the future.

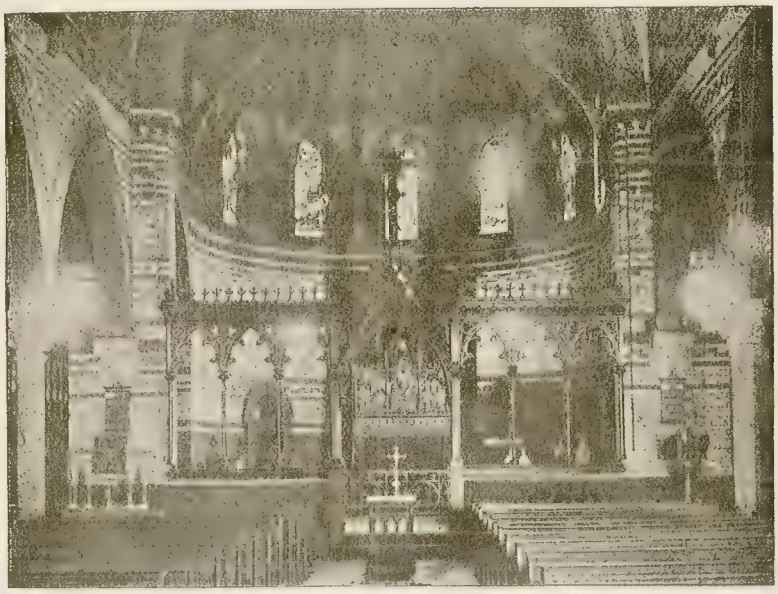
Arrangements have been made for this meeting on Sunday, Nov. 26th, immediately after the morning service, when an address will be made by Mr. George Wharton Pepper explaining the system.

Mr. Edward F. Pugh, one of our own Vestrymen, will then make a statement of our present financial needs. It is hoped that every member of the Parish will be present.

Should it be a rainy day, the meeting will be postponed to the following Sunday.

The Ascension News

Vol. XXIV PHILADELPHIA. DECEMBER, 1911 No. 9



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The Church of the Ascension

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'Phone, Spruce 63-62 A

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334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*
1030 Spruce Street.

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WM. J. MORGAN
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First Friday, Missionary Society ..10.30 A. M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P. M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.
Superintendent ..... The Curate
Assistant Superintendent Mr. F. C. Botwright
Librarian and .....
Organist ..... Mrs. S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For the Junior Brotherhood ..... 2.45 P.M.
Miss Hodge
For Young Ladies ..... 2.45 P.M.
Miss Stretch

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturday .....10.00 A.M.

CONFIRMATION.

Confirmation, though not reckoned in the Anglican Church as on the same level as Baptism and the Lord's Supper, because not as essential, and because possibly it was not ordained by Christ Himself, was certainly practised by the Apostles and has been used in the Universal church ever since. It has all the elements of a Sacrament, an outward and visible sign,—the laying on of hands, and an inward and spiritual grace, the preserving and strengthening influences of God's Holy Spirit which are specially promised in it. It is the compliment of Baptism. In Baptism we are enrolled in the Army of Christ, in Confirmation we are equipped for His service. It is the solemn invocation of the Spirit of God upon those who are consciously entering on the practice of the Christian life. And that grace is surely given, if the heart is open to receive it, as we read in the Scriptures that "the Holy Ghost came upon" those who had been baptized, upon whom the Apostles laid their hands. As seven distinct colors form the perfect light, so the Scriptures tell us there are seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. These are given in germ or at least to those who are Confirmed. They are thus strengthened to live Christian lives. That is the meaning of the word "Confirmation." It is not, as some have thought, for the purpose of confirming the vows of one's baptism. Children are "brought to the Bishop to be Confirmed by *him*. That is, the laying of his hands with the invocation of the Spirit of God will

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS

THE CLERGY

TREASURER

MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS:

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Kalendar

December 1—Friday, Fast
" 3—First Sunday in Advent
" 8—Friday, Fast
" 10—Second Sunday in Advent
" 15—Friday, Fast
" 17—Third Sunday in Advent
" 20—Ember Day, Fast
" 21—St. Thomas, Apostle
" 22—Ember Day, Fast
" 23—Ember Day, Fast
" 24—Fourth Sunday in Advent
" 25—Christmas Day.
" 26—St. Stephen Martyr
" 27—St. John Evangelist
" 28—The Holy Innocents
" 29—Friday, Fast
" 31—Sunday after Christmas

RECORD FOR NOVEMBER

Baptisms

Howard Jerome Frantz 1

Marriage

George Hardy Powell and Mary Elizabeth Bonsack

Communicants received by transfer from the Church of the Evangelists

Mrs. Margaret Mason Wylie
Mrs. Hannah Lavery Read
Clara Elizabeth Hullinger
From S. Luke's Church Kensington
Lavina Plackett

From St. Michael's Church, Baltimore

Mrs. Jane Easby Knubel

Transferred to St. George's Church, West Philadelphia

Mrs. Elizabeth Smithwick Rubincum 1

Died

Mrs. Maltilda Morgan 1

Unction of the sick 1

Communions of the sick 3

Burials

John Proctor
Mrs. Emma Sommerville
The Rev. William Bernard Gilpin

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$ 328.30
" the debt	1,821.00
" " Poor	34.37
" " Schools	.10
" " Endowment Fund	.25
" " Mother's Meeting	5.00
" " Episcopal Hospital	22.68
" General Missions	8.55
" Benevolent purposes	5.31
Of the Sunday School	5.31
Total	$2,228.05

confirm or strengthen them in their determination and endeavor to lead a Christian life. That he may be assured of their intention and sincerity, the Bishop asks the candidates before he Confirms them whether they renew and ratify the vows of their baptism and on their professing that they do, he proceeds to Confirm them.

So it is not simply a profession of one's faith, or a declaration that one is good or better than others, but it is like the other sacraments, "a means of grace," an instrumentality by which one can receive special grace and help from God to resist the temptations to sin and gain strength to lead a godly life. So everyone should be glad and anxious to receive it.

In the Anglican Communion the proper age for its administration is considered to be "when children have reached years of discretion and have learned what was promised for them in Baptism." That is the age when one consciously begins to act for one's self and is capable of understanding what his duties and privileges are. This will differ with different persons, some children are more precocious than others, so the church does not prescribe an exact time, but leaves the Priest presenting candidates to judge in each individual case of their fitness.

The Spiritual form in Confirmation was undoubtedly the laying on of hands as used in the Anglican church today. But in the Roman church anointing with oil has been added, and in the Greek church, the anointing is considered the essential thing. It is always administered by a Bishop or at least by a Priest acting as the delegate of a Bishop, as in the Eastern Church. As a Bishop only has the power of ordination of the clergy, so he alone has the power of Confirming, which is often called the ordination of the laity. Everyone who has been Confirmed is to a certain extent as St. Paul says, "a Priest unto God." He should look upon himself as solemnly consecrated and set apart to be God's servant, to do the works of God, to live a holy and devout life and "do all such good works as God has prepared for us to walk in."

It is a great responsibility for one to neglect to receive so great a gift as Confirmation, if he has the opportunity of doing so.

✠

WILLIAM BERNARD GILPIN.

It is with the deepest sorrow that every member of this congregation heard of the most unexpected death of the Rev. William Bernard Gilpin, formerly Curate of this parish. Not only have he and his family been long and prominently identified with this parish, but his official connection with it for three years endeared him to everyone in it. So attractive was his personality and so great was his zeal and ardor in his work that no one could come to know him without loving him. He never spared himself in his labor for others. The passion of his life was to be of service to God and to His church. And so manifestly pure and blameless was his life that all looked upon him as a veritable saint.

After leaving this parish he became Rector of Christ Church in Franklinville, in the northern part of the city, having charge also of St. Ambrose and another chapel, the extent of his work only adding to his interest in it.

Three years later he became one of the Curates in St. Agnes Chapel, the largest chapel of Trinity Church, New York City. Then three years after he was called to the Rectorship of Trinity Church, Hoboken, N. J., the principal parish in that large suburb of New York, which he held until his death. This occurred on Nov. 25th, at the home of his mother, in this city, after a trying and, at times, very suffering illness of six weeks, throughout the whole of which he displayed the utmost patience and resignation and wonderful hopefulness in regard to his condition until nearly the end.

His burial took place from the church on Nov. 29th. The Bishops of Newark and Pennsylvania, Dr. Manning, Rector of Trinity Church, New York, Mr. Page Rector of St. Luke's Church, Lebanon, Pa., and a number of other clergymen being present. The music was rendered by the organist and choir of his own parish who came on from Hoboken for the purpose.

While bowing in submission to this mysterious dispensation which has called away this valued, zealous worker, in the midst of his usefulness, we can yet give God thanks for his life and good example and pray that he may rest in peace and that light perpetual may shine upon him.

✠

PARISH NOTES.

Congregational Meeting. In accordance with arrangements announced in our last issue this meeting was held on Sunday, Nov. 26th. There was a very good attendance of our parishioners, though a number were not present whom we should have liked to have seen there. Mr. George Wharton Pepper presented, very forcibly, the purpose and advantages of the duplex envelope system which the Vestry has resolved to adopt beginning with February next, insisting on the duty and privilege of systematic proportionate giving on the part of every member of the congregation. Mr. Edward F. Pugh followed with a strong statement in regard to the present and future needs of the church. He stated

that the Vestry had been obliged to contract a debt of some $2,100 to meet our current expenses. This has to be paid, and asked for contributions from each member of the congregation according to his ability, for the purpose. He also stated the determination of the Vestry to cut down the expenses of the church in the future, as modest as they now are, unless the income of the parish is substantially increased, as it is hoped it will be by the introduction of the new envelope system. Cards containing a blank form of pledge of contributions towards the debt fund were given to those present as they left the church.

Responses to the appeal for our indebtedness have come in very quickly and handsomely. And it gives us the greatest pleasure to announce that the *whole* of the amount asked for has been provided for by gifts or promises to be redeemed in the near future. This is extremely gratifying, as it relieves the parish at once from its embarrassment, and that without having had to resort to fairs or entertainments to raise the money for the purpose, which are most objectionable means for supporting a church. Our hearty thanks are due to all who have contributed. And we must make strenuous efforts to keep out of debt in the future. This can only be done by larger and more regular contributions by the congregation. If such increase does not take place the Vestry will be obliged to curtail in some way our expenses.

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due and a renewal will be greatly appreciated.

The following were received since our last issue:

Miss Young, Miss Anable, Mrs. Love (2), Miss Lloyd (2), Miss Whitehouse, Miss Epprecht, Mrs. Busch, Miss Hamilton, Mrs. Barrett.

DEATH OF MRS. MORGAN.

The heartfelt sympathy of the congregation is extended to our faithful and efficient Verger, Mr. Morgan, on the death of his wife, which occurred Nov. 27th. Mr. and Mrs. Morgan were married in the church shortly after he became Sexton, and she has been a most faithful and good wife and mother, and she made herself most useful in the church. All who knew her will regret her early death and grieve for the great affliction it brings to her family.

May she rest in peace.

✠

MISSION.

The Rev. Curate of the Parish will conduct a mission in the Church of the Beloved Disciple on Columbia Ave., below 21st St., from Dec. 10 to Dec. 17th. He asks the prayers of the congregation for its success.

✠

THE RUMMAGE SALE

for the benefit of the Girls' Friendly Society was most successful, realizing nearly $60. Many persons in the congregation sent very valuable contributions, and several ladies not connected with the Society took part in the sale. Some of the young men of the parish also rendered valuable assistance.

✠

MEN'S CLUB.

It was impossible to make arrangements for the meeting of the Men's Club last month. But it is proposed that this month it shall take the form of a men's supper, at which Mr. Newbold one of our Vestrymen, and one of the Governors of the Club will give an explanation of the new envelope system we are about to adopt, as there were not very many of the men of the parish present at the meeting in the church on Nov. 26th. Due notice of it will be sent to all the members of the Club.

CHRISTMAS DAY.

As in former years, there will be celebrations of the Holy Communion on Christmas Day at 6.30, 7.30 and 8.30 A. M., in addition to that in the middle of the day, in order to give everyone opportunity to make his Communion. The special Christmas offerings will be as usual for the support of the church. Offerings for the Christmas Festival for the children and for the Mother's Meeting may be placed in the Alms box in the Vestibule of the church which will be marked for the purpose.

✠

THE NEWS.

The delay in getting out our last issue and the number of errors in it was due to sickness and death in the establishment of the printer. We trust we shall not have any such trouble in the future.

✠

THE YEAR BOOK

for 1910-11 has been printed and those members of the congregation who have not receive one will find copies in the rack near the door of the church. We trust all will take and read them that they may familiarize themselves with the conditions and work of the parish.

✠

THE MOTHERS' MEETING.

Mrs. Young, who so efficiently carried on the Mothers' Meeting last winter, finds it impossible to do so this year on account of the state of her health. Her place has been taken by Mrs. G. E. Knubel, a lady who has lately come to the parish and volunteered her services for this work. She will be assisted by Miss Packett, Mrs. Harris, Miss Moitz, and by Miss Clara Williamson, Miss Young and Mrs. Coates in the visiting.

✠

GIFTS.

Miss Carpenter, the sister of our late Rector's Warden, has presented to the church a beautifully illuminated card containing the Canon of the Mass in an oak frame, which has been placed on the main Altar of the church. It is all hand-painted, the work of her father. It will be prized both for itself and for its associations.

We thankfully also acknowledge the receipt of orders for three tons of coal for our poorer members.

✠

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING.

We are asked by a circular letter signed by Theodore Roosevelt, Jacob A. Riis, Edward Bok and others to urge all our people to do their Christmas shopping early. This will be an immense relief to tired employees who otherwise will be obliged to endure lengthened hours and great fatigue.

✠

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS.

Et Homo Factus Est.

There's a song in the air!
There's a star in the sky!
There's a mother's deep prayer
And a baby's low cry:
And the star rains its fire while the beautiful sing,
For the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!

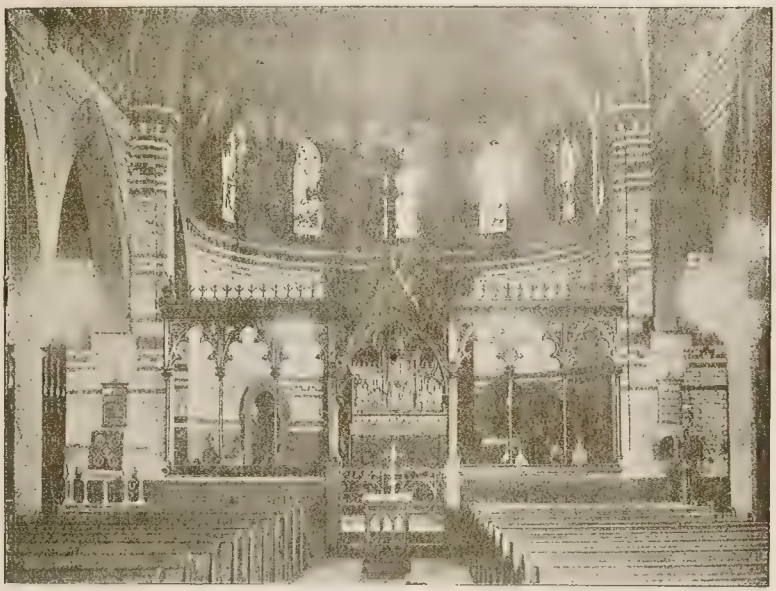
There's a tumult of joy
O'er the wonderful birth,
For the Virgin's sweet boy
Is the Lord of the earth.
Ay, the star rains its fire and the beautiful sing,
For the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!

In the light of that star
Lie the ages impearled;
And that song from afar
Has swept o'er the world:
Every hearth is aflame, and the beautiful sing
In the homes of the nations that JESUS IS KING!

—*J. G. Holland.*

The Ascension News

VOL. XXV PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY, 1912 NO. 1



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Miss Stretch

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PENANCE

Baptism and Confirmation are the means by which the soul is united to Christ and strengthened to do His will, if they are rightly received. But suppose they are not so received, suppose one is false to his Baptismal vows, and fails to "stir up the gift given to him by the laying on of hands," is his case then hopeless? Is there then no possibility of his being restored to the state of grace from which he has fallen?

It is to meet that condition and to efect that restoration that there is in the Sacramental system of the Church, this act which has been called Penitence or Penance. It has been called by some of the Fathers of the Church, "the second plank after shipwreck," the means by which one who has made shipwreck of his spiritual life after Baptism may yet float safely to the eternal shore.

This teaching is founded on our Lord's forgiving sins when He was on the earth, and the authority He gave to His disciples to do the same. It is an article of the Christian Creed, that we believe in "the forgiveness of sins". But that does not mean that sin is always forgiven, that sin is unimportant, or an easy thing to obtain forgiveness of. Scripture is most explicit in its statements of God's hatred of sins and anger with sinners, and of the certainty and severity of its punishment. How then can it be forgiven? Only on certain conditions. There must first be a sincere repentance, that involves a real sorrow for having committed it and determination to forsake it in the future. Secondly we must

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS

THE CLERGY

TREASURER

MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS:

Single Copies, by Mail, 50 Cents a Year

Kalendar

January 1—Circumcision
" 5—Friday, Fast.
" 6—Epiphany
" 7—First Sunday after the Epiphany
" 12—Friday, Fast.
" 14—Second Sunday after the Epiphany
" 19—Friday, Fast
" 21—Third Sunday after the Epiphany
" 25—Conversion of St. Paul.
" 26—Friday, Fast
" 28—Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

RECORD FOR DECEMBER

COMMUNICANTS received by transfer from the Church of the Holy Trinity
Mrs. Virginia Moylan Struthers
Helen Von Laverich Struthers
From the Church of the Messiah
Mrs. Lillie McGill
Lillie McGill
From All Saints' Church
Mrs. Margaret Hill Hunter
Bessie Hunter
From Trinity Church, Asbury Park, N. J.
Mrs. Marie Eleanora Black 7
Transferred to Epiphany Mission, Sherwood
William Higgins Conger 1

DIED
Mrs. Mary Emma Bonnet 1

COMMUNIONS OF THE SICK 2

BURIALS
William L. Lane
Mrs. Matilda Morgan
Mrs. Mary Emma Bonnet
Mrs. Rebecca B. Hutchinson 4

OFFERINGS

For Current expenses	$612.08
" Special appeal	39.00
" the Poor	57.57
" " Sunday and Industrial Schools	2.00
" " Christmas Decorations and Festival	53.53
" " Missionary Box	48.00
" " Episcopal Hospital	5.00
" " Mothers Meeting	10.00
" " Endowment Fund	.26
" General Missions	3.85
" Benevolent Purposes	1.94
At the discretion of the Rector	5.00
Of the Sunday Schools	6.60
Total	$1,021.63

confess our sins. Not brazen it out that we have not sinned, or excuse or extenuate it, but humbly acknowledge our wrong doing, and that not only to God but to our fellow man, as S. James says "Confess your faults one to another"; this involves self accusation and self abasement," Thirdly, we must make satisfaction for our sins, that is if we have wronged or injured one we must do our best to make up for the harm we have done. It is not enough for a thief to say he is sorry he has stolen and will not do so again, he must return what he stole. Or if the sin is such that we cannot make an actual restitution, we must do something to make up as far as possible for the wrong done, to punish ourselves, and to attest the sincerity of our repentence. All these elements are essential to the obtaining of forgiveness, and involve a difficult and painful act.

The Church has always administered this discipline. In the early Church those who had been baptised and then fellen into sin were required to make a public confession, and preform a public penance before the congregation, and only after some years exclusion were readmitted to Communion. In time however this was not found to be edifying, though public confession and penance was continued in places in the Church of England come down to Post Reformation times. Later in the history of the Church a Special Officer, called the Penetentiary, was appointed to hear Confessions and inflict penances. Finally all Priests were allowed to do so, though those specially trained for the purpose were preferred. It was not until the 13th century that the rule was adopted requiring all Christians to make a private Confession to a Priest before receiving

Communion, this rule was abolished in the Church of England at the Reformation. But Confession was not done away with. It was provided for in the daily services of the Church as well as in the Holy Communion, in the exhortations to which, the Priest is directed to urge those who have any "scruple or doubtfulness" as to their being prepared to receive it, to make a private Confession, and he was to "move" sick persons and prisoners to do the same. This is the teaching of the Church today. She insists upon the necessity of Confession for the remission of sin, but she does not *compel* any one to make a private Confession to a Priest. But she provides it for all who feel that it would be a relief or benefit to them, and urges it upon all who have any grave sin on their conscience or are in any doubt or spiritual difficulty. And for certain persons, especially the young and ignorant, or those incapable or unskilled in deciding spiritual questions it is most useful and advisable.

There is no special form or words ordained of Christ for this Sacrament. Any words conveying its meaning will suffice. Only a Bishop or Priest can administer it.

✠

NEW ENVELOPE SYSTEM

Beginning with February the new envelope system adopted by the Vestry will go into effect.

The new envelope differs from the old ones we have been using in that it has two pockets instead of one. On one is marked in red ink "For ourselves" and is intended for all offerings for the current expenses of tho parish, salaries, heat, light, music &c., and the amount required for these purposes $7,000, is put on each envelope, that the members of the congregation may give in the necessary proportion. The other pocket is marked in black ink "For others" and is for offerings for missionary and charitable purposes. Each quarter will be devoted to a different purpose from Feb. to May, for Diocesan Missions, and the amount asked from the parish will be printed on each envelope; from May to Aug. for the Poor; from Aug. to Nov. for Parochial activities, including the Sunday and Industrial Schools, Men's Club and the other Guilds and Societies of the parish; from Nov. to Feb. for General Missions with the amount asked from us printed on it.

These envelopes will be sent not only to those who have been using envelopes, but to every one in the parish who it is thought can contribute anything to these objects, with the request that they will use them.

It is hoped that this system, which is now being largely adopted throughout the country, will be useful in securing more and more regular and systematic offerings for the support of the Church and for charitable purposes. Here-to-fore we have been sending out to those using the envelopes, *one* envelope each quarter for a benevolent object. By this system a separate envelope for that object will be provided for EACH Sunday in the quarter, and will be put in the hands of all our people. This ought to result in much larger receipts.

It is earnestly hoped that every one who receives these envelopes will regularly and concientiously use them, putting into each pocket of the envelope as large an amount as he or she can afford. If this is done, we believe we shall be

able to meet all our obligations without any more deficits and the necessity for special appeals.

✠

PARISH NOTES

Christmas was an ideal day and though it was the very next day after a Sunday we had good congregations. The Church looked beautiful in its greens and white vestments and banners. The music was excellent both on the Christmas Eve service the night before and on the day itself. The number of Communicants was up to the average of previous years and the offerings were but little, if at all, diminished by the gifts made in response to the recent appeal. All seem relieved and rejoiceing in the knowledge that the Church is free from debt.

✠

Gifts. Orders for ten tons of coal for Poor, some six yards of valuable old lace for the Altar, presented as a memorial, and also two sums of money in gold from two organizations in the Parish.

The Curate received a handsome umbrella from the members of his Bible Class, and the Choir Master a handsome cut glass bowl with a growing plant in it from the members of the Choir. The Rector also received some substantial gifts.

Each member of the Mothers' Meeting, in addition to an order for a half ton of coal, received a basket containing a fowl, 3 vegetables, sugar, candy and cake.

Sunday School Festival

The Christmas Festival took place on the evening of the Holy Innocents Day. After service in the Church gifts were distributed, refreshments provided, a Christmas Tree and Santa Claus brightened the evening and an entertainment was given by members of the School. Each child was authorized to bring a friend, and a goodly number were present. All the children received candies and a present.

✠

Basket Ball Instruction for St. Agnes' Guild

A kind friend has undertaken to engage a professional Instructor in Basket Ball for the girls of St. Agnes' Guild. After they have attained sufficient skill, they propose to undertake some match games with others. They already have on hand one challenge from one team of girls and are going to try hard to prepare to win.

✠

St. Agnes' Guild's Thanks

The Guild desires to express its gratitude to the many kind friends who purchased tickets for their entertainment.

Their generosity has supplied the Guild with the funds needed for their winter's work.

A crowded audience was present at the Entertainment itself.

S. John's Guild has been having some fine basket ball matches. A sociable which was planned for the Guild with the Girl's Friendly Society was put off on account of the death of the Rev. Mr. Gilpin.

The Junior S. John's Guild which has not been organized as yet this winter will re-commence its meetings with this month.

✠

Men's Supper. It was last month found impossible to make arrangements for it as announced before Christmas. It is now fixed for the evening of Monday, Jan. 15th. It is hoped that every one, who has received an invitation to it will be prompt in answering it, that the Committee may know how many to provide for.

✠

Special Sermons. On the Sunday mornings during January, the Rector proposes to preach a course of sermons on "What it meant to be a Christian in the first century after Christ, in the Middle Ages, during the Reformation, in the eighteenth century, and what it should mean to be a Christian now."

He will also continue to preach on the Sunday evenings of this month. The night service throughout the Epiphany season will be Choral.

Confirmation. The Bishop of the Diocese has appointed the evening of Friday, March 29th, for the administration of Confirmation in this parish. Due notice will be given of the preparatory instructions.

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due and a renewal will be greatly appreciated.

The following were received since our last issue:

Miss McIlhenny, Miss Walsh, Miss Lavinia Smith, Mrs. Offley, Mrs. Gilpin, Miss M. J. Gilpin, Miss Holbrook, Mr. H. B. French, Mrs. Roberts, Miss Peters, Mrs. Knubel, Dr. Neilson, Miss Wurts.

✠

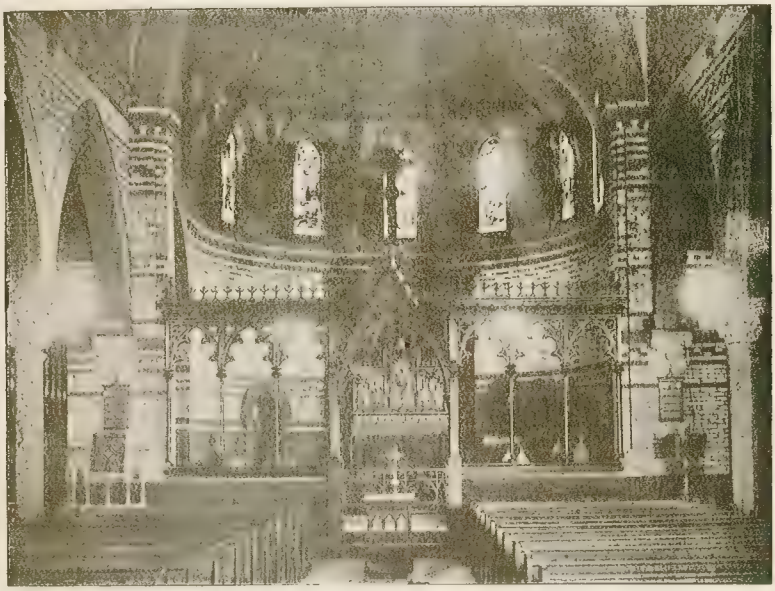
Girls Friendly Society Although the Secretary has been absent from the meetings, the Associates and members have been very faithful in their attendance and work.

The Rummage Sale in November was a great success. Out of its proceeds $10 was given to the Choir Outing Fund, and $10 to the Ascension Room at the Holiday House, Cape May, N. J. Two dozen dolls were made for the Children's Christmas Festival, and forty-two large picture cards for the work amongst th children of the Probationers Court.

There will be a class in Basket Ball until Lent.

The Ascension News

VOL. XXV PHILADELPHIA. FEBRUARY, 1912 No. 2



Church of the Ascension

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Services

Holy Communion

EVERY SUNDAY.....7.30 and 11.30 A.M.
HOLY DAYS.....7.00 and 10.30 A.M.
DAILY EXCEPT THURSDAYS....7 00 A.M.
THURSDAYS.....9.00 A M.

Morning Prayer

SUNDAYS (with Sermon).. ...10.30 A.M.
DAILY .....10.00 A.M.

Evensong

SUNDAYS (with Sermon).....7.45 P.M.
DAILY .....5.00 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address)..8.00 P.M.

Children's Service

SUNDAYS.....3.30 P.M.

All the Seats are Free at all Services **God's House is open to all its Childre**

The Church is always open for private prayer, and the Clergy can be seen after any service

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The Ascension News

The Church of the Ascension

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'Phone, Spruce 63-62 A

CLERGY

REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE, *Rector*
334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*
1030 Spruce Street.

WARDENS

THOMAS R. NEILSON, M. D.
MILLARD F. ROBERTS

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

PHILIP F. ALBURGER

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild . 8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew ..... 8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society 8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild ..... 8.00 P. M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild ..... 7.45 P. M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid ..... 3.00 P. M.
Wednesdays, Mother's Meeting .. 8.00 P. M.
Thursday, Embroidery Class .....10.30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society ..10.30 A. M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P. M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.
Superintendent ..... The Curate
Assistant Superintendent Mr. F. C. Botwright
Librarian and .....
Organist ..... Mrs. S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For the Junior Brotherhood ..... 2.45 P.M.
Miss Hodge
For Young Ladies ..... 2.45 P.M.
Miss Stretch

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturday ..... 10.00 a. m

THE HOLY COMMUNION

This is the greatest of the Sacraments. It is often spoken of as "the Sacrament". It is so because it is not only a sign and seal and means by which grace is conveyed to us, but because in it Christ gives Himself to us in all the plenitude of His Divine nature, so, as our Prayer Book says, by means of it "He dwells in us and we in Him"

To understand it we must consider it in its historical connection. The great universal act by which men have worshipped God has been by sacrifice. They have felt instinctively that sin has so separated men from God that in some way it must be atoned for, he must do or give in return that which costs him something. In ancient times the most universal rite of sacrifice was that of slaying an animal and offering it on an Altar. Then part of the flesh was roasted and eaten by the offerer, to signify that he thus partook of God's table and entered into an act of amity with him. But as S. Paul says "such sacrifices could not in themselves take away sin." They were only types of that perfect sacrifice which God Himself prepared when He gave His only begotten Son to suffer death upon the Cross for the sins of the whole world. But as that could only be offered once, there was needed some means by which it could be perpetually presented to men and pleaded before God, and by which its benefits could be conveyed to men. For these purposes Christ instituted this sacrament. By it we do "shew forth the Lord's death," teaching men the infinite love of God,

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EDITORS

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TREASURER

MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS:

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Kalendar

February	2	Purification of B. V. M. Friday, Fast
"	4	Septuagesima Sunday.
"	9	Friday, Fast
"	11	Sexagesima Sunday.
"	16	Friday, Fast
"	18	Quinquagesima Sunday
"	21	Ash-Wednesday
"	24	S. Matthias
"	25	First Sunday in Lent
"	28	Ember Day

All days in Lent are fast

RECORD FOR JANUARY

MARRIAGES

Peter F. Byrne and Katharine M. Hickey
William S. Marsh and Mary H. Stewart 2

Communicants transferred to S. Paul's Memorial Church.

Louis Benjamin King

To The Holy Apostles

David Steele Ritchie
Mrs. Charlotte Engles Ritchie

To The Cathedral, Garden City, N. Y.

Mrs. Clara Emery Middleton

To S. Andrew's Church

Julia Meredith Dusenbury
Mrs. Sarah Dunlap Lewis

To S. John's Church, Lower Merion

Mrs. Mary Elisabeth Powell

DIED

Alexander Henry McIlvaine

BURIALS

Infant daughter of Henry P. and Lydia L. Busch
Alexander Henry McIlvaine 2

OFFERINGS

For Current expenses	$268.49
" Special appeal	55 00
" the Poor	64.45
" " Mothers' Meeting	5 00
" General Missions	1 95
" the Sunday and Industrial School	1.00
" Benevoient purpose	2.15
Of the Sunday School	6.24
Total	$404.28

and beseeching Him by It to hear and bless us, and by receiving the consecrated Elements we become partakers of His Body and Blood which are given to us as He says, under the forms of bread and wine. So we thus receive the benefits of Christ's Sacrifice on the Cross, as the Jew received those of the sacrifices he offered by eating their flesh. How Christ is really present and gives us His Body and Blood is a mystery. The Prayer calls it "these Holy Mysteries". Various attempts have been made to explain it by such theories as "Transbustalation" or "Consubstanliation," which have been taught by different Christian Communions. Others have denied that our Lord's words had any other meaning than that pretaining to a sign or symbol. But the Anglican Communion, is common with all the great Branches of the Catholic Church, simply teaches the doctrine of the Real Presence, as it is called, without attempting to explain it. Christ said that when two or three were gathered in His Name there He would be in the midst of them. And where are Christians so assembled as when they celebrate this Rite of His appointment? He took bread and wine and blest them and said "This is my Body, This is my Blood". We believe it literally, that it is a real Gift, not only a symbol, not something dependent on the faith of the recipient, though only faith can descern Christ's Presence, and the benefits that we receive from It will be in proportion to the care and devotion with which we come to It. The soul needs food as well as the body, and in this Sacrament the most perfect and sufficient spiritual sustinence is provided for us, "with all other benefits of Christ's passion."

In the Sacrament are two distinct purposes, one is the offering a Memorial of Christ's Sacrifice and the other is the seeking to have the benefits of this Sacrifice conveyed to us in the act of Communion. We may not always be prepared for the reception, but any one can use it as an act of worship, so some Celebrations are more for one than the other purpose. The early quiet Celebration, when one can come fasting, is the best for Communion, and the mid-day Celebration with music and other accessories is the best for worship. With it every Sunday and Holiday at the least should be sanctified.

For its Celebration there must always be the elements Christ commanded, bread, either leavened or unleavened, the later perferably, because it was that which He used, and real wine, not unfermented grape juice or any other liquor The use of the Words of Institution with the Invocation of the Holy Ghost effect the Consecration, and the Celebrant must be a Priest who has received the Apostolic Commission, for as the Apostle says "no man taketh this office upon himself but he that was called of God as was Haron."

✠

LENT

February 21st is Ash Wednesday, one of the two great fast days of the Church year. This is followed by the season of Lent, forty days in all, excluding the Sundays occurring during that time, which are always feasts. During this season "the Church requires such a measure of abstinence as is more especially suited to extraordinary acts and exercises of devotion.,'

"The Church requires" that is, the keeping of Lent is an obligation. It is part of the regular regimen of the Church. That which is just as much a duty, as is the saying of our Prayers, or being Confirmed or receiving Holy Communion. Every one should keep Lent. Its observance will be beneficial to all. Especially in this age of hurry and bustle, we all need to pause awhile, to keep as far as we can this season of forty days, in which we shall spiritualy exercise ourselves, think more than ordinarily of spiritual things and perform more religious and charitable acts. First, we should fast. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday should be kept as strick fasts, one should go to no amusements or entertainments on those days and should eat only the simplest, most necessary food. On the other days of Lent we should use "abstinance". Our English Church does not, like the modern Roman Church, prescribe the exact kind of food, or the number of ounces one may eat. People's constitutions and state of health and conditions vary so. It is better to leave each one to determine for himself just the particular things from which he should abstain. But the requirement is that each one should fast in some way during Lent as an exercise, to train oneself in self control. If all practised fasting, there would not be as much drunkenness and self indulgence as there is, and we should not go to large entertainments or places of amusements.

Secondly. All should practice "extraordinary acts of devotion." We should go to Church more frequently, receive the Holy Communion oftener, hear more sermons, read some spiritual or devotional book during Lent. We have so many services in this parish

throughout the year that few more are added during Lent. Our people should attend these regular services more than they ordinarily do. And there will be special lectures during Lent on Tuesdays after the 5 P. M., Prayers by the Rector, and on Friday afternoons by a special preacher.

Thirdly. We should do special acts of charity, in person if possible, if not, by proxy, by giving to charitable objects. Take the money you save by abstaining from luxuries or amusements to give it to religious and charitable purposes.

If all will faithfully and presistently keep Lent in this way, it will be a season of great spiritual blessing and benefit to them, and of help to those to whom charity is extended.

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PARISH NOTES

Gifts. Two silk stoles embroidered formerly the property of the Rev. Wm. Bernare Gilpin.

Orders for five tons of coal for the poor, and a quanity of children's clothing.

✠

Men's Club. The winter's session of the Club was opened on Jan. 15th, with a sit down supper at which about forty men were present, all—with the exception of one,—connected with the parish. The supper, consisting of some six courses, was excellent. Between the courses, songs, which had been specially printed for the occasion, were sung, Mr. Edward H. Offley acting as pianist. This was followed by coffee and cigars, during which, speaches were made by the Rector, Mr. John S. Newbold the Accounting Warden Mr. M. F. Roberts, who is President of the Club, and by Mr. Offley. The Rector welcomed the guests and explained the objects of the supper. Mr. Newbold explained the Duplex Envelope System which is to be introduced into the parish the coming quarter. Mr. Roberts told of the financial needs of the Parish, and Mr. Offley related instances of the working of St. Andrew's Brotherhood in different places he had visited.

It was a very enjoyable occasion, and we trust it will do good in attaching those present more to the Church, making them feel that it is their spiritual home, and realize their responsibility in supporting it.

The next meeting of the Club will be on the third Thursday of this month, the 15th, and take the usual form of a smoker. There will be also an address and some music and dancing.

✠

Musical. Mr. Harvey Hindermeyer, formerly a member of our choir, and who is now living in New York, where he has gained a reputation for his singing, having offered to sing for the benefit of our Church, it has been arranged that he shall do so in the house of the Rector, 334 So. 13th St., on Saturday, Feb. 10th, at 4 P. M. There will also be recitations by Mrs. M. M. Smith who is a professional, and who also gives her services. The tickets are one dollar each and can be obtained from the Verger. The proceeds will be for the charity fund of the Parish.

✠

Confirmation Instructions are given Sundays, at 4 p. m. by the Rector and every Wednesday after the 8 o'clock evening service, by the Curate. It is hoped that all in the parish not yet Confirmed who are of sufficient age will attend these instructions. If there are any who cannot do so, the clergy will arrange to meet them at some other time.

Music during Lent. For many years the boys of the choir have attended and sung at the 5 P. M. prayers each day during Lent. But of late years the attendance at this service has fallen off so that it seems hardly worth while any longer to go to this expense. It is proposed therefore to have music only on Tuesday and Friday afternoons when there is a lecture, in the hope that by thus concentrating on these two says the attendance on them at least may be better.

✠

The New Duplex Envelopes are sent out this quarter to all persons attending the Church who it is thought will use them, and it is hoped they will be faithfully and regularly returned.

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due and a renewal will be greatly appreciated.

The following were received since our last issue:

Miss Ashbridge, Mr. Newman, Miss O'Harra, Mr. Reynolds Clark, Mrs. John Bradley (2), Mrs. Eckert (2), Mrs. Wylie, Mrs. Stoy, Miss Schell, Miss Dickerson.

✠

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MISSIONARY BOX

Red Cloud, Neb.,
Dec. 27, 1911.

My Dear Mrs. Smith,

You will be wondering what has become of your Missionary Box. It came just as I was leaving on a 12 day Missionary trip, and didn't even have time to look up your address. I have gone through it today and am very much pleased. I have probably received 25 boxes during my 35 years in the Ministry, but I never had one that showed more thoughtful consideration for the recipient, and a strong desire to please. I can make good use of the second hand things, they are in such nice condition. Please convey to the ladies of your Auxiliary my hearty thanks.

Yours sincerely.

✠

ST. AGNES' GUILD FESTIVAL

The Guild kept the Feast of its Patron Saint on Saturday, Jan. 27th. At 6.30 a. m., they had a Choral Celebration of the Blessed Sacrament, Mrs. Harris kindly playing the organ. After this, they had breakfast together in the Parish Building.

At 8 p. m. there was a Guild Party, to which were invited by the girls of the Guild some boys and others. After dancing and games, refreshments were served.

✠

ST. JOHN'S Jr. GUILD

On Monday, Jan. 22nd., the Guild resumed its meetings. The Director and Miss Maria Gilpin met seven boys; of course this number will at once increase. Last winter we had at times as many as twenty-five boys present. After an Office of Devotion and an Instruction in Church Doctrine and Practice, they spent an hour in gymnastic sports and games.

✠

SUNDAY SCHOOL MISSIONARY SERVICE

On Sunday, Jan. 7, in common with many hundreds of schools throughout the country, our Sunday School held a Missionary Service using a form provided by the Missionary Society in New York.

The Superintendent gave an Instruction on Missions in general and Rev. W. C. Lapp's work in the Phillipine Islands in particular. After the close of the session upstairs, the School entered the Church singing a missionary hymn and their service and collection followed.

One result of the affair is that one class will give an entertainment, as mentioned below.

✠

A SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS ENTERTAINMENT.

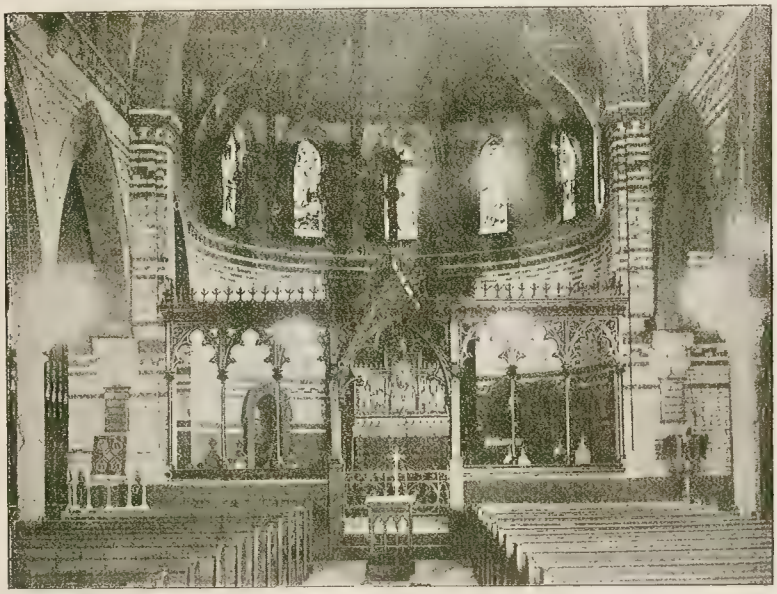
Mrs. Harris' Class, moved by the Missionary Instruction of Jan. 7, propose giving an entertainment; the proceeds of which will be added to the Lenten Collection of the School.

Several persons, adults and children, have agreed to assist and an attractive affair may be expected

The tickets will cost 25c., and the date will be Monday, Feb. 19th, at 8 p. m.

The Ascension News

VOL. XXV PHILADELPHIA. MARCH, 1912 No. 3



Church of the Ascension

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Holy Communion

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THURSDAYS.....9.00 A.M.

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Evensong

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DAILY .....5.00 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address)..8.00 P.M.

Children's Service

SUNDAYS.....3.30 P.M.

All the Seats are Free at all Services **God's House is open to all its Children**

The Church is always open for private prayer, and the Clergy can be seen after any service

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The Ascension News

The Church of the Ascension

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REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE, *Rector*
334 South Thirteenth Street
REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*
1030 Spruce Street.

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2022 St. Albans Street

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Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.
Superintendent ..... The Curate
Assistant Superintendent Mr. F. C. Botwright
Librarian and .....
Organist ..... Mrs. S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For the Junior Brotherhood ..... 2.45 P.M.
Miss Hodge
For Young Ladies ..... 2.45 P.M.
Miss Stretch

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturday.....10.00 a. m.

HOLY MATRIMONY

The Church has regarded Christian marriage as having a sacramental character that is, grace conferring. It is not only a natural relationship, but one ordained by God, its purpose is the formation of the family, in which each member is bound to the others in the closest and holiest ties, which produces the greatest happiness and affords the conditions best calculated for the bringing up of children "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." It is therefore an "holy estate" which will be the means of spiritual blessing to those who enter into it and discharge its obligations according to God's laws.

As ordained by Christ and regulated by His Church, it involves the union of a man and a woman, who profess the Christian Faith, are of sufficient age, and competent mentally and physically, of their own free will and consent, in a bond so intimate and perfect as to be described by Scripture as "one flesh," so that they should have the same equal rights over each other and it implies absolute and exclusive fidelity to one another until death.

It belongs to the second class of Sacraments which are not necessary to salvation, because all are not called to it, and because no outward form or sign for its administration was ordained by Christ. Any form, such as the giving and receiving a ring and joining hands, and any words signifying mutual consent, will suffice, the Ministers of the Sacrament are the parties themselves. If preformed by a Priest, as of course,

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EDITORS

THE CLERGY

TREASURER

MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS:

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Kalendar

March 1 Ember Day
2 Ember Day
3 Second Sunday in Lent
10 Third " " "
17 Fourth " " "
24 Passion Sunday
25 Annunciation B. V. M.
31 Palm Sunday
All days in Lent are Fasts.

RECORD FOR FEBRUARY

Communicants received from
The Church of the Incarnation
William Hawkins Patton
Mrs. Julia Frances Patton
From S. John's ~~Town Mission~~ Lower Merion
Mrs. Jane Nelson Clark
From S. Michael's, Germantown
Mrs. Jeanie Irva McCall
New
Charles Forman Marter 5

Transferred to Grace Church, Haddon Heights, N. J.
George Britan Wilson
To All Angels Church, New York City
John Nelson Gill 2

Died
William Clymer Rowe
Mrs. Carrie Virginia Redmond
Mrs. Margaret Smith 3

Communion of the Sick 1

Unction of the Sick 2

Burials
William Clymer Rowe
Mrs. Carrie Virginia Redmond 2

OFFERINGS

For Current expenses	$269.37
" the Poor	9.94
" " Mothers' Meeting	15 00
" Diocesan Missions	44 68
" General Missions	2 00
" the Endowment Fund	.10
" " Vestry appeal	10.00
" Benevolent purpose	1.01
Of the Sunday School	5.30
Total	$357.40
Proceeds of Song Recital	$116.14

owing to its sacred character it should be, he only attests the fact of its performance and bestows the benediction of the Church. So that a merely civil marriage is not only valid, but has the same sacramental character, if it is entered into and observed according to God's laws. Those laws are carefully laid down by the Church as in regard to degrees of relationship, freedom of consent &c. There are a number of things called "impediments" which would render a marriage null and void.

Then there are other things, which though not making marriage in-valid, prevent the fulfilment of its ends becoming the source of joy and blessing they should be, such as, persons entering it without any desire or intention of fulfilling its high purposes but simply from affection or fancy or from commercial or other sordid motives, or by shirking its responsibilities and looking upon it simply as a convenience or pleasure. Secondly "Mixed Marriages," that is one in which a Christian marrys one of another faith, or of no faith at all. How can there be harmony and happiness and the duties of marriage be properly discharged, if there is no agreement between the principals in regard to the most fundamental things that should govern their life. And yet this is often not thought of in entering upon a marriage. A Christian man or woman will often marry without ever knowing what is the religion of the proposed partner. There are also hasty and improvident marriages or those in which there is great discrepancy of age or taste or temperament. Therefore marriage should never be entered upon unadvisedly or lightly, but reverently, discreetly, advisedly, soberly and in the fear of God."

The possibility of divorce, which is the legal disruption of the marriage bond, which the State allows because it regards marriage ouly as a civil contract—should never be contemplated by a Christian. To break that bond is in the eyes of God and of His Church a crime proportionate to that of murder. And there is nothing which does more to threaten the social and domestic happiness and welfare of our Country than the growing frequency of divorce. All Christians should set their faces against it and do all they can to restrict and if possible put a stop to it.

Marriage once entered into should be regarded as permanent and as binding as a natural relationship and its obligations should be fulfilled in the same way. If it is so regarded and so used it is the highest possible source of human happiness and welfare.

✠

PARISH NOTES

Gift Two dozen decorated cups and saucers for the Guild closet.

✠

Confirmation Instructions are given Sundays, at 4 p. m. by the Rector and every Wednesday after the 8 o'clock evening service, by the Curate. It is hoped that all in the parish who are of sufficient age not yet Confirmed will attend these instructions. If there are any who cannot do so, the clergy will arrange to meet them at some other time.

The Confirmation will be administered by the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of the Diocese on the evening of Friday, March 29th.

✠

Lenten preachers On Tuesday, at 5 p. m. the Rector will give a course of lectures on the Prayer Book, on Fridays there will be special preachers. March 1st the Rev. B. S. Sanderson, Rector of All Hallows, Wyncote; March 8th the Rev. A. C. Knowles, Rector of S. Albons, Olney; March 15th, the Rev. H. A. Bryan, formerly Archdeacon of the Panama Canal Zone; March 22nd, the Rev. W. B. P. Harrison, of S. Elizabeths Church; ~~March 28th~~,

The Rector preaches during Lent in S. Mark's, S. James', S. Simon the Cyrenian, S. Alban's, Olney and S. Paul's, Camden. The Rev. Curate preaches at Emanuel, Holmesburg; St. Luke's, Germantown; St. Alban's, Olney; St. John's, Norristown; St. James', Downington; Calvary Monumental; St. Elizabeth's; St. Philip's; Christ Church, Palmyra, N. J.; St. Mary's Church and Holy Cross, Baltimore, Md., and St. Michael's, Wilmington, Del. He will also conduct a "Quiet Day" at Norristown, N.J., and preach the Three Hours Service, at All Saints, Orange, N. J.

✠

St. Agnes' Guild. The Dancing School had a good meeting this month with their professional trainer. A number of its members have made a Rule to be present at the Blessed Sacrament at least one Week Day each week.

✠

St. John's Jr., Guild. This Guild have been having a good attendance during the month and enjoy their gymnastic work under Mr. Clarence Martz.

✠

The Song Recital at the residence of the Rector, last month was a great success. It was a first class entertainment in every way. Both Mr. Hindermeyer and Mrs. Minnie Marshall Smith are

professionals and all who heard them were charmed with the performance. About eighty persons were present, and as some took more tickets than they used, over $100 was realized above the small expenses. This will be sufficient to carry on the Mother's Meeting for the remainder of the winter and answer some very urgent calls for help.

✠

The Men's Club meeting in February was attended by some forty-four men all of whom belonged to our own parish. Mr. Spencer Erwin one of our members who has been away from the city for years, gave a very interesting account of his travels in India and Japan, and Mr. Abbot McClure executed some very graceful Hungarian dances, dressed in the gala national costume. This, with some music and a few words from the Rector with the usual refreshments filled up the evening.

The meeting of the Club this month will be on the evening of Thursday, March 21st.

✠

Lenten sewing The Ladies Aid which meets on Wednesday afternoons will sew this Lent for the Poor of our own parish. We find there are a number of families connected with the Church who have not any proper underclothing, and the ladies think tdey ought to supply them before working for others outside of the parish.

✠

Girls Friendly Society. The gymnastic lessons were continued through Feb. with a good attendance of girls and Associates, ending with a very successful party at which about 50 were present. Through Lent there will be the usual sewing, this year infants clothing for the Episcopal Hospital and a Southern Mission will be made. On March 5th there will be a "neighborhood meeting" when 13 Branches meet with ours for the reading of papers and discussion and enjoying a very interesting evening.

After Easter there will be a Rummage Sale, and it is hoped every one in the Parish will be collecting things for it. Any personal or household things that are not needed or wanted will be acceptable.

✠

The Duplex Envelopes. We are very much gratified at the way in which our new envelope system is working. Twenty-seven more persons are using the envelopes than formerly, and the contributions for Diocesan Missions are coming in very well $44.68 having come in during the month of February as against $18.39 for the same month last year. If the same rate keeps up the whole amount required $134 will have been received before May 1st.

✠

The Organ. We are sorry to say that the organ after constant use for over twenty years, requires considerable repair. A special meeting of the Vestry was call last month to take action in regard to it and authorised an expenditure of $150 for the purpose. This will have to be covered by the Easter Offering, as we have no funds in hands for this purpose.

✠

Musicale in the Parish Building. On Monday evening, February 19th, a musical was given by members of Mrs. Harris's class for the benefit of the Lenten Missionary Fund. Everyone, who took part, did so, with such good will and earnestness that the affair was quite a success. Miss Louise Carman helped with some humorous sketches which delighted the audience immensely. The choirmen also did their part; Mr. Albert Challmann, Mr. Chester Myers and Mr. Robert McNeil's vocal selections were very much enjoyed and appreciated. There were, also, piano and violin solos played from some of the old Masters, by friends who wished to help the good cause and those who attended thought the evening profitably and well spent.

✠

Memorials A brass tablet commemorative of the late Rev. William Bernard Gilpin, who was for three years the Curate of this Parish, will be placed in the Chancel of the Church by members of his family.

And instead of the Clerestory window of which we spoke in our November issue, a window representing Christ's entry into Jerusalem will be placed in the Chancel, in memory of the late Benjamin F. Holbrook, who was long a member of the parish, and some members of his family.

This will leave only *one* window in the Chancel not filled with painted glass, which will be a great contrast to the others. Is there not some one in the congregation who would to give the order for it at the same time as a memorial or otherwise?

✠

Holy Week The services during Holy Week will be daily Celebrations of the Holy Communion at 7 A. M., and after Morning Paayer at 10 A. M., except on Good Friday. Daily Evening Prayer at 5 P. M., with lecture on Tuesday afternoon, and at 8 P. M. the Stations of the Cross will be observed.

On Good Friday they will also be observed at 9 A. M., for the Children of the Parish. The Mid-Day Services will begin at 11 A. M., with Morning Prayer and the Litany, followed by the singing of the Reproaches and the Preaching of the Cross from 12 to 3 P. M.

On Palm Sunday there will be the usual procession of palms before the Mid-Day Celebration at 11.30 A. M.

Easter Day. There will be Celebrations at 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 and 11.30 A. M.

✠

A PAROCHIAL MISSION

The Rev. Curate preached an Eight Day Mission at the Church of St. John Baptist, Brooklyn, N. Y., from Sunday, Feb. 11th to Sunday, Feb. 18th.

He ask the prayers of this congregation, that souls might be won to God.

The parish at which the Mission was preached is a large one, as is indicated by the fact that at the laying of the corner stone of a new church they are about to build, 1,500 people were present Large results should, therefore, come from this effort, if aided by many prayers. Over 1,000 requests for prayers have been sent out by the Rector and the Mission Priest.

A brief printed form of prayer will be given to any one indicating a willingness to use it.

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS

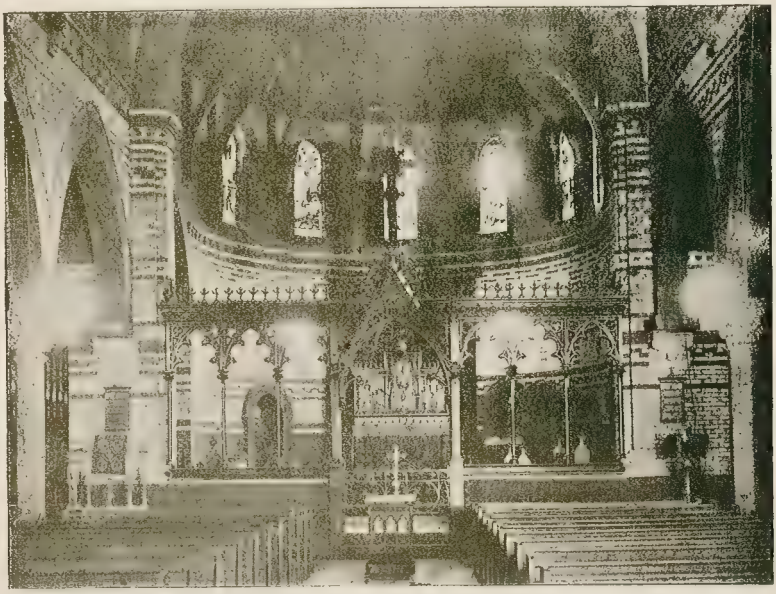
A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is now due and a renewal will be greatly appreciated.

The following were received since our last issue:

Mrs. Bonsach, Mr. Wirgman, Mrs. Parrish, Mrs. Wm. Drayton, Miss Vodes, Miss Goodman, Mrs. Christian, Miss. Barrington, Mrs. Thomas Neilson. Mrs. Van Pelt.

The Ascension News

VOL. XXV PHILADELPHIA. APRIL, 1912 No. 4



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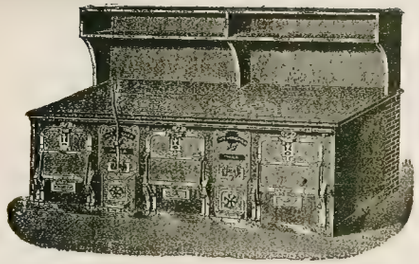

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Miss Hodge
For Young Ladies ..... 2.45 P.M.
Miss Stretch

HOLY ORDERS

This term is applied to the Orders of Ministers Christ ordained in that organization which He founded to be His agent in carrying on His work on earth, after He ascended into Heaven.

We are told in Scripture that He first, selected certain men whom He called "Apostles," that means those sent, and whom He commissioned in the most solemn manner, "breathing on them" and saying "as My Father hath sent me even so send I you." And after His Ascension we find these men taking the absolute government of the church into their hands and choosing and ordaining others to take their places as vacancies occurred, or there was need of expansion.

Then we find our Lord chose "other seventy also" whom He commissioned to preach His Gospel, to baptize and minister to the needs of men. This order came afterwards to be called Presbyters, that is Elders, or Priests. And later on the Apostles, acting doubtless on instrnctions Christ had given them, instituted another order which they called Deacons, who were to be assistants to the Apostles and Presbyters and attend to the more mechanical duties of the Ministry.

"These three Orders," says the Preface to our Ordinal or form for making Bishops, Priests and Deacons "it is evident unto all men diligently reading Holy Scripture and ancient Authors have been in Christ's Church from the Apostles time." The highest order, the Apostles, or Bishops as they came to be called, have the government of the

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TREASURER

MR. RICHARD GILPIN

904 Clinton Street

TERMS:

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Kalendar.

April 1 Monday before Easter.
2 Tuesday " "
3 Wednesday " "
4 Maunday Thursday
5 Good Friday
6 Easter Even
7 Easter
8 Monday in Easter Week
9 Tuesday " "
12 Friday. Fast
14 Low Sunday
19 Friday. Fast.
21 Second Sunday after Easter.
25 St. Mark Evangelist
25 Friday. Fast.
28 Third Sunday arter Easter.
All the days in Holy Week are Fasts.

RECORD FOR MARCH

BAPTISMS, Adults

Mrs. Sarah Leland.
Joseph Glaser.
Hugh Alexander Peters.
George Edwin Steventon.
Charles Miller Rostict.
Albert Arlley Sinclair.
Josebh Robert Livacz.
Elizabeth Gilmore 8

Infants.

Samuel Stevenson Dooley.
Benjamin Banett Dooley.
Thomas Anthony Dooley.
Frank Alford Hoag.
Doris Augusta Hoag.
John Findley Benner Greene.
Sarah Margaret Greene.
Alberta Gertrude Greene.
Blanche Eleanor Greene. 9

CONFIRMED

Chester Field Myers.
Robert Hunter Patton
Joseph Glaser
Frederick Charles Botwright, Jr.
William Joyce Sewell Borie.
Hugh Alexander Peters
George Edwin Steventon
Charles Miller Rostick
Albert Arlley Sinclair
Joseph Robert Livacz
Henry Ware Barr
William James Stanley Whitehurst
William McGill
William John Boggs
William Henry Bender
William Charler Fest
George Gilmore McLoughlin
Edward Bender Marsh
Charles McDermott
James Franklin Boggs
Mrs. Elizabeth Gilmore
Mrs. Annie Kelso.
" Mary Harrison Marsh
Emma Eleanor Loudon
Emma Frances Whitehurst 25

COMMUNICANTS received from Holy Trinity Chapel
Walter John Sproul
From S. Peter's Church
Mrs. Margaret Virginia Bird 2

DIED
Mrs. Margaret Rodgers
Charles Forman Marter.

COMMUNIONS of the sick 4

BURIALS
Mrs. Margaret Smith
Charles Forman Marter
Mrs. Margaret Rodgers
Michael Young. 4

OFFERINGS

For Current expenses	$252.30
" the Poor	6.77
" Diocesan Missions	68.81
" the Endowment Fund	.02
" " Vestry appeal	61-00
" " Organ Repair	10.00
" " Bishop's Purse	8 38
" " Flowers	4.60
" Benevolent purpose	1.64
Of the Sunday School	7.44
Total	$421.17

✠

church and the power of ordination, they themselves receiving these commissions in regular succession from those who have been Bishops before them. This is what is known as the "Apostolical succession" and is necessary to the validity of the Ministry, as no man could take such an office upon himself unless he were duly commissioned by those who had themselves received it.

These offices are such that they impart a character. They are not offices that can be assumed and laid aside. A man once ordained is always ordained. Even if he is deposed it does not destroy his official character, it only suspends its exercise. It is sacramental because the Holy Spirit operates in and through it, giving it all its efficacy.

The outward part is the laying on of hands with the words "Receive ye the Holy Ghost"—which Christ used,—or some equivalent designating the particular office bestowed.

These offices should only be sought by those who feel that they have an inward call from God and none should be ordained until they have been taught and tried and examined to ascertain if they are fitted for the exercise of them.

Their purpose is the spiritual care and oversight and ministering to those committed to their charge, and for the bringing of men into the company of Christ's professed disciples. It is a fatherly relationship, the clergy are the Pastors of the flock, through whose agency its members may receive those spiritual blessings for which Christ formed His Church. Every person should be a member of some particular flock, stand in a personal relationship with one whom he regards as his Pastor, whom he should reverence on account of his holy office, and use and value his ministrations. and contribute to his support that his time may be given to his sacred duties.

The Church like the family is a Divine institution essential to the welfare and happiness of men, not to belong to it or use its ministrations is a fatal mistake for any one. And the Ministry, or Holy Orders is the means by which the Church and its blessings are maintained and propagated.

✠

THE DUPLEX ENVELOPES

We are much pleased with the working of the Duplex envelope system so far. Almost every one using the envelopes puts an offering in each pocket, so that the benevolent and missionary offerings of the parish will undoubtly be largely increased.

But we are disappointed that more envelopes are not used. On February 1st we sent out 127 sets of envelopes to persons belonging to the congregation who had not taken them before, in the hope that they would use them. Of these only 32 have been returned, and not all of these regularly. And probably most of the thirty two persons were contributing more or less regularly before.

What we need to give the parish a permanent income, on which it can rely, is that every one connected with it, should feel his or her obligation to contribute regularly towards its support in proportion to their means. We are persuaded that if every one in the congregation would give regularly every week, even if it were only a small amount, we should have sufficient means to meet our expenses.

The contributions to pay off our deficit of over $2,000 were very liberal. Can we not by regular and systematic offerings avoid having any deficits in the future?

If this is not done, then we must either resort again to entertainments, which is certainly not the proper or edifying way of supporting the Church, or we must cut down our expenses.

Let each one do his duty in giving systematically according to his means and we shall not have to resort to do either of these objectionable alternatives.

✠

PARISH NOTES

Gifts. Framed photographs of the late Rev. Wm. Bernard Gilpin, the late Rt. Rev. Alexander Mackay Smith, and the present Bishop of Pennsylvania, also 27 copies of the Bishop's photograph for presentation to the Confirmation Class. Also 20 New Prayer Books and 20 new Hymnals for the Church to replace those worn out.

✠

Confirmation was administered by the Bishop on the evening of March 29th on his first visitation of the parish. The Bishop was vested in a very handsome white brocade silk cope which was made by the embroidery class expressly for the occasion, except the hood which was presented by a friend of the parish. The Bishop administered Confirmation sitting in a chair placed at the entrance of the choir. The whole service was most orderly and impressive. At its conclusion each of those Confirmed was presented with a photograph of the Bishop which were provided by a member of the Vestry for the purpose. The Bishop also gave to each certificates of their Confirmation which he had himself signed. After the Confirmation the members of the Vestry and many of the congregation were presented to the Bishop, as he is anxious to become personally acquainted with as many in the several parishes of the Diocese as possible.

✠

Holy Week and Easter. On Palm Sunday in the Procession of Palms the Rector wore the cope which had been made for the Bishop. There will be also a similar procession on the evening of Easter Day. During Holy Week there will be Celebrations of the Holy Communion each day at 7 a. m., and after Morning Prayer at 10 a. m., except on Good Friday, when the Mid-day service will begin at 11 a.m., it will consist of Morning Prayer and the Litany, followed by the singing of the Reproaches and the preaching of the Cross by the Rector from 12 to 3 p. m. There will be daily Evening Prayer at 5 p. m., and the Stations of the Cross each evening at 8 p. m., except on Good Friday and Easter Even. The Stations will be observed on Good Friday at 9.30 a. m., for the children of the Parish.

On Easter Day there will be Celebrations at 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 and after Morning Prayer at 10.30 a. m.

✠

Easter Offering. As usual we depend on the Easter offering to make up the average of the amount necessary to pay the current expenses of the Church for the year. We shall require at least $800 for this purpose.

As the congregation made up before Christmas the deficit of the previous year, will they not by a generous offering at Easter see that we do not have any deficit this year? The weekly offerings are not sufficient to pay all our expenses and unless the needed amount is made up now we shall again carry a deficit into another financial year. This can be avoided if all will give in proportion as they have given before. Offerings for the Easter flowers may be placed in the box in the vestibule of the Church marked for that purpose.

The Repair of the Organ. A lady of the congregation contributed last month ten dollars for this purpose, in hope that others might join her in an effort to raise the $150 needed without taking it out of the Easter offering. Are there not those who will do so?

✠

Men's Club. The meeting in March was not as largely attended as usual owing to its being a stormy night, only about thirty members were present. These listened attentively to a very instructive address from Dr. Burton Chance in regard to some facts which every man and boy ought to know. He was followed by the Rector who spoke of the moral character of the facts referred to. These addresses with some singing and refreshments filled up a profitable evening.

The members of S. John's Guild will provide the entertainment for the April meeting which will be on Thursday the 18th.

✠

St. John's Guild. At the March meeting a committee was appointed to make an investigation regarding a camp for the Guild this summer; and one to look over the base-ball candidates and see if a fairly good team could be gotten together to represent us on the diamond; another committee was appointed to provide an entertainment for the April Smoker of the Men's Club.

Our Basketball team wound up its season in great style defeating consecutively—Holy Trinity Chapel, Avilla (of St. Teresa's) and Greystock (of Holy Apostles'.) These games were marked by the large attendance of the fair sex; whose frantic cheering seemed to inspire the boys and drive them on.

It is more than likely that a "dinner" will be given in honor of the team in appreciation of their great work this year. The men who will rsceive their basket ball "A" are Mgr. Glaser, A. Boggs, J. Boggs, Neill, Ritsert, Delaney, Carr and Reeves (Capt.)

On Sat. Eve. March 9 we were the guests of Mr. Joseph Glaser at his summer home in Haddonfield, N. J. Everyone had a "dandy" time.

A "Minstrel Show" will be given on Thursday Eve., April 11, 1912, which, from the present outlook will surpass any that have ever been given by the Guild. It will be followed by a dance.

✠

Brotherhood of St. Andrew. A sectional conference of delegates from the chapters of neighboring parishes will be held in connection with the regular meeting of our Chapter on Tuesday, April 16th. It is hoped there will be a full attendance of our members.

✠

The annnal election for Vestrymen will be held on Easter Monday from 11 a. m. to 1 p. m., in the Parish Building.

✠

The Easter Festival of the Industrial School will be held on Saturday, April 13th, after the 10 a. m. Prayers.

✠

ST. AGNES' GUILD

This Guild will have a Guild Party on Monday evening within the Easter Octave, to which they expect to invite a number of their friends among the boys. Dancing, games and refreshments may be expected.

✠

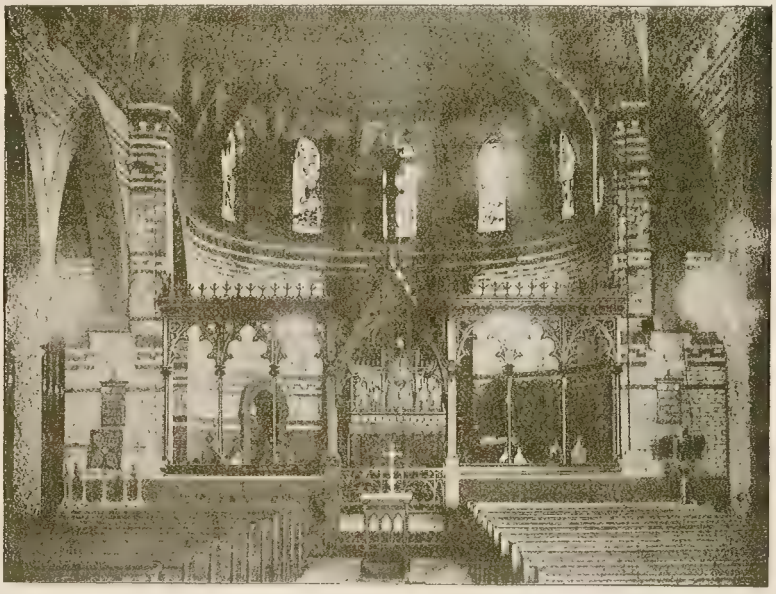
PRAYERS ASKED

The Rev. Curate, before this issue is printed, will have conducted two Quiet Days, one at St. John's Church, Norristown (March 29,) and one at Downington (April 2.) He asks the prayers of the congregation that those who may have been helped by these Devotions, may persevere in bringing forth fruits worthy of repentance.

He also asks for intercessions, that some souls may be won to God and that others may be deepened in their spiritual life, through the Three Hours meditations on the Passion to be conducted by him on Good Fridey at All Saint's Church, Orange, N. J.

The Ascension News

VOL. XXV PHILADELPHIA. MAY, 1912 No. 5



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Holy Communion

EVERY SUNDAY.....7.30 and 11.30 A.M.
HOLY DAYS.....7.00 and 10.30 A.M.
DAILY EXCEPT THURSDAYS....7 00 A.M.

Morning Prayer

SUNDAYS (with Sermon).. ...10.30 A.M.
DAILY .....10.00 A.M.

Evensong

THURSDAYS.....9.00 A.M.
SUNDAYS (with Sermon).....7.45 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address)..8.00 P.M.

Children's Service

SUNDAYS.....3.30 P.M.

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The Church of the Ascension

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CLERGY

REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE, *Rector*
334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*
1030 Spruce Street.

WARDENS

THOMAS R. NEILSON, M. D.
MILLARD F. ROBERTS

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

PHILIP F. ALBURGER

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

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Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew ..... 8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society 8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild ..... 8.00 P. M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild ..... 7.45 P. M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P. M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.
Superintendent ..... The Curate
Assistant Superintendent Mr. F. C. Botwright
Librarian and .....
Organist ..... Mrs. S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For the Junior Brotherhood ..... 2.45 P.M.
Miss Hodge
For Young Ladies ..... 2.45 P.M.
Miss Stretch

UNCTION.

Of all the seven rites to which the term sacrament has been applied, there is none for which there is greater Scriptural authority or which has been longer in use, than the rite of Unction. We read in Genesis of Jacob pouring oil on the stone, which he had had for a pillow, when he would consecrate the place of his vision as a "House of God." Aaron and the priests under the old dispensation were anointed for their offices, as were Saul and David and the kings. The very name of Christ as applied to the Redeemer of the world means "the anointed one." When our Lord sent forth His disciples in His name they "anointed with oil many that were sick and healed them." The Epistles of the Apostles constantly speak of "the anointing" which all Christ's disciples have received, which has made them both "kings and priests unto God." And S. James directs that if any "is sick among you, let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord."

It was doubtless in obedience to this command or because the custom had already obtained among Christians, that the practice of anointing the sick with oil arose in the early church and has been continued ever since both in the East and in the West. The first English Prayer Book provided an office for its administration, which unfortunately on its revision was left out. In our General Convention of 1907, a committee was appointed to consider the advisability of introducing such an office. And

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS

THE CLERGY

TREASURER

MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS:

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Kalendar

May 1 SS. Philip and James
3 Friday—Fast
5 Fourth Sunday after Easter
10 Friday—Fast
12 Rogation Sunday
13 Rogation Day
14 Rogation Day
15 Rogation Day
16 Ascension Day
17 Friday—Fast
19 Expectation Sunday
24 Friday—Fast
26 Whitsunday
27 Whitsun Monday
28 Whitsun Tuesday
29 Ember Day—Fast
31 Ember Day—Fast

RECORD FOR APRIL

BAPTISMS Anna Marie Hemphill
Robert Moore
George Harold Fairchild, Jr.
Josephine Elizabeth Ware 4

MARRIAGE Harry A. Jones and
Phoebe W. Smith

COMMUNICANTS, received new
Chester Field Myers
Robert Hunter Patton
Joseph Glaser
Frederick Charles Botwright, Jr.
Harry Ware Barr
William James Stanley Whitehurst
William McGill
William John Boggs
William Henry Bender
William Charles Fest
William Samuel Marsh
George Gilmore McLoughlin
Charles McDermott
James Franklin Boggs
George Edwin Steventon
Charles Miller Rostick
Hugh Alexander Peters
Albert Arlley Sinclair
Joseph Robert Livacz
William Joyce Borie
Mrs. Elizabeth Gilmore
" Mary Harrison Marsh
" Annie Kelso
Emma Eleanor Loudon
Emma Francis Whitehurst
From S. Paul's School, Concord, N. H.
Charles Lewis Borie, Jr.
Charles Lewis Borie, III.
From S. Paul's Church, Camden, N. J.
Mrs. Helen Borie.
From the Church of the Messiah
Mrs. Almeria Grace Plummer 29
Transferred to S. Martin's College
Walter Harleigh Blundell
William Howard Frees
Carl Traraldsen
Frank Cody Austin
Charles Waldon Austin
William Lloyd Blumdell
William Leonard Dasheild
Robert George Watson
George Edwin Steventon
Charles Miller Rostick
Hugh Alexander Peters
Albert Arlley Sinclair
Joseph Robert Livacz
James Franklin Boggs

COMMUNIONS of the sick 14

BURIALS Alfred Edwin Fitler
Joseph E. Aimes
Mrs. Barbara Busch 3

OFFERINGS

For current expenses (including Easter offering)	$847.19
" Diocesan Missions	50.05
" The Poor	106.80
" Repairs of the organ	5.00
" Easter Flowers	37.59
" Sunday School Missionary Mite boxes	30.94
" the Sunday and Industrial Schools	.50
" S. Agnes Guild for the year	62.10
" Domestic Missions, Woman's Auxiliary	28.40
" Foreign " " "	12.65
" Colored " " "	12.45
" Indian " " "	17.65
" Diocesan " " "	16.90
At discretion of the Rector	5 00
Total,	$1,233 22

at the last Convention the committee reported in favor of it, which report was adopted by the House of Bishop, and by the clergy by a vote of two to one, but was unfortunately rejected by the laity.

But though no such office has been authoritatively put forth, there is nothing to prevent individual clergymen from using it. Many of our Bishops now consecrate oil for the purpose and it is kept in many of our churches for the use of those who desire it. The outward part of the Sacrament is the anointing with oil, and the inward part is the healing and strengthening influences which accompany it, with the laying on of hands and with prayer.

There has been a wonderful revival among us of late years of belief in the power of faith and prayer to assist at least in the recovery from sickness. Whole sects have sprung up, and spread with wonderful rapidity, which are founded solely on that idea. They are grounded on the truth that the mind has an enormous power over the body, and that one mind can influence another mind, It was doubtless in this way that our Lord and His disciples wrought their wonderful cures. And there have always been those who have claimed and exercised a like power. It is certainly promised in Scripture to those who have "faith." If this sacrament had always been used, as it was originally intended, it might have been a most beneficent influence and would have prevented the rise of these modern sects, such as Christion Scientists, which now try to practice it in a distorted way.

The fact that it is intended to be for the healing of serious illness, and the idea that its administration involved the consecration of the recipient to a special holiness of life, led to its being deferred to the last moment. Hence it came to be called "extreme unction." But the proper use for it would be in any case of grave illness, and its primary purpose is the obtaining of the spiritual grace and strength to bear one's suffering, together with the healing of the body, if it is the will of God.

We do not really know what matter is or what spirit is, or how the one is related to or may be affected by the other. Let us humbly and reverently use those "means of grace" provided for us in God's Church, and we shall surely find them efficacious for healing the ills both soul and body.

✠

PARISH NOTES

Easter Though there were showers later in the cay, the morning was beautiful, and brought out large congregations. There were seventy three Communicants at the 6.30 A. M. Celebration, and a large number at 7.30 A. M. Some three hundred Communions in all being made during the day. The Church was beautiful and the Choir rendered very effective festival services both in the morning and evening. At the later service and again on the evening of Low Sunday there was a solemn Procession with banners.

The offerings on Easter Day amounted to $600, falling short $200 of the amount required to meet our current expenses up to May 1st.

✠

Gifts. A richly embroidered hood for white silk cope. The original donor of the jeweled brass Altar Cross on our Main Altar had it relacquered and a "Corpus" added to it so as to make it correspond to the Cross on S. Saviour's Altar. This greatly improves its appearance. The same person presented twenty-one small crucifixes to members of the Confirmation Class. Bibles and Prayer Books were presented also to some.

The Memorial Tablet to the late Rev. Wm. Bernard Gilpin was put in place on the wall of the Chancel during Holy Week. It consists of a brass plate on a black marble slab, with a Chalice and Host on one end and a Cross on the other, in relief. The inscription is

"In loving memory of
William Bernard Gilpin
Priest
Curate of this Church
1899 ✠ 1902."

This will keep his name always in mind in the parish. We have also memorials of him in the beautiful center panel of the reredos of the main altar which he painted, and in the water fount on the exterior of the Church, which he had erected and for which he secured the funds, when he was Curate.

✠

Vestry Election. At the annual election for Vestrymen held on Easter Monday the following gentlemen were duly elected to serve for the ensuing three years. John D. Henderson, Spencer Ervin, Richard Gilpin, Edward F. Pugh.

At the subsequent meeting of the Vestry, Mr. M. F. Roberts was re-elected Accounting Warden, and Mr. J. D. Henderson, Secretary. Messrs. Neilson, Newbold and Newman were elected delegates to the Diocesan Convention.

The financial condition of the Church was considered, and it was resolved to carry out if possible an every member canvass of the parish to secure each person attending the Church as a regular contributor.

✠

Extra Expenses. In addition to being some $200 behind in our current expense account, we shall have to pay $150 for repairs to tne organ, for which we have received so far only $15. Also we have had to make very considerable repairs to the roof of the Church, which will be quite expensive.

Thus we are rolling up another deficit, and will continue to do so, until we can get a regular income sufficient to meet our expenses. This can only be done by more and larger contributions, or by increasing our endowment fund. A Church cannot be carried on without funds any more than other institutions.

✠

The Men's Club entertainment last month was furnished by the members of S. John's Guild. It consisted of a minstrel show. Mr. Albert Challman presided. The end men were Messrs Samuel Neill and James Boggs. Mr. Harry Ritsert acted as accompanist. This was followed by a humorous sketch in which Messrs Mill, Reeves and Cox took the principal parts.

This will be the last meeting of the Club for the winter, as this month we have the annual Parish Tea, which takes its place.

✠

S. Martin's Boys. The boys of S. Martin's College who have been regularly attending the Church for the last year and four months, and fourteen of whom were Confirmed here, will hereafter attend the services in the Church of the Evangelists which adjoins the College and which was reopened for Divine Service on Low Sunday, a new President in Priests orders, the Rev. A. W. Shick, having been appointed and entered on his duties on that date. We shall quite miss the boys, as they filled up almost one aisle of the Church, and were always present at the principal service on Sunday mornings. They behaved most reverently. We never heard any complaint in regard to their conduct.

✠

Ascension Day comes on the 15th of this month, and we trust, as it is our Special Parish Festival it will be observed as such by all attending the Church. The services will be the same as on Sunday, at 7 and 10.30 A. M.

There will also be a Special Choral Sesvice with Procession in the evening at 8 o'clock, when the Rector will preach the Anniversary Sermon, which all interested in the Parish should hear.

On the following Sunday evening will be the Annual Guild Service, when there will be a Procession of all the members of the Guilds and there will be a Special Sermon preached to them by the Rev. C. S. Hutchinson, Rector of S. Clement's Church.

And on the following Monday will be the Annual Parish Tea to which all the adnlts of the Parish are invited, tickets 25 cents. We trust there will be a large turn out,

The Ascension-day offerings will be as usual for this endowment fund. This is to keep before the congregation, the need to increase this fund to an amount to enable the Church to meet its annual expenses and protect it from the danger of vicissitudes in the future.

✠

Absence of the Curate. The Rev. H. Page Dyer, Curate of the Parish, has been granted a leave of absence during this month. He has been asked to hold a series of missions in the Panama Canal Zone. On April 27th, he sailed from New York for Colon. He has been invited by the Convocation of Panama to preach a series of Eight Days' Missions at various places on the Isthmus, beginning at Colon at the Atlantic end of the Canal and ending at Panama City at the Pacific end. He will be assisted by the Rev. Fr. Cooper, Rector of Christ Church, Cristobal, C. Z. The prayers of this congregation are asked that some souls may be won to penitence and many others helped by these weeks of daily prayers, and preaching and instruction.

His place will be supplied by the Rev. John W. Cook, who will take all his usual services except the 10.30 A. M. Sunday service, when he is engaged in S. Michael's Church, Wilmington. The daily 7 A. M. Celebrations will be discontinued except on the mornings of Holy days, until Mr. Dyer's return.

✠

Prizes. At the evening service on Easter day the Rector presented a prize, consisting of a bronze medal, for proficiency in music, which had been offered by the Choirmaster, to George Wilson, also one for reverent behaviour in church offered by Mr. Walter M. Newmann, to Warren Meddle, both members of the choir.

✠

Girls' Friendly Society. Notes for May:

7th, Tuesday, Monthly service and tea for the mothers of the members.
11th, Saturday, Rummage Sale in Parish House, 3 to 10 p. m.
14th, Tuesday, Talk by Mrs. Perot at 904 Clinton St.
21st, Tuesday, A talk on a trip abroad, illustrated by a post card projector.
28th, Tuesday, Amusement night.

Any contributions of household or personal things gladly received for the Rummage Sale at the Parish House.

S. E. Gilpin,
Branch Secretary.

✠

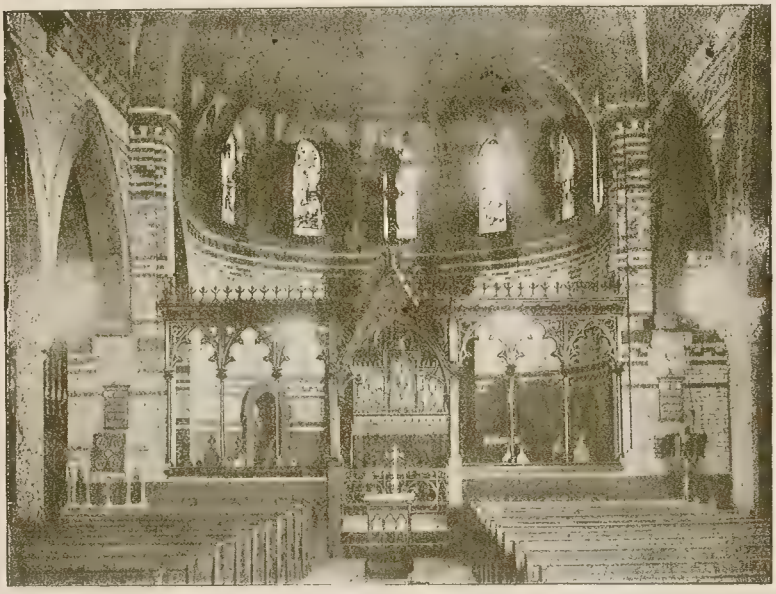
TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the News is now due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated. The following were received since March:

Miss Agnes Haynes (2)
Mrs. Wagner (2)
Dr. Coates
Mrs. Carmen
Mrs. T. L. Smith.

The Ascension News

Vol. XXV Philadelphia. June, 1912 No. 6



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REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*
1030 Spruce Street.

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Assistant Superintendent Mr. F. C. Botwright
Librarian and .....
Organist ..... Mrs. S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For the Junior Brotherhood ..... 2.45 P.M.
Miss Hodge
For Young Ladies ..... 2.45 P.M.
Miss Stretch

OUR ANNUAL REPORT.

In the annual report of the parish of the Convention year, May 1st, 1911 to May 1st, 1912, which we print this month, we note that the number of Baptisms and Confirmations were the same exactly as last year, 32 and 25. There have been 15 more added to the communicant list, and 7 less removed, making the gain for the year 12, the present total registered being 516.

The number added, 59, was a good addition, but there having been 47 lost, keeps us in about the same position. Those lost by death were Mrs. Julia Irene Hemphill, Benjamin Franklin Holbrook, George Wharton, Mame Boggs, John Gibson McCall, a member of the Vestry, Mrs. Matilda Morgan, the wife of our Verger, Mrs. Mary Emma Bonnet, widow of a former Warden, Alexander Henry McIlvaine, William Clymer Rowe, Mrs. Carrie Virginia Redmond, Mrs. Margaret Smith, Charles Forman Marter, and Mrs. Margaret Rogers.

May they rest in peace.

There was one Marriage less and six more funerals than last year. The number of services and the attendance at them has been about the same. There have been not as many teachers in the Sunday and in the Saturday Industrial Schools, the number of scholars has been about the same. There is nothing more important than the moral training of the young, and we wish very much that there more men and women who would be willing to devote themselves to this work.

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS

THE CLERGY

TREASURER

MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

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Kalendar

June 1. Ember Day.
2. Trinity Sunday.
7. Friday—Fast.
9. First Sunday after Trinity.
11. S. Barnabas.
14. Friday—Fast.
16. Second Sunday after Trinity.
21. Friday—Fast.
23. Third Sunday after Trinity.
24. Nativity of S. John Baptist.
28. Friday—Fast.
29. S. Peter.
30. Fourth Sunday after Trinity.

RECORD FOR MAY.

BAPTISM—Henry Rembrandt Hust. 1

COMMUNICANTS transferred to the Church of the Saviour, West Philadelphia.
Margaret McIlhenny.
Annie McIlhenny.
To S. Anna's Mission,
Mrs. Hannah Louise Sheehan.
Matilda Spence Ferguson. 4

COMMUNIONS of the sick, 5

BURIALS
Mrs. Felixine de Teisseria Smith.
Mrs. Frances Gratz. 2

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$426.79
" deficit	250 00
" the Poor	79.35
" " Endowment fund	39.25
" Parochial Activities	40.95
" Diocesan Missions	6 14
" repair of the organ	5.00
Total,	$847.43

The Guilds have been well maintained, especially those among the young people, though we find it increasingly difficult year by year to get older people to engage in Church work. Why is this? Are they too busy to find any time to try and do some good? The Men's Guild and Junior S. John's Guild were later in beginning this season, but were kept up regularly when started. The Girls' Friendly Society has been well maintained, and several sociables were given by it and by St. John's Guild. The Chapter of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew has kept together, conducted the Men's Club and done some personal work. The Mother's Meeting has met regularly under the care of Mrs. Kinubel, who took charge of it in the Fall, and has been of great service to its members and their families.

The Financial statistics for the year show a total increase of receipts of nearly $700, for parochial expenses, really of more, for those of last year included some $800 for improvements. This was due to the special appeal made last November to make up the deficit we then had. The prompt answer to that enabled us to pay off all our debt and to meet our current expenses up to May 1st, except some $250, which has since been made up by the generosity of an individual, so that we stand now free of debt of any kind. For this we are devoutly thankful and trust we shall avoid deficits in the future.

The receipts for purposes outside of the parish were some $500 more than last year due to a single gift of that amount. The total expenditures were $931 more.

Improvements have been made in the Church by the erection of a brass tablet in memory of the Rev. Wm. Bernard Gilpin, and a painted window in the Chancel in memory of Mr. B. F. Holbrook his wife and four children. Other gifts will be reported in the next year book.

The most notable event in the parish during the last year has been the introduction of the duplex envelope system. Its main purpose was to secure sufficient funds to meet the missionary assessments on the Church and provide for its benevolent work. Formerly only *one* envelope each quarter was issued for these purposes and the amount received was very small. Now by having a separate pocket for one of these purposes each week much more is received. For the first quarter this year $164 were received for Diocesan Missions, whereas not more than $50 had ever been received before in the similar period.

But to make the system successful in increasing the income of the Church for general purposes. It is essential that *every one* in the parish should use them. Only about 200 persons are doing so now. If 200 more would take them, even if they each gave only 5 cents a week it would increase our income over $500. If any one has not had a set of envelopes sent to him, if he will ask the Rector for one, he will gladly supply him with a set.

The general review of the past year is most encouraging. We have not only held our own but made progress. This time last year we were over $1,000 behind in our current expense account. Now we have no debt of any kind.

Let us see to it that we keep so, and we can keep so, if each person attending the church will do his or her full share in contributing towards our very modest rate of expenditure.

PARISH NOTES.

Our parochial festival passed off very well this year. Ascension day came earlier and the weather was not as hot as it often is. The day itself was stormy in the morning, still we had fair congregations and very good music, almost the whole choir was present. The anthem, Gounod's "Unfold your portals" sung morning and evening was particularly beautiful and well rendered. In the evening the Rector preached the anniversary sermon and there was a solemn procession and Te Deum. The attendance compared favorably with other years but the congregation as a whole never manifests the interest in this service that it should.

The Guild service on the following Sunday evening was very beautiful. There was a very good turning out of the young girls' Guild and the Girls' Friendly Society, but the men and boys' Guilds were poorly represented except by those in the choir and who acted as Cross and banner bearers and acolytes. The Rev. C. H. Hutchinson preached a most appropriate sermon.

The Parish tea was unusually successful. About two hundred persons were present and in addition to our usual ample supply of ice cream, strawberries and cake and coffee, a quite elaborate entertainment was provided under the direction of Miss Helen C. Wharton who deserves our sincere thanks for her hard work in getting it up. Those performing were members of the Girls' Friendly, S. Agnes, and S. John's Guilds, and a quartette provided by Mr. Myers, our bass soloist.

There were also speeches by the Rector and Mrs. John Mason, who urged everyone connected with the parish to be faithful in using the envelopes provided for the support of the church.

On Tuesday evening a supper was provided for the members of the choir.

The Curate. Letters from the Rev. Curate tells of his safe arrival at Panama and busy at work with his missions. He is expected back the first week in this month.

✠

Honor to the Rector. The authorities of the University of Pennsylvania have informed the Rector of the parish, that they propose to confer on him the degree of Doctor of Divinity at the coming Commencement on June 19th. He will especially value this honor as coming from a University which does not very frequently confer this degree and from which he graduated in the Department of Arts.

✠

The Rummage Sale on May 16th was quite successful, netting some $46, of which $25 will be used for the summer outing.

✠

The new painted glass window in the Chancel has been received from England where all our windows were made, and put in position. It represents Christ's triumphal entrance into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, and completes, with one exception, the series of windows representing scenes from the life of Christ which fill the aisle and chancel windows.

The remaining window will represent the Betrayal of Christ. The Rector has the design for it which he will gladly show to any one, and he hopes some one will soon offer to fill it, as the plain glass now there is a great blot in the Chancel. The inscription in the new window reads "In memory of Benjamin F. and Prudence S. Holbrook, and their children, Clara, Anna, Elizabeth and Edgar."

✠

Girls' Friendly Society Notes. The Friendly will continue its meetings through June. At the evening service on Whitsunday there was an admission service—Nelly Zahn and Margaret Mull being admitted as members, and Margagaret Hilferty, Elizabeth Searle, Anna Airey, Rose Airey, Martha Airey, Ida Trice, Elizabeth Carpenter and Sadie Moore were advanced to Senior Members. $30 has been given through the winter to Parochial objects, and $25 to Summer Outing Fund.

✠

The Sunday School Excursion will take place Saturday, June 22nd, to Brandywine Spring Park.

The officers and teachers of the school are hoping that all the members of the church and school will take some interest in the excursion and help to make the day a grand success. Tickets, adult 50c, children 25c, can be had from Mr. William Morgan or any of the teachers or scholars.

The scholars will meet at the church Saturday morning, June 22nd, at 6.30 A. M., and then proceed to the B. & O. station, 24th and Chestnut St. Train leaves 7.30 A. M. Returns 7.45 P. M.

REPORT.

The following is the report of the Parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop :

Baptisms.—Adults, 11; infants, 21, total, 32.

Confirmed.—Males, 20; females, 5; total, 25.

Communicants added.—New, 26; by transfer, 33; total, 59; died, 13; removed by revision of list, 9; by transfer, 25; total, 47; present number, 516.

Marriages.—8.

Burials.—26.

Public Services.—Sunday, 246; on the other days, 960; total, 1205.

Celebrations of Holy Communion.—414.

Children Catechised.—Times, 246.

Sunday School.—Officers and teachers, 13; scholars, 126.

Other Parish Agencies.—Officers and workers, 70; members, 150; Industrial School Teachers, 6; scholars, 35; Mothers' Meeting, members, 25.

Money Receipts.—Offerings for all Parish purposes, $6,663.90; offerings for purposes outside the Parish, $765.19; investments, $598.03; other sources, entertainments, etc., $417.94; Sunday School, $84.90; Women's Auxiliary, $184.80; Endowment Fund, $75.40; total, $8,790.16.

Expenditures.—Parochial current expenses (including salaries of clergy, music, fuel and lighting, care of church building and grounds and ordinary repair of same), $5,223.90; payment of debt, $1,100; support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools, $209.36; for the Poor, $511.99; added to Endowment Fund, $75.40; miscellaneous, $830.70; total, $7,951.35.

Diocesan.—Episcopal and Convention Fund, $146.02; Diocesan Missions, $100; Episcopal Hospital, $37.68; Sustentation Fund, $33.37; Bishop Whitaker Memorial, $3.00; Bishop's Fund, $8.38; total, $346.35.

General Missions.—Sunday School, $30.94; General, $511.35; Foreign, $18.65; Domestic, $75.40; Indian, $18.15; Colored people, $12.45; Prayer Book and Tract Societies, $14.00; Clergy relief, $3.00; Theological education, $10.00; United Offering, $30.25; total, $752.19. Total for all objects, $9,040.89.

Financial Condition.—Aggregate value of property of the Parish, real and personal, $82,000; incumbrances: mortgage on the Church edifice, Parish building and ground, none! other indebtedness, $1,100; Endowment Fund, $13,500.

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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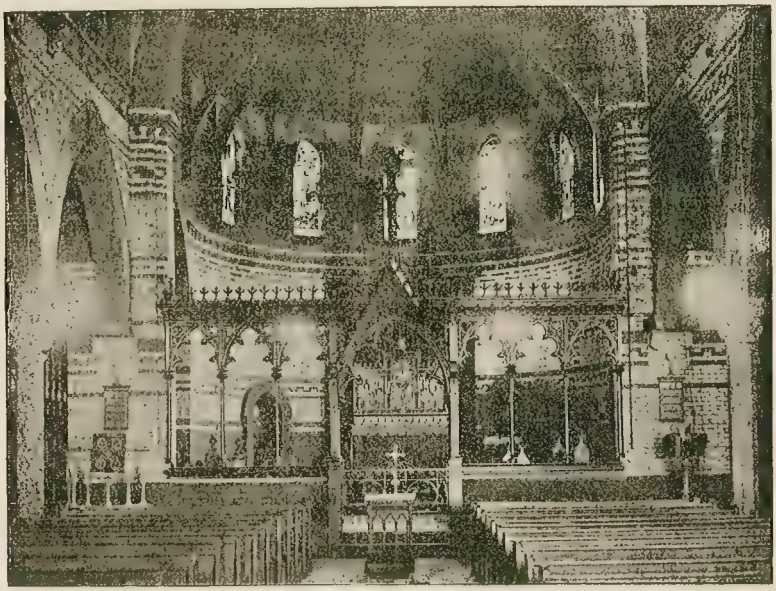
The following were received since the last issue.

Miss Holbrook, Mrs. Carmen, J. Neilson, Mr. Barton, Mr. Kelley, Miss Hofmann, Mr. Pugh, Miss Chamberlain.

The Ascension News

VOL. XXV PHILADELPHIA. OCTOBER, 1912 No. 7



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DAILY .....10.00 A.M.

Evensong

SUNDAYS (with Sermon).....7.45 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address)..8.00 P.M.

Children's Service

SUNDAYS.....3.30 P.M

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CLERGY

REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE, D.D., *Rector.*
334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*
1030 Spruce Street.

WARDENS

THOMAS R. NEILSON, M. D.
MILLARD F. ROBERTS

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

PHILIP F. ALBURGER

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild . 8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew ..... 8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society 8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild ..... 8.00 P. M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild ..... 7.45 P. M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P. M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.
Superintendent ..... The Curate
Assistant Superintendent
Librarian and .....
Organist ..... Mrs. S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For the Junior Brotherhood ..... 2.45 P.M.
Miss Hodge
For Young Ladies ..... 2.45 P.M.
Miss Stretch

THE IDEAL PARISH.

Parish comes from the Greek word parochia which means a neighborhood. In ecclesiastical language it signifies a district, having definite boundaries in which is a church which all the people in the district are supposed to attend, and over which presides a clergyman who ministers to those people in spiritual thiugs, celebrates and administers the sacraments, instructs in the Catholic faith, preaches and exhorts to holy living, acts as guide and friend to every one young and old, rich and poor.

The ideal parish is one in which there is only one church, not a number of small insignificant chapels of different denominations, but one fine attractive, well appointed church to which all belong and where all work together for the common good, and which all attend on Sundays and Holy days at least, parents and children sitting together in the same pew. That is the only way in which parents can expect to bring the influences of religion to bear upon their children. Unless they show respect for it and use its offices for themselves they cannot expect their children to do so. And in this parish every one will contribute towards its support in due proportion to his means, and each will take his share in carrying on the work of the Parish. The older, more substantial men will act as Vestrymen, see after its finances and the care and adornment of its buildings, or act as officers or leaders in its schools and guilds. The older women will serve in the different societies of the Parish for missionary and charitable work. The younger men and women as well as the boys and girls will belong to the guilds or schools. All will be baptized and confirmed in the Parish Church, all who

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS

THE CLERGY

TREASURER

MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS:

Single Copies, by Mail, 50 Cents a Year

Kalendar.

October 4. Friday, Fast.
6. Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.
11. Friday, Fast.
13. Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.
18. S. Luke Evangelist, Fast.
20. Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.
25. Friday, Fast.
27. Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity.
28. SS. Simon and Jude.

RECORD FOR JUNE, JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER.

BAPTISMS—Elizabeth Doris Lindsay.
Elizabeth Mary Harris.
Lenox Prevost Hodge.
Walter Massey Phillips.
Edward William Pedrick.
Alice Erhard Moore.
Robert Boger McNeill. 7

MARRIAGES—Frederick Eustice Brooks and Caroline Rourk Hare.
Harry P. Quinn and Edith Kavanaugh.
Thomas Albert Fitzpatrick and Mary Jones Evans. 3

COMMUNICANTS Died.
Mrs. Elmira Baily Eck.
Mrs. Harriet Eliza Rocap.
Martha Adeline Moitz. 3

BURIALS, Benjamin F. Butcher.
Mrs. Rebecca Chalkley Phillips.
Mrs. Elmira Baily Eck.
Mrs. Harriet Eliza Rocap.
William Wilson.
Thomas Anthony Dooley.
Martha Adelina Moitz.
Walter L. Hornblower. 8

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$556 78
" the Poor	82.86
" " Endowment fund	3 81
" Parochial Activities	58,32
" Diocesan Missions	3.82
" General "	700.02
" Colored "	6.00
" Church debt	10.00
" Outing Fund	6.00
" Episcopal and Convention Fund	.06
Of the Sunday School	2.43
Total,	$1,430.13

marry will be married there, all will perform their duties there, all the dead will be brought there for burial.

Such is the ideal. But, especially in our modern cities, it is very difficult to realize this ideal. Onr cities are so large, the dwellings are so scatrered, the modes of communication between one part of the city and another so easy, and so many changes of residence are constantly taking place. Persons having lived in one part of the city and become attached to a particular church and then moving away desire still to retain their connection with it, and other persons, foreigners or those professing different religions, move in and take their places, so that it is very difficult to keep up the idea of a distinct neighborhood constituting a parish, or for a clergyman to minister as he should to persons living at a distance from his church, or for them to attend it regularly.

This is a difficulty we find particularly in this parish, situated as it is in a district which has been so largely forsaken by native Americans and their places taken up by negroes, Jews and Roman Catholics, whom the ministrations of the parish cannot reach.

But if we cannot have an ideal parish let us try to come as near to it as we can. If those who live at a distance still keep up their connection with it, let them be as regular in their attendance, as faithful in the discharge of their duties to it, and take as much interest in it as they possibly can.

In the constant changes which are taking place we do not know what new opportunities may come to it. Certainly we have no intention of moving. So many churches have been moved from this section of the city that there is more need and more opportunity for our Parish to remain and minister as far as it can to those about it or who can be attracted to it.

Above all let us try to put it upon such a foundation that its good work may be sure of being carried on no matter what fluctuations of population in its immediate neighborhood may occur.

At the beginning of another season we want to elicit the active interest of every one who is in any way connected with, or interested in, this parish to enable it to become all that it might and should be.

✠

PARISH NOTES.

The Summer passed off as usual in the parish. The services were regularly maintained, the Rev. Curate being in charge during the absence of the Rector in July and August. He preached a series of sermons on Sunday nights on the different places he has visited, Panama, the Yellowstone, Nova Scotia, etc., drawing a religious lesson from each. An after meeting was held each evening in the Parish Building, which was almost as well attended as the services in the Church, at which a large number of pictures he has collected were displayed and questions asked and answered.

✠

Deaths. During the summer three of our communicants have died, Mrs. Almira Eck, Mrs. Harriet Rocap and Miss Martha Moitz. Tne latter is a special loss to the parish as she has long been connected with, and interested in, it and was one of our workers in the Altar Chapter of the Women's Guild. Her death was most unexpected.

Camp. Some ten or twelve of the men of our choir, servers, etc., had their usual summer camp at Florence, N. J., through the courtesy of Mrs. Thomas Neilson. They report having had a good time, boating, bathing, etc.

✠

Sunday School. The closing session of the Sunday School took place on Trinity Sunday, at which time prizes were distributed. Miss Anna Carpenter and Miss Margaret Mull each receiving a gilt edged Prayer Book for perfect recitation of the Catechism. This is a standing prize offered each year by the Recror. He trusts there will be more applicants for it this winter.

The Sunday School excursion took place later and was very successful and enjoyable.

We regret that Mr. F. C. Botwright who has served as Assistant Superintendent of the Sunday School for the last six years has owing to domestic arrangements felt to resign the position. He has been most regular and faithful in the discharge of his duties and liberal in providing entertainments, etc. for the children, for which he deserves the warmest commendation and thanks.

The Sunday School recommences Oct. 5th when we trust there will be a full attendance. The Rector hopes very much to be able to secure this winter the aid of some university students both in this work and in the boys' and young men's Guild of the Parish. There is a systematic effort now being made to utilize the young men in the University in such works.

✠

The Guilds. All our Guilds recommence their meetings this month on their regular days. The annual meeting of the Women's Guild takes place on SS. Simon and Jude's day, Oct. 28th, after the morning service at 10 o'clock. Every woman

in the parish whether she take part in the work of the Guild or not is invited and urged to attend this meeting that she may hear the reports from the different Chapters and see if there is not some way in which she can aid in their work. The first monthly missionary meeting of the ladies is held after this meeting to arrange for the annual missionary box.

✠

Old Clothes. At this time when ladies are overhauling their wardrobes let them remember that we can use any kind and description of clothes, shoes, hats, etc., they have to give away. Any articles suited for a Rummage sale we can dispose of.

✠

Loss and Gains. We regret very much that owing to the vessel with which he has been connected having been ordered away from League Island where it has been for the last year, we are to lose from our choir Mr. Edward H. Offley. He has been most helpful not only in the choir but acting as lay reader and helping in the Men's Club, etc. He will be missed very much. And it is gratifying to learn from him that he regrets very much having to leave.

On the other hand we are glad to welcome back again Mr. Barton Huntington who has also made himself most useful in the parish, but was away all last winter in Atlantic City where he was engaged.

✠

The repairs to our organ and to the roof of the Church have been completed, and the organ is now in a very satisfactory condition. We regret, however, that the Warden has not been in funds sufficient to pay in full for these improvements.

It is much to be desired that the Church should be put in such a financial condition that it could meet promptly not only the salaries of its own officers, but also the bills for any necessary expenses it may have to contract.

✠

Duplex Envelopes. We are much gratified at the success attending the use of this new system. Not only were we for the first time able by the coutributions received through it to meet the amount asked from us for Diocesan Missions, but contributions for the Poor and for Parochial activities having been coming in as they never have before. Almost every envelope put on the plates has something in *each* pocket. All that it needed to make it a complete success and to put the Church in a satisfactory financial condition is for *every* one attending the Church to use them. We trust that now at the beginning of another winter each member of the congregation, who has not already done so, will ask the Rector for a set of envelopes and use them regularly, *no matter how small the sum may be that he or she may contribute.*

Men's Club. The first meeting will be in November of which due notice will be given.

✠

Advertisement. We call attention to a new advertisement on the last page of our Choir Master, Mr. Alburger, who has taken up Real Estate business in addition to his music. We trust some of our readers may have work to put into his hands.

We are glad to recommend this and all our advertisements to our members.

✠

Special sermons. The Rev. Curate will be the preacher at the Sunday night services during this month. His subject on October 5th will be "The one Catholic and many churches."

Prayers are asked. The Rev. Curate, just before his return from his vacation, spent four days and evenings preaching night Mission Sermons and giving afternoon instructions to children and to adults at Christ Church, Eddington, Pa., the Rev. W. F. Lutz, Rector. Prayers of this congregation are asked for the perseverance of those whose consciences were touched during those services.

✠

St. Agnes' Guild Entertainment. Its Annual Entertainment will take place on the evening of Monday, November 11, at the Parish Building.

As usual, tickets will be sent to members of the congregation by mail, with the request that they return either the tickets or the money for them to the Guild, directed to the church.

This will be, as in other years, the only request for financial aid by the Guild during the twelve months.

✠

Repairing Chairs. During the summer our good Sexton, Mr. Morgan, has been occupying himself by repairing and revarnishing some one hundred and seventeen of the chairs in use in the Church and Parish building. It makes them much more substantial and better looking, and was a needed work.

✠

Bishop's Addrecs. Copies of the last Convention address of the Bishop of the Diocese have been printed for general distribution. A number have been sent to each parish. Those sent here will be placed in the racks in the vestibule of the church until they are disposed of. We think our people will be interested in reading them.

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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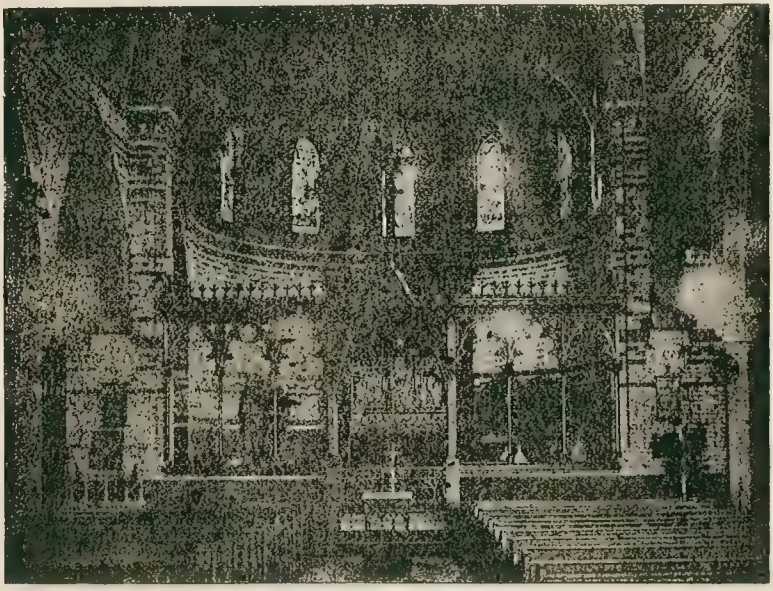
The following were received since the last issue.

MRS. Macken, MIS. Newbold (2), Miss Voydes, Miss Jennings, Miss O'Hara, Miss Massey, Miss Carpenter, Miss Rousseau.

The Ascension News

Vol. XXV PHILADELPHIA. NOVEMBER, 1912 No. 8



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THURSDAYS.....9.00 A.M.

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The Church of the Ascension

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH
'Phone, Locust 32-63A.

CLERGY

REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE, D.D., *Rector.*
334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate*
1030 Spruce Street.

WARDENS

THOMAS R. NEILSON, M. D.
MILLARD F. ROBERTS

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

PHILIP F. ALBURGER

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild . 8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society 8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew ..... 8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild ..... 8.00 P. M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild ..... 7.45 P. M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid ..... 3.00 P. M.
Wednesdays, Mother's Meeting .. 8.00 P. M.
Thursday, Embroidery Class ....10.30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society ..10.30 A. M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P. M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.20 P. M.
Superintendent ..... The Curate
Assistant Superintendent
Librarian and .....
Organist ..... Mrs. S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For the Junior Brotherhood ..... 2.45 P.M.
Miss Hodge
For Young Ladies ..... 2.45 P.M.
Miss Stretch

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays.....10.00 A. M.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

There is no more momentous question affecting the life and welfare of our nation than that of the religious education of the young. The people of the United States thought a hundred years ago that they had taken a great step forward, beyond all nations, in providing a common free school education for all children. The belief was that that would secure the advancement and welfare of the people beyond every thing else. The question of religious education was not considered at all. The great and numerous divisions among Christians made it impossible to consider the question of the State having anything to do with the matter of religion. It was accepted as a self-evident maxim that the State and all questions of religion were to be kept absolutely separate. It was thought that the churches would be able to provide for the religious education of the young. But in practice that has not been found to be possible.

The only Christian body which makes adequate provision for the religious training of its children is the Roman Catholic Church. It has erected everywhere large parochial schools in which the young receive systematic religious, as well as secular, instruction. And the power of the Roman Church is undoubtedly due to this fact. Childhood is the time when character is moulded. If religious principles and habits are not acquired then it is very unlikely that they will be later. And the method we rely on of Sunday School teaching,

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS

THE CLERGY

TREASURER

MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS:

Single Copies, by Mail, 50 Cents a Year

Kalendar

Nov. 1. All Saints—Fast.
3. Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity.
8. Friday--Fast.
10. Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity.
15. Friday—Fast.
17. Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity.
22. Friday—Fast.
24. Sunday next before Advent.
28. Thank3giving.
29. Friday—Fast.
30. S. Andrew.

RECORD FOR OCTOBER.

BAPTISMS Albert Russell Challman. 1

MARRIAGES Roger Williams Moutague and Bertha Blickendufer Zook.
Walter Mayer Franklin, Jr., and Elizabeth Pentz.

COMMUNICANTS, transferred to the Church of the Atonement, Laurel Springs, N. Y.
Bertha Epprecht.
Anna Epprecht. 2

Received from S. Luke's Church, Germantown.
Caroline Louise Thompson. 1

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses	$263.87
" Parochial activities	53.25
" the Poor	41.25
" Diocesan Missions	.22
" Memorial to Miss Moitz	100.00
" the Debt	10.00
" " Endowment Fund	.10
" Colored Missions	6-00
" Episcopal and Convention Fund	.02
" Benevolent Purposes	.25
At the discretion of the Rector	15.00
Of the Sunday School	3 62
Total,	$503.48

which means only one hour a week in a school where the attendance is entirely voluntary, by teachers who are for the most part untrained and unfitted for the work, and with no power of discipline, is utterly inadequate for the purpose.

Why should not the Episcopal Church with its wealth do in this matter what the Roman Church does? Our parishes were never so well supplied with Parochial buildings as they are now. But they are not used as they should be. Most of them are open only for an hour or so on Sunday, and on some evenings in the week for the meetings of Societies, or for athletics or entertainments. Of course there would be the cost of maintaining schools. But why should we not have orders of men and women who would freely give themselves to this work of education as the Roman Catholics do?

But whether the Church does her corporate duty in this matter or not, every parent or *godparent* should be careful and conscientious in discharging his or her duty to the children for whose moral training they are responsible. All godparents promise "to see "that the child for whom they stand, "is taught the Creed, the Lord's Prayer and the Ten Commandments and all things which a Christian ought to know and believe for his soul's health." This is a tremendous responsibility which few godparents discharge as they should. If all did their duty in this matter we should have more religious youth.

Then the clergy should do their duty more than they generally do in personally catechising and instructing the children of their cures and not leave it chiefly to the teachers of the Sunday Schools.

And our Sunday Schools themselves could be greatly improved if more of our educated and cultured people would give themselves to this work. It is one of the greatest and most important branches of Church work in which any one could engage.

Then arrangements might be made by which religious instruction could be given in our Parish buildings or churches, during the week as well as on Sundays. Attractions might be offered to the children to bring them there on week days on condition of their receiving religious instruction.

Certainly the church ought to bestir itself in every way in this momentous matter.

✠

PARISH NOTES.

The annual meeting of the Women's Guild was held on SS. Simeon and Jude's day. Some fifteen ladies were present were present. The reports of the various chapters for the past year were read, which showed that the work of the Guild was up to the average of other years.

The following changes were made in officers of the Guild. Mrs. Carman resigns her position as Head of the Ladies' Aid and Mrs. Barrett takes her place. Mrs. Knabel will take charge of the Industrial School in addition to her work in the Mothers' meeting. Miss Caroline Biddle will take the place of Miss Elizabeth Gilpin as Secretary for the Church Periodical Club. Mrs. George M. Coates will become a delegate to the Colored Committee of the Women's Auxiliary, and Miss Caroline L. Thompson to the Foreign Committee. The other officers and delegates will be the same as last year.

The Industrial School recommences its sessions on Saturdays with this month. In addition to the usual classes Mr. Byron Huntington, who is now illustrating for one of the dailg papers in this city, will begin a class of older boys to teach them free hand drawing and caricaturing. This is an opportunity for our boys to acquire this art which we trust they will not neglect.

✠

The Mothers' Meeting will recommence on Nov. 6, after which work will be given out regularly on Wednesday evenings, after the service in the church which all the members of the meeting are expected to attend.

✠

The quarter's envelopes which are sent out the beginning of this month are on the side marked "for others" for the General Missions of the Church. The amount printed on them as "asked for" is $755. This was the amount we were asked by the Missions' Committee of the Diocese to contribute for the year ending September 1st, which we are glad to say was more than met, though chiefly through the liberality of an individual. This year we are asked to give $1,044.78. This may seem a very large sum for a parish such as ours to contribute for this purpose. But it is fixed by an arithmetical calculation of so much per cent. on the amount we raise for our current expenses. So that all other parishes are asked to give in the same proportion. We are sure that this year a great deal more than was contributed last year will be given by the general congregation, and we trust the entire amount will be raised.

Memorial window. The family of the late Miss Martha Moitz, who died in August have authorized the placing of a stained glass window in the clerestory of the church to her memory. It will fill the center lancet of the next group of three windows to those already filled and each containing the figure of an Apostle.

✠

New piano. In addition to the above, Mrs. Moitz has presented to the church her daughter's piano. It has been placed in the Guild room for meetings held there and for the choir practice. It is most acceptable, as a new piano for these purposes was much needed. Our old piano was presented to the Church of the Redemption, Kensington, where it was most acceptable, as they had none at all and had long been wanting one.

✠

Confirmation. The Bishop of the Diocese has adopted a new scheme by which Comfirmation will be administered to all the churches in the same neighborhood consecutively. This will bring the date for its administration in our church on Sunday, Feb. 9th, at the morning service, instead of a week day evening service near Easter as we have had it for many years.

This willl necessitate classes for Instruction being formed very early. Notice in regard to them will be given next month. And we trust that all persons of sufficient age, not yet confirmed, will begin immediately to turn their attention to the subject.

✠

Missionary box. Donations are asked during this month for the annual missionary box which our ladies make up for some needy missionary. They may be sent to Mrs. T. Leaming Smith, 309 South Hicks St., the lady in charge of it. These boxes are a great boon to clergymen whose salaries are not sufficient even to provide them with the necessaries of life.

✠

Wanted. Some new surplices and cottas for tbe clergy and choir. If donations of linen are made for this purpose. our ladies will make them up.

✠

Thanksgiving. All fruit sent to the church before Thanksgiving day will be placed on the altar and afterwards sent to the sick. On the evening before Thanksgiving a supper will be provided for the members of the Mothers' meeting for which donations of poultry or cake will be acceptable.

✠

The Girls' Friendly Society has started the winter with a singing teacher, and every Tuesday evening supper is served to those members desiring it, before the class.

If there are any women in the congregation who are interested in the work amongst the girls of the Parish, they can show it by becoming either an "Active associate" and helping with the work, or "Honorary," and the Secretary would be glad to hear from them.

Miss S. E. Gilpin,
904 Clinton St.

✠

Repairs. The brick work about the entrance to the church has been repainted and some of the benches in the church reoiled, which needed it very much.

St. John's Junior Guild. This society has begun its autumn work under promising conditions. They are looking forward to the coming of a Gymnastic Trainer.

✠

Sunday School. We very much regret to record the loss of two teachers, Miss Margaret Clinton and Miss Elizabeth Hawkins. Both have served faithfully for a number of years and everyone connected with the School greatly miss their presence and very real help.

We welcome several additions to the Official and Teaching Staff. Mr. Chester F. Myers has kindly undertaken temporarily the duties of Assistant Superintendent. When it was announced to the boys that Mr. Myers was to be with them, vociferous applause followed.

Two of our young folks have been promoted to teachers and both are worthy of it, viz., Miss Anna Carpenter and Mr. Alexander Boggs.

✠

St. Agnes' Guild. The little girls will give their annual entertainment in the Parish Building on Monday evening, November 18, 1912 at 8 P. M. The affair will consist of "A Child's Garden of Verses," a play called "Her Scarlet Slippers," together with music and tableaux.

The friends of the children are usked to contribute toward the support of the guild by purchasing tickets at 10cts each or in any other way they see fit.

The profits derived from this one Annual Entertainment are the Guild's sole source of revenue for the year. Out of it they make an offering to the Church at Easter, they supply half the small wafers for the Blessed Sacrament, for the year, they usually make a gift to some work outside of the parish. in addition to supplying all the needs of the Guild itself, in the way of games, theatre visits, excursions, parties, etc., etc.

Men's Club. The first smoker of the season will take place on Thursday, Nov. 21, when Mr. Robert J. McKenty, Warden of the Eastern Penitentiary, will give an account of some of his experiences there.

✠

NOTICES.

The Rector has received the following letter from the Bishop of the Diocese and he takes this method of calling the attention of the members of the members of the congregation to the request and urging them to comply with it.

Reverend and dear Brother:—

You will receive next week a number of copies of the "Church News" of the Diocese of Pennsylvania. Will you kindly see that they are distributed to your Parishioners? It is my earnest hope that, with the co-operation of the Clergy, we will receive a large number of subscriptions for the "Church News," and I hope that you will do everything in your power to bring about this result in your Parish.

Faithfully yours,
Philip M. Rhinelander,
Bishop of Pennsylvania,

✠

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY MEETING.

The Annual Missionary Meeting of the Pennsylvania Branch of the Woman's Auxiliary will be held in the Church of the Holy Trinity, 19th and Walnut Streets, on Friday, November 15th, from 10 A. M. until 4.30 P. M. The Bishop of the Diocese will preside and the other speakers will be announced later.

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

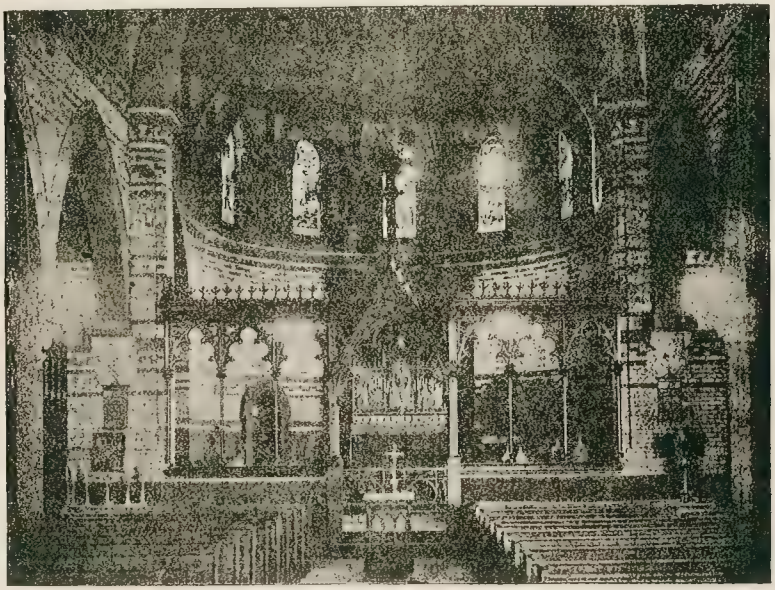
A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the News is due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since the last issue.

Mrs. John Mason, Miss Bertha Johnson (2), Mrs. Barrett, Mrs. Darlington (2), Mrs. Waterall (2).

The Ascension News

VOL. XXV PHILADELPHIA, DECEMBER, 1912 No. 9



Church of the Ascension

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Services

Holy Communion

EVERY SUNDAY.....7.30 and 11.30 A.M.
HOLY DAYS.....7.00 and 10.30 A.M.
DAILY EXCEPT THURSDAYS....7 00 A.M.
THURSDAYS.....9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer

SUNDAYS (with Sermon).. ...10.30 A.M.
DAILY .....10.00 A.M.

Evensong

SUNDAYS (with Sermon).....7.45 P.M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address)..8.00 P.M.

Children's Service

SUNDAYS.....3.30 P.M

All the Seats are Free at all Services **God's House is open to all its Children**

The Church is always open for private prayer, and the Clergy can be seen after any service

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Miss Hodge
For Young Ladies ..... 2.45 P.M
Miss Stretch

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays.....10.00 A M.

THE CATHOLIC AND PROTESTANT IDEA OF THE CHURCH

The conception which Catholics—and by them we mean the members of the great historic Churches, Greek: Roman and English—have of the Church is totaly different from that of the modern Protestant bodies.

The former believe that Christ was not simply a teacher, who proclaimed the Gospel and left His followers to associate themselves together as they thought fit, but also that He Himself organized a body which He designed to embrace all mankind and to last to all time, to be His representative and agent to carry out the work He had began, and be the means of enabling men to become like Him, and live a life they could not live by their own unaided efforts. The proof that this was His intention is seen in His sending and commissioning others as He said His Father had sent Him, in His ordaining Baptism as the means of obtaining membership in that body, and the Holy Communion as its great distinctive rite, to keep in perpetual memory the central characteristics of His life.

The Apostles acted on this idea, they carried on that organization and commissioned others to continue it when they were gone. And this was the unquestioned universal conception of the Church for fifteen hundred years.

At the Reformation, for the first time, the idea was broached that Christ simply taught a doctrine, and that all that was necessary was to accept it, that to believe in Christ would ensure anyone's salvation, that the only use of sac-

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904 Clinton Street

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Kalendar

Dec. 1 First Sunday in Advent
6 Friday—Fast
8 Second Sunday in Advent
13 Friday—Fast
15 Third Sunday in Advent
18 Ember Day—Fast
20 Ember Day—Fast
21 S. Thomas, Ember Day, Fast
22 Fourth Sunday in Advent
25 Christmas Day
26 S. Stephen
27 S. John Evangelist
28 Holy Innocents
29 First Sunday after Christmas

RECORD FOR NOVEMBER

BAPTISM	John Ritsert Dorothy Diflo	2
MARRIAGE	Frank William Hofmann and Caroline Louise Herrmann	1
COMMUNIDANTS, transferred to S. Anna's Mission	West Philadelphia	
	Ruth Vautier	
	To S. Philip's Church	
	Mrs. Louise Austie Bassett	
	Bertha Maria Barbara Snyder	
	To the Chapel of the Holy Communion	
	Annie Marie Harrington	
	William James Harrington	5
DIED	Mrs. Mary Schott Doxie	1
BURIALS	William Stewart Smith	
	Mrs. Elizabeth Scull Orrick	
	Mrs. Sarah West Hendry	
	Mrs. Mary Schott Doxie	4

OFFERINGS

For Current Expenses	$385 00
" General Missions	38 70
" the Poor	13 08
" Parochial activities	13.11
" Repairs of the organ	20 00
" the Episcopal Hospital	15 20
" " " Convention Fund	02
" Benevolent Purposes	94
Of the Sunday School	3 99
	$490 02

raments or acts of worship or assembly was simply to confess faith in Christ, or to be instructed in, or reminded of, the truths He taught. It followed that those who believed in Him were free to organize themselves into any sort of associations they chose, or not to belong to any organization if they saw best. Membership in a Church, or performance of any public acts of worship were entirely secondary and unimportant matters.

The result of this teaching has been the innumerable divisions among Protestants, and large neglect of Church membership and Church attendance. Surely the old Catholic conception of the Church was the true one. No faith could be adequately proclaimed and propagated without the aid of an organization. And men generally cannot overcome the inherent weaknesses of human nature and attain the life and character they should without outward help and Divine Grace.

It is true the unity of the Catholic Church has been broken by the political ambition and unfounded claims of the Roman Pontiff, but the Catholic idea should never be lost, the Greek and the English Church have maintained it, and every effort should be made to heal the Schisms of Christendom, to bring all Christians to be of one mind in the fold of the one Catholic and Apostolic Church.

No individual Christians, no matter how good or earnest tney may be, or different groups of Christians, working on different lines and teaching different doctrines will ever be able to redeem the world. Only the unity of all professing to be the followers of Christ, so that they can live and work together with one mind and one heart, can secure that.

If all Christians could be united in one body, then indeed would the Church go forth like an army with banners, conquering and to conquer. To accomplish that end let us never cease to labor and to pray.

✠

PARISH NOTES

All Saints' and All Soul's day. We had a good attendance at the services on these days when the Church tells us about the state of the blessed dead. At the Celebration on All Soul's day, requests were made for the remembrance of no less than one hundred and eighty-eight persons.

✠

Thanksgiving day was observed as usual with a full choral service as on Sunday. The Altar was decorated with specimen fruits which were afterward given to the choir boys and to some sick persons. The offerings at mid-day were for the Episcopal Hospital.

On the eve of Thanksgiving Day a turkey and cranberry supper was served in tne Parish building to over twenty members of the Mother's Meeting. Their hearts were also made glad by the promise of orders of some tons of coal which will be distributed to them this month.

✠

Christmas. There will be the usual extra Celebrations of the Holy Communion at 6!30, 7.30 and 8.30 a. m., with the Choral Celebration after Morning Prayer and a Sermon at 10.30 a. m. Evening Prayer, plain, at 5 p. m.

✠

The Christmas offering will be for the current expenses of the Church. And we depend on large special offerings at this time to make up the average necessary to meet our expenses for the year. Every summer when so many persons are out of the city our receipts are very small, and we have to borrow at least $1,000 to carry us over those six months. *That is what we have done this year.* And now we must pay it back. No extra offerings have been asked from the congregation since last autumn when they contributed so generously to make up a deficit which had accumulated for some years. So this Christmas we look for a large collection which will pay off this debt. As the deficit for our last financial year was entirely made up, we ought to have no difficulty in meeting all our expenses for the year, and will not have any if every person in the congregation will make special offerings at Christmas and Easter according to their ability. There is a special envelope in each set of envelopes for this purpose.

✠

The Christmas festival for the children will take place on the Eve of Holy Innocents day Friday, Dec. 27th, at 7.30 P. M. After a service and singing of Christmas Carols in the Church an entertainment will be provided for them in the Parish Building.

✠

Year Book. The new parish year book giving an account of the work of the Parish for the year from May 1, 1911 to May 1, 1912 has been printed. Copies will be found in the rack inside the Church by the main door.

✠

The Men's Club Night Nov. 21st, was a great success. Over fifty men were were present. The address by Mr. McKenty, Warden of the Eastern Penitentiary was most interesting. He emphasised the fact which had been impressed upon him by his experience that the

strongest influence to keep men out of the Penitentiary, and the only thing which can reform them if they get into it, is religion. This is very strong testimony coming from a person of this kind.

In addition to the address and the usual refreshments, there was a friendly bout between some young fellows who had been brought by some members of the Club. There was also a short address by the Rector thanking Mr. McKenty for his address and also announcing some changes which had been made in the constitution of the Club. Instead of being a separate organization as heretofore it will be carried on hereafter directly by the Brotherhood of S. Andrew which originally formed it. Mr. M. F. Roberts continuing as Chairman of the Committee having it in charge, and Mr. W. M. Newnam the Secretary. And all dues will be abolished, the offerings received through the Duplex Envelope system for Parochial activities affording sufficient funds to meet its expenses.

It was thought best not to have any meeting of the Club this month as its night comes so near Christmas, when so many are obliged to work late or are occupied in their families, and might not be able to attend. The next meeting therefore will be on the evening of the third Thursday in January, when Mr. Richard Gilpin will give a lecture on Electricity, illustrated by lantern slides, There will also be an acrobatic performance. We shall look for a large attendance. This is the one opportunity the men of the Church have for coming together.

✠

Confirmation. As we announced last month Confirmation will be administered in this Parish on the morning of Sunday, Feb. 9th. Instructions preparatory to it will be given by the Rector on Sunday afternoons at four o'clock, beginning the Sunday after Christmas, Dec. 29th, and by the Rev. Curate on Wednesdays after the evening service at 8 p. m., beginning Dec 4th.

✠

Sunday School. Through the kindness of Mr. Tali Esen Morgan, the officers, teachers and scholars of the Sunday School went to hear the Storm played and sung on Tuesday evening, Nov. 26th. In parts it was really thrilling and all enjoyed it, both the children and their seniors.

✠

St. Agnes' Guild Entertainment. On Monday evening, Nov! 18th, a full house welcomed the little folks and their older friends in what proved to be perhaps the most enjoyable affair the Guild has ever provided.

Besides the little people of the Guild, there kindly helped us the Misses Frances Whitshurst, Jeanette Craig, Margaret Mull, Ivonne Villemeaux, Anna Anderson, Nellie Zahn and Messrs. George Morgan and Harry Ritsert.

Most liberally did our friends respond in the purchase of tickets by mail, and the long and severe labor of love on the part of the Superiors was rewarded by the amount of simple pleasure they gave the children and their elders. We almost wish next November was here.

✠

NOTICE

The Rector has received the following appeal to which he calls the attention of the congregation.

Concord, New Hamyshire,
All Saints' Day,
Nov. 1st., 1912

Reverend and Dear Sir:

The members of the Commission of the House of Bishops to promote co-operation with the authorities of the Orthodox Eastern Churches in this country, venture to bring before you the enclosed appeal of the American Greek Red Cross Committee. Greece has never forgotten the sympaehy shown by the United States In her long struggle for independence and the help and backing given to her by us at different times. The friendship of the Anglican Communion is understood, and there is a warm appreciation of the attitude towards the Greek Church by the American Episcopal Church as it has been shown, for example, in the ministry of Bishop Southgate in Turkey, or in the Schools for Greek girls maintained by us for many years in Athens.

In Church and State, Greeks feel that we American Episcopalians are peculiarly their friends, and it is especially fitting that we should make an effort to aid the Greek Red Cross Committee in the charitable work of caring for the sick and wounded. The members of the Committee are known to us personally or by reputation and all contributions, sent to them or to any of us, will reach those in need at the earliest possible moment. May we ask you to bring this matter to the attention of your congregation?

FREDERICK JOSEPH KINSMAN,
Bishop of Delaware

EDWARD MELVILLE PARKER,
Bishop Coadjutor of New Hampshire

JAMES HENRY DARLINGTON,
Bishop of Harrisburg

PRAY FOR YOUR FRIEND

Pray for my soul. More things are wrought by prayer
Than the world dreams of. Wherefore, let thy voice
Rise like a fountain for me night and day.
For what are men better than sheep or goats
That nourish a blind life within the brain,
If knowing God, they lift not hands of prayer
Both for themselves and those who call them friend? TENNYSON

✠

AN INVOCATION

(a friend's prayer for you)

The Lord preserve thy going out,
The Lord preserve thy coming in.
God send His angels round about
To keep thy soul from every sin;
And when thy going out is done,
And when thy coming in is o'er,
When in death's darkness all alone,
Thy feet can come and go no more,
The Lord preserve thy going out
From this dark world of grief and sin,
While angels standing round about,
Sing, "God preserve thy coming in."
ANON

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

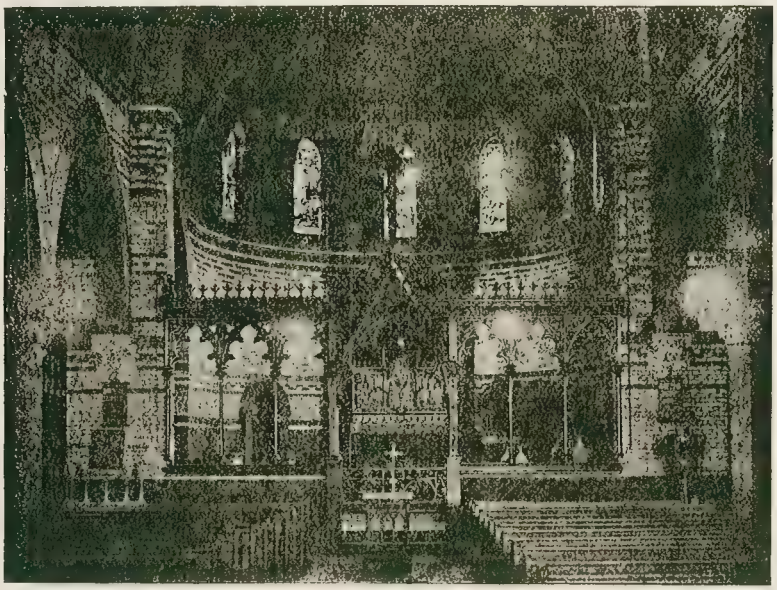
A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since the last issue.

Mrs. Christian, Miss Whitehouse, Miss Leaming, Mrs. Busch, Miss Hamilton, Mrs. Kunbel, Mrs. Stoy' Miss Epprecht,

The Ascension News

Vol. XXVI Philadelphia, January, 1913 No. 1



Church of the Ascension

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Services

Holy Communion

Every Sunday.....7.30 and 11.30 A.M.
Holy Days.....7.00 and 10.30 A.M.
Daily except Thursdays....7 00 A.M.
Thursdays.....9.00 A.M.

Morning Prayer

Sundays (with Sermon).. ...10.30 A.M.
Daily .....10.00 A.M.

Evensong

Sundays (with Sermon).....7.45 P.M.
Wednesdays (with Address)..8.00 P.M.

Children's Service

Sundays.....3.30 P.M

All the Seats are Free at all Services **God's House is open to all its Childre**

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The Church of the Ascension

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Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild ..... 7.45 P. M.

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First Friday, Missionary Society ..10.30 A. M.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, 2.45 P. M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.30 P. M.
Superintendent ..... The Curate
Assistant Superintendent Mr. Pomeroy Hartman
Librarian and .....
Organist ..... Mrs. S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For the Junior Brotherhood ..... 2.45 P.M.
Miss Hodge
For Young Ladies ..... 2.45 P.M.
Miss Stretch

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays.....10.00 A. M

HOW TO KEEP SUNDAY

There are two ways in which Sunday has been largely observed, one is the Puritan type, the other what is known as the Continental Sunday. The Puritans observed Sunday, or the Sabbath as they called it, as if it was only a Jewish ordinance, with great strictness. They not only forbade any kind of work which was not absolutely necessary and any kind of recreation upon it, but they made it a day of austerity and gloom, taken up entirely with religious exercises of one kind or another. The Continental Sunday on the other hand is one in which business and work is carried on as on other days, on which all places of amusement are open, and which is a favorite day for races, entertainments, operas, etc.

Surely the true way of observing Sunday lies between these extremes. The object of Sunday observance is to afford a needed and welcomed rest from labor, and to give the opportunity for the discharge of religious duties and of cultivating one's spiritual life. To attain these ends there should be as far as possible a cessation of labor. It should be a general holiday. All classes and avocations should have guaranteed to them a cessation from labor.

Places of public amusement should not be opened, because they entail a large amount of labor from a great many people, and because such places being open would afford a distraction from the religious purposes of the day. So entertaining on a large scale should be abstained from on the same account, also all traveling that can be avoided.

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS

THE CLERGY

TREASURER

MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS:

Single Copies, by Mail, 50 Cents a Year

Kalendar.

Jan. 1. Circumcision.
3. Friday—Fast.
5. Second Sunday after Christmas.
6. Epiphany.
10. Friday—Fast.
12. First Sunday after the Epiphany.
17. Friday—Fast.
19. Septuagesima.
24. Friday—Fast.
25. Conversion of S, Paul.
26. Sexagesima.
31. Friday—Fast.

RECORD FOR DECEMBER.

BAPTISMS, Elmira Toal.
Martha Otis Stengel. 2
COMMUNICANTS TRANSFERRED to the
Church of the Redemption
William Thorn.
Mrs. Amelia Thorn.
to Epiphany Chapel, Sherwood,
Mrs. Felice Marie Hurst.
to the Gloria Dei,
Robert Elmer Harris.
to S. Elizabeth's,
Mrs. Lillie McGill,
Lillie McGill,
William McGill. 7
DIED, Margaret McIlhenny. 1
COMMUNIONS OF THE SICK, 2
BURIALS, Inman Horner,
Margaret McIlhenny. 2

OFFERINGS

For current expenses (including the Christmas offering	$939.97
" General Missions	69.58
" Diocesan "	.45
" the Poor	37.04
" " Christmas Festival	10.00
" Parochial Activities	8.70
" the Endowment Fund	.05
" Benevolent purpose	.74
Of the Sunday School	4 69
At the Rector's discretion	5.00
Total	$1,076.22

Many Christian people are very thoughtless and inconsiderate in this matter, taking Sunday as a convenient day for this purpose, forgetting how this patronage necessitates many employees being forced to labor. All persons, members of corporations or business firms as well as individuals, should be most careful to secure a full day's rest in every seven to those in their employ. This is a moral obligation founded upon a divine law and natural requirement.

Then Sunday should be observed as a day for religious worship. No spiritual life can be properly sustained unless there is a specific and regular time set apart for its cultivation and effective means employed for the purpose. For Christians, attendance at the celebration of the Holy Mysteries in the Lord's House is the most essential means of attaining this end. So such attendance every Sunday, unless absolutely hindred by sickness or other unavoidable cause, should be considered as a moral obligation. The devout Christian will be glad to attend also Matins or Evensong or both, or two Celebrations, one for Communion and one for worship and thanksgiving. But every Christian should be present at least at one, if it is possible for him to do so.

Then the rest of Sunday can be used for any employment or recreation or social intercourse that does not involve unnecessary or excessive labor either for oneself or for others, or lead to the gathering of a large concourse of people or doing any thing incompatible with the sober reasonable purposes of the day.

The proper observance of Sunday is a most important safe-guard to the health and welfare and religious life of any people and ought to be most carefully maintained, not by rigorous and unreasonable laws, but by the conscientious observance on the part of the people themselves of these rules which are essential to its attaining those beneficent purposes for which it was ordained. If it is turned into a day of labor, the people will be defrauded of their just rights. If it becomes only a day for pleasure seeking, the religious character of the nation will deteriorate.

✠

PARISH NOTES.

Christmas was a bright day and well kept in spite of the bad walking. The Communicants numbered about the same as last Christmas. not counting the boys of S. Martin's college who were present then. But we are sorry not to see as many communicants generally at Christmas as we have at Easter. It certainly is one of the great Festivals, and no one should be content with making only one communion a year. That is the Roman rule of necessary communions, but the English should be higher.

On the Sunday evening after Christmas there was a full Choral Evensong and Solemn Procession with banners. They were also carried on the morning of Christmas and the Sunday after.

On Christmas eve over twenty baskets of provisions, each containing a fowl, were given to the members of the Mothers' Meeting and some others. Each also received an order for half a ton of coal.

On the day after Christmas the Choirmaster took all the boys of the choir to the theater for a treat.

Christmas Sunday School Festival. Perhaps the most interesting and successful Christmas Festival for several years, took place on the Eve of Holy Innocents.

The usual service of carols and prayers and an address in the church, was followed by a march past the Creche with its Figure of the Christ Child surrounded by a dozen others, St. Joseph and the Holy Mother, the shepherds and Wise Men and beasts. The Stable and Manger were illuminated and as we passed it, we sang "Once in Royal David's City stood a lowly cattle shed."

We then proceeded up stairs where a good entertainment awaited us, consisting of a hymn in Syriac, a Minstrel Show by our St. John's Guild, a sweet solo by Mr. George Morgan, a visit from Santa Claus through the back window and distribution of toys and candy by our Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Myers.

Notwithstanding the inclemency of the evening, rain and snow falling as we assembled, we had a larger attendance than usual. Every one voted the whole affair to have been a success.

So altogether we had a pretty "Merric Christmas" in the Parish.

The Christmas Offering which was to pay back the amount borrowed to carry the parish through the summer months, amounted to something over $500, which is more than we have received for some years at this season. We shall have to depend on the Easter offering to make up the rest of the $1,000 which was needed, though that offering must also cover the $151.01 we are assessed for the Episcopal and Convention Fund.

Confirmation Instructions are now being given by the Rector on Sundays at 4 P. M. in the Parish Building, and by the Rev. Curate on Wednesdays after the 8 P. M. service. Though the clergy have made out a list of over forty persons who ought to be Confirm-

ed this year, not half that number have presented themselves as yet. We trust that others may still do so while there is time for their proper preparation.

This sacrament should be received when young people are growing up and beginning to direct themselves. None should fail to avail themselves of the privilege of being admitted to the full Communion of the church. They should also remember their obligation of being enrolled in the great army of Christ to carry on the unceasing and vital warfare against the powers of evil in the world. And this can only be done effectively by the systematized and united efforts of all. How can any one in a Christian land reconcile it to his conscience not to respond to that call and not to make use of the aids the church gives him in his efforts to reach after spiritual things?

Sermons. The Rector will be the preacher at the Sunday evening services during this month. The subjects of his sermons will be, Jan. 5th, "How to begin a New Year"; Jan. 12th, "Why Smith does not go to Church"; Jan. 19th, "Why Smith should go to Church"; Jan. 26th, "How to profit by Church going."

The Memorial Window to Miss Moitz has arrived from England and will be put in place in a few days.

The Men's Club will meet on Thursday evening Jan. 16th. Mr. Richard Gilpin will give an illustrated lecture on Electricity and there will be also an Acrobatic exhibition. Any man attending the Church is invited to come and bring a friend with him.

The Duplex Envelope System has now been in operation in this parish for nearly a year, and it has added fully $500 to the income of the Church. This provides for our benevolent calls better than has ever been done before. All that is wanted now, is that *every* one in the parish should use them. Then we should have not only more money still for charitable purposes, but enough to meet our current expenses promptly. What we need is to get into such a position that we will not have to borrow money during the summer, when the Sunday offerings are so small.

Gifts from Sunday School. Our children are taught to give as well as to receive and so on the night of their Festival they brought quite a number of toys and placed them around the creche. They were told of a Home for orphaned boys and girls, and they seemed to take real pleasure in showing their childish possessions. A number of older friends also sent gifts, including candy from Mrs. Frank Hoffmann and toys from Mrs. C. W. W. Miller, neither of whom are members of our parish and to whom we are very grateful.

The Girl's Friendly continued its regular weekly meeting through December, with a usual attendance of twenty girls, and some of the Associates. Supper was served beforehand for those who came from their work, and the rehersals' for the concert on January 7th, continued. On the Tuesday evening before Christmas, the girls brought 35 stockings filled with toys and candy for the girls and boys at the Mission on Grays Ferry Road.

Our Sunday School Assistant Superintendent. After helping us in the above office since the Fall, (when we found ourselves without a Lay Superintendent and asked him to undertake the work), until the Rector could secure a permanent one, Mr. Myers, on his Sunday in office, was the recipient of a fine penknife from the school, in token of our gratitude for his kind and most efficient assistance.

At serious inconvenience to himself, he has come to the School from Sunday to Sunday and has proved so popular and efficient that we all wish we could devise some method by which he would have to stay permanently. Even for this temporary help we are very grateful.

Our New Assistant Superintendent. Mr. Pomeroy Hartman, a Seminarian at the Divinity School, has most kindly accepted the Rector's invitation to become the Assistant Superintendent of the Sunday School.

We welcome him among us and feel sure that his work will prove fruitful.

St. Agnes' Feast. Jan. 21st is St. Agnes' Day and our Guild of little girls expect to keep it joyfully and spiritually. Their plans are not yet complete, but they will surely include their attendance at the Blessed Sacrament, when they will sing to JESUS; and also some form of merry-making in the evening.

Acknowledgement of Missionary box, Dec. 16, 1912. My dear Mrs. Smith:—Please pardon my delay in acknowledging the receipt of the *very nice* box received several days ago. We have both been fighting the grip.

We are very grateful for all those nice things and I assure you that every article will be useful. I have already found my bathrobe and slippers extremely comfortable, and I'm going to have much pleasure from my pretty grey skirt, in fact from all the box contained.

The black suit fits Mr. C. well and with a little alteration the other will be very serviceable. As to the additional frocks you wrote of I will be delighted to get them.

This Parish, though not large, was formerly one of the most aristocratic and wealthiest in the state but it has been sadly reduced by the ravages of the bole weevil. A number of our members have moved to better business places, those remaining make a living on their land but have very little money. Mr. Carter's stipend was reduced one-half three years ago and except that living is cheap I don't see how we could stay here, but as Mr. Carter says some one must serve this little church.

The church was built in 1823 and I am told that this rectory is over a hundred years old; it is a substantial cottage and is fairly comfortable, the grounds are about the size of two city blocks, with large oak and pecan trees. I raise a great many chickens and of course have plenty of eggs. I always try to sell enough to pay for their feed. Mr. C. and I keep the grounds in order ourselves and I often threaten to send The Spirit of Missions his picture with his shovel, rake and barrow.

Just now I am struggling to have a Christmas tree for the little ones on the Friday after Christmas; there is always plenty to do.

With all good wishes for you and the good ladies of the Church of the Ascension, I am

Sincerely and gratefully,

HELEN M. CARTER.

The surplice is fine.

✠

NOTICE.

The Epiphany meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary will be held in S. Peter's Church, 3rd and Pine St,, on Monday, Jan. 13th at 2.45 P. M. Addresses by Mr. Chas. E. Benny, and the Rev. John G. Meem.

✠

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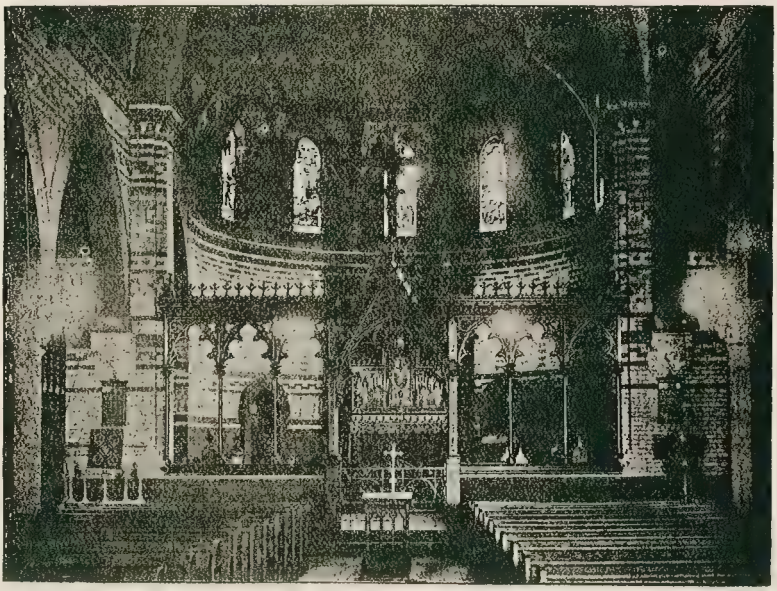

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Assistant Superintendent
Librarian and .....
Organist ..... Mrs. S. A. Harris

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For the Young Men ..... 2.45 P.M.
Miss Hodge
For Young Ladies ..... 2.45 P.M.
Miss Stretch

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays.....10.00 A. M

CEREMONIES.

In all public functions there must be more or less ceremony. A number of men cannot act together without order being observed. Outward acts are required to manifest respect and reverence. Actions are very effective ways of teaching. So, in the coronation of kings, the inauguration of Presidents, in the conduct of Parliaments or courts, the movement of armies, etc., more or less ceremony is wisely and profitably used.

So it is in religion. All religions have employed it. And it has been most effective in teaching truth, impressing men with a sense of spiritual things, indicating reverence and devotion. In the old dispensation elaborate ritual directions were given, and the worship both of the Tabernacle and the Temple was conducted with the use of every adjunct that could be devised, architecture, painting, sculpture, coloring, lights, vestments, incense, postures, gestures, etc. All these were in use in the Temple worship in the time of Christ and His apostles and were employed by them.

So they were naturally carried over into the use of the Christian church. As soon as the infant church emerged from the times of persecution, when its members had to meet in upper rooms, in private houses, or in catacombs, or other secret places, though even there we have traces of the employment of such ritual as they could use, we find the universal adoption of such ceremonies as had been used in the Jewish church and by other religions. And especially

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TREASURER

MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS:

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Kalendar.

Feb. 2. Purification B. V. M,
5. Ash Wednesday.
9. First Sunday in Lent.
12. Ember Day.
14. Ember Day.
15. Ember Day.
16. Second Sunday in Lent.
23. Third Sunday in Lent.
24. S. Matthias.
All days in Lent are Fasts.

RECORD FOR JANUARY.

BAPTISMS, Carolyne Rosemond Linton.	1
COMMUNICANTS transferred to S. Mary's, West Philadelphia.	
Mrs. Maria Sergeant McCall.	
To The Holy Comforter, West Philadelphia	
Mrs. Fanny C. Breerwood.	
To S. Stephen's, Wilkensburg, Pa.	
Eva Bruce Pitcher.	3
BURIALS. Edwin P. Eisenger.	
William Kelly Norton.	2

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$406 22
" the Poor	4.43
" General Missions	58 76
" Domestic Missions	1.00
" Parochial activities	.94
" Benevolent purposes	
Of the Sunday School	
Total,	

before the age of printing and general education they were most invaluable for inculcating truths and principles more effectively than could have been done merely by the word of mouth.

And as time went on these ceremonies and ritual acts were more and more elaborated and perfected. Minute and numberless acts were added to the services of the church, and mystical and fanciful interpretations were given to them, with the result that it required a great deal of study and attention to conduct Divine worship and that only those very familiar with them could follow or even understand the various acts and postures that were observed. And the impression was created that public worship was more of a performance, a scenic representation, or magical act than of worship on the part of the individual participants.

It was one of the causes of the tendency at the time of the Reformation to throw over all the ancient practices of the church, even, by the Friends, to abolishing the use of sacraments, and establishing an entirely new order, in which there was to be no ceremony of any kind.

In England, however, a middle course was followed, and it was one of the objects of the first English Prayer Book to establish a mode of worship which should be reverent and reasonable, and such as every person could intelligently take part in. The Preface to that Book explains why some ceremonies which had been in use in the church previously had been abolished and others retained. The form and arrangement of churches which had obtained throughout Christendom for centuries, and the great essentials of a set liturgy with the use of music, lights, vestments, etc., were retained, but the minute, complicated and over elaborate acts and prescriptions which had gradually been added during the middle ages were omitted. So the distinguishing characteristic of the worship of all the churches of the Anglican Communion has been that of a dignified, beautiful, intelligible ceremonial as opposed on the one side to the complicated and elaborate uses still retained by the Greek and Roman churches, and on the other to the bareness and coldness and absence of all ceremonial which distinguishes most of the Protestant bodies.

This absence of all ceremonial on their part has led to lack of reverence and devotion, indeed to large neglect of any public worship whatever. And the inability to understand and follow the worship in the Greek and Latiu churches repels many from their use, and creates the impression that it is lacking in spirituality.

We believe that the position of the Anglican churches in this matter is the true one, and that which will ultimately be substantially followed throughout Christendom.

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PARISH NOTES.

Lent comes most unusually early this year, there having been only one Sunday after the Epiphany, whereas occasionally there are as many as six. This also brings Easter earlier and the succeeding Festivals which is perhaps an advantage, as when they are late so many leave the city before they occur.

We have so many services in this church all the year round that during Lent no others are added except lectures on Tuesdays and Fridays after Evening Prayer at 5 P. M., when the boys of the choir will be present. The lecture on Tuesdays will be by a visiting clergyman and on Fridays by one of the parish clergy. We trust these services will be well attended, also the ordinary daily prayers and Celebration.

Gifts. The window in memory of Miss Martha Moitz has been put in the clerestory. It consists of the figure of S. Thomas, who is represented as always with a square in his hands, indicating we suppose his tendency to require that every thing should be squared to his understanding. His name appears below the figure and at the bottom of the window is Miss Moitz's name with the date of her death.

A member of the congregation has most kindly and thoughtfully given the means of providing hot water in the Parish Building. An automatic gas heater has been ordered which will supply hot water to the shower bath in the cellar, which our boys use after their athletic exercises, also to the sink in the entry for washing purposes. This heater is very ingeniously arranged so that the hot water runs as long as the faucets are turned on, and the flame is extinguished when they are turned off. A dozen bath towels were also given for the boys, and a lady has given a dozen towels for washing purpuses.

Girls' Friendly Society. The "Musical Evening" given on Jan. 7th, was very successful, the choruses sung by the members showed the training they had been having, and we thank Mr. MacNeil and Mr. Morgan of the Choir, for their kind assistane, and the Recitation of "All-of-sudden-Peggy," by Miss Neumuller was delightful. About $40 was realized. Mr. Huntington gave an interesting talk one evening on Art of Journalism. The usual sewing will be done in Lent for some charitable object, and on Saturday, March 1st, there will be a Rummage Sale in the Parish House. All contributions gladly received on or before that date.

S. E. GILPIN, Sec.

The Men's Club meeting last month was a great success. A most interesting lecture on electricity was delivered by Mr. Richard Gilpin, illustrated by lantern slides. This was followed by some very expert acrobatic feats by Mr. James McGough, who was formerly a professional performer, and a friend whom he brought with him.

The Club also was visited by three representatives of the Anthony Drexel Biddle Bible Class, each of whom spoke on objects of the Association, explaining the advantages of belonging to it. Gold buttons, belonging to the office of Vice Presidents, were presented to each of the clergy of the Parish.

The meeting of the Club this month will be on the evening of Thursday, Feb. 20th, when an illustrated lecture will be given, with singing by the Adelphi Harmony Four of which Mr. Louis B. King, who was formerly one of our choir boys, is now the second tenor.

Sociable. St. John's Guild gave a delightful sociable to the Girl's Friendly with music and dancing led by their teacher Mr. Ellis who has a class on Thursday evenings through the winter.

About thirty couples took part and a good feast was served by friends of the Guild, thanks to the help of Miss Hodge, Mrs. Shelton and Mrs. Linton. All passed off well. Mr. Clarence Martz mode an *eloquent* speech of thanks and all seemed to enjoy the evening.

The Ladies' Aid will meet during Lent on Wednesday afternoons to sew for the needy of our own parish. Quite a number of grown people and children belonging to the church have not sufficient clothing. The children not being able to come to the Sunday or Industrial school on that account. Any ladies attending the church are invited to join the Aid for this purpose.

Donations of money, or materials, gingham, outing flannel and muslin, etc., will be gladly received.

St. Agnes' Guild kept St. Agnes' Day, Jan. 21. At 8 A. M. the Blessed Sacrament was celebrated with an Instruction for the Guild, fifteen being present. That night eighteen enjoyed an evening at the theatre.

On Saturday night a fine party took place. There were present sixteen girls, twenty boys and eight grown people. After some Instructions and devotions, a happy evening was spent in games and dancing and refreshments.

Special sermons. On Sunday morning, Feb. 9th, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Garland, Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese, will administer Confirmation in the church; he will also be the preacher. On Sunday, Feb. 23rd, the Rev. Charles Townsend, Rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Rosemont, will be the preacher. We expect also to have the Rev. Dr. Bratenahl, Secretary of the Third Missionary Department, present the cause of the General Missions of the Church on some Sunday morning this month or next.

The Rector will preach on Sunday evenings a course of sermons on "Moral influences." The topic the first Sunday evening will be "How to make the world better," and the succeeding Sundays he will take up the various influences which should be such as to advance that end, the Home, the School, Amusements, etc.

A Mission was held by the Rev. Curate at All Saints' Church, Orange, N. J., for a week from Jan. 26th, and afterwards he gave a day's retreat for the clergy of the Diocese of Pittsburg at the request of the Bishop. He asks for prayers that large results may result from these efforts. His duties here during his absence were taken by the Rev. John W. Cook.

Church literature. The racks in the vestibule are kept constantly filled with various church papers, tracts, etc., which anyone coming to the church is welcomed to take away. Much interesting and instructive reading will be found in them.

The Educational Secretary of the Board of Missions suggests that the men of the church especially should keep Lent by reading some book on the teaching or work of the church. Among others he suggests a work entitled "Japan Advancing—Whither?" A study of modern Japan from the Church's point of view. It can be had for 40 cts. a copy, or 25 cts. in large quantities.

✠

Lenten Rules

1. Attend at least one Church Service every day.
2. Receive Holy Communion at least once a week.
3. Say a short prayer daily at noon time.
4. Abstain from food on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday until afternoon.
5. Eat no meat on Wednesdays and Fridays.
6. Deny yourself something you like every day.
7. Abstain from all parties and places of public amusement.
8. Try to save some money each day by self-denial for your Easter Offering.
9. Do something every day (if only the saying of a prayer) for some poor, sick or troubled person.

Notices. A series of lectures on Church History will be given at the Garrick Theatre, on Thursday afternoons in Lent, beginning February 13th, by the Rev. E. Edmund Seyzinger, of the Community of the Resurrection, England. These lectures will be given nnder the auspices of a Committee of lay men and women in New York, Philadelphia and Washington, and all church people are earnestly invited and urged to attend them and interest others in them. Seats for the course of five lectures Two dollars. Single tickets at the door fifty cents. The gallery free.

✠

The Lenten Meeting of the Pennsylvania Branch of the Woman's Auxiliary on Monday, February 24th, 1913, from 2.30 to 4.30 p. m., in the Church of the Holy Trinity, 19th and Walnut Streets. The Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese will preside. Addresses by The Rt. Rev. J. B. Funsten, D. D., of Idaha, on Domestic Missions. The Rt. Rev. T. P. Thurston, D. D,, of Eastern Oklahoma, on Indian Missions. The Rt. Rev. W. A. Guerry, D. D., of South Carolina, on Work among Negroes. The Rt. Rev. T. J. Garland, D. D., of Pennsylvania, on Diocesan Missions. The offertory will be devoted entirely to Missions. You and your friends are cordially invited to attend.

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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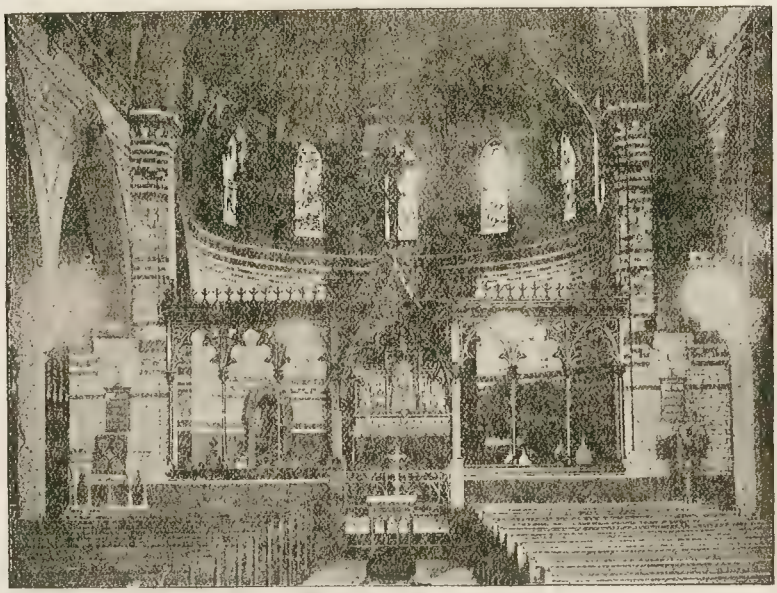
The following were received since the last issue.

Mrs. Rhein,
Miss Ashbridge,
Dr. Coates,
Mr. and Mrs. Cope,
Miss Lloyd,
Miss Barrington.
Miss Alice Young.

The Ascension News

VOL. XXVI PHILADELPHIA. MARCH, 1913 No. 3



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Evensong

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WEDNESDAYS (with Address)..8.00 P.M.

Children's Service

SUNDAYS.....3.30 P.M

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The Church of the Ascension

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1624 Spruce Street.

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Teachers' Instruction at 2.30 P. M.
Superintendent ..... The Curate
Acting Asst. Superintendent, Mr. Chester F. Myers
Librarian and .....
Organist ..... Mrs. S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For the Young Men ..... 2.45 P.M.
Miss Hodge
For Young Ladies ..... 2.45 P.M.
Miss Stretch

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays.....10.00 A. M.

VESTMENTS.

In all religions the use of certain special vestments by those conducting the public worship, has been thought proper and appropriate, just as civil or military officers have always worn robes or uniforms or had certain insignia to designate their rank and characters.

In the Old Testament the Levites, the Priests and the High Priests all wore robes, the latter of the richest material and colors, when officiating in in the Tabernacle or Temple. To this our Lord and His Apostles were accustomed. So naturally when the Christian Church became organized it adopted the same custom.

During the ages of persecution, when Christians could only meet in private houses, very informally for worship, the ordinary dress of the day was used. And later, owing to the clergy not changing with the fashions of the day, they retained this dress and it became in time the recognized vesture for the sacred offices. So that we see in the immemorial vestments which have been used in the Catholic Church, the ordinary street dress of the Roman gentleman of the time of the Caesars.

That dress consists, for choristers and assistants in Divine worship and for the clergy in their ordinary ministrations, of the cassock or long clerical coat, with a linen cotta or surplice with loose sleeves, together with a silk stole or hood, the mark of their clerical or academical degree. For the Eucharist, the full Roman dress has been used, which consisted of an alb, a linen vestment reaching to the feet, with close

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS

THE CLERGY

TREASURER

MR. RICHARD GILPIN

904 Clinton Street

TERMS:

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Kalendar.

March 2. Mid Lent Sunday.
9. Passion Sunday.
16. Palm Sunday.
17. Monday before Easter.
18. Tuesday before Easter.
19. Wednesday before Easter.
20. Maundy Thursday.
21. Good Friday.
22. Easter Even.
23. Easter Day.
24. Monday in Easter Week.
25. Annunciation B. V. M.
28. Friday—Fast.
30. Low Sunday.

All days in Lent are Fasts.

RECORD FOR FEBRUARY.

BAPTISMS, Adults.
Jeannette, wife William Henry Harris
Margaret Buchanan, wife of George Lee Mull.
Lidie Marie, wife of John Cooper Barr.
Watson Debrell Mull.
John Boyd Jones.
Henry Franks Jones. 6

Infant,
Charles Ech, Jr. 1

MARRIAGES, Frank R. Flower and Elizabeth V. Farquhar.
William Andrew Newland and Grace Harrison Bell.
Robert Dortch Baskervill and Mary Effie Brumbaugh.

CONFIRMED, Thomas Craig
Stuart Mason Sears
Oscar Worthington Layton
Albert Rilsert
Henry Franks Jones
John Boyd Jones
Henry James Rodgers
Albert William Eisenger
Russell Clinton Franks
Edward Bender Marsh
Watson Debrell Mull
Mrs. Louisa Mary Clare
" Mary Walton
" Lavinia Moore
" Emma Elizabeth McCarrick
" Lidie Marie Barr
" Margaret Buchanan Mull
" Jeannette Harris
Caroline Rilsert
Florence Brown Hains
Dorothy Matilda Magiunis
Anna Marie Brown
Bertha Matilda Franks
Esther Matilda Neill 24

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED from All Saints' Church
Mrs. Mary Morrow
George Morrow
Oscar William Morrow
From S. James' Church, Port Deposit, Md.
Evelyn Burrington Coombs 4

DIED, Mrs. Mary Morrow
William Augustus Dobson
Isabel Anabel 3

COMMUNION OF THE SICK 1

UNCTION OF THE SICK 1

BURIALS, William Augustus Dobson
George Harrison Guyer
Mrs. Mary Morrow
Isabel Anabel
Albert Russell Challman 6

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$309.04
" Diocesan Missions	50.13
" General Missions	6.71
" Parochial activities	.24
" the Poor	12.21
" " Mothers' Meeting	7.00
" " Bishop's Purse	7.50
" Theological education	1.00
" Benevolent purposes	.89
Of the Sunday School	4.51
Total	$399.23

sleeves, bound round the waist with a linen girdle, which also confined the stole which is crossed over the breast. This is made of silk and often richly embroidered and varies in color with the ecclesiastical season or service. Over the left arm hangs the maniple which is of the same material and color, and which originally was the handkerchief. Over all is worn the Roman outer garment called the casula, which is now known as the chasuable, which is of one piece, with an aperture in the

center through which the head is passed. It falls down below the waist, back and front and to the wrists. It also may be of rich material, decorated and in color.

The proper insignia of a Bishop, are a rochet, which is a shorter alb made of finer material, a cope which is a long cloak, called by the Romans a pulvium, reaching from the neck to the feet open in front, with a hood and clasp in front called a Morse. This is also used by the other clergy in processions, and even by choirmen. The Bishop also wears a mitre and carries a crozier, or pastoral staff, showing he is the chief shepherd of the flock of Christ.

These vestments and ornaments of the clergy have been used substantially in all parts of the Catholic Church from its inception to the present day.

The first English Prayer Book prescribed them in detail. The present English Prayer Book says they shall be retained and used, and the American Prayer Book says it has no intention of departing from the principles and practices of the Church of England. So they are the legal use.

It is true that owing to the Puritan opposition to the use of any vestments, it required a great struggle to retain even the use of the surplice in the Church of England after the Reformation, and that is the only vestment used in many churches to the present day. But in the last fifty years there has been a large revival of the older use. And its advantage is, not only that it adds to the beauty and dignity of the service, but that it brings our churches into harmony with those of the Catholic world. A Greek or Roman Christian could hardly conceive of a celebration of the Holy Mysteries without their use, and would look upon their lack as a mark of heresy. And they are most important as impressing worshippers with a sense of reverence and realization of the sacredness and solemnity of the act of worship.

It is most important that there should be a special vestment for the celebration of the Holy Communion, to distinguish it from all other services, and make those taking part in it feel its supreme character and sacredness.

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Amount due Rector on salary,	$500
Coal bill for year,	220
Episcopal and Convention Fund,	151
Sundry bills, about,	129
	$1,000

The above amounts cannot be met by the ordinary weekly receipts. We must look therefore for an Easter offering sufficient to cover them.

As we began our financial year last May without any indebtedness, it is earnestly hoped that the offerings up to May 1st this year will be large enough to enable us to meet all our obligations to that date.

MILLARD F. ROBERTS,
Accounting Warden.

✠

PARISH NOTES.

The Passiontide. This copy of the NEWS will not be issued until just before Passion Sunday, when the most solemn season of our church year begins.

During Holy Week there will be the Procession of Palms on Palm Sunday, and Celebrations each day in the week at 7 and 10 A. M., except Good Friday, when the mid-day service will consist

of the Morning Prayer and Litany at 11 A. M., followed by the singing of the Reproaches and the preaching of the Cross from 12 to 3 P. M. The Rector will be the preacher. The preaching will be interspersed with the singing of hymns during which persons may enter or leave the church if they cannot remain all through. In addition to the Evening Service at 5 P. M., the Stations of the Cross will be observed each night, except Saturday at 8 P. M. They will also be observed on Good Friday at 9.30 A. M. for the children of the parish.

Easter day there will be Celebrations at 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 A. M. Morning Prayer and Sermon and Choral Celebration at 10.30 A. M.

Special sermons. The Rector will continue his course of sermons on "Moral Influences" on Sunday evenings until Easter. The subject on March 2nd will be "The Newspaper"; 9th, "The Novel"; 16th, "Companionship"; 17th, "The Church, the greatest of all influences." On the Sunday after Easter, the sermon will be on "What will life be like after death?"

Easter flowers. We suppose every one wants to see flowers in the church at Easter, and that every one may feel that they are contributing at least one flower, a special alms box in the vestibule is set apart for two weeks before Easter to receive contributions for this purpose, and any one can put something in the box no matter how small the amount may be.

The lady who is the treasurer of our Altar fund also has to provide flowers for the main altar every Sunday of the year except Lent and Advent and has all the altar linens and vestments laundried. This requires a considerable sum and she is very anxious to get more regular contributors at so much a month, whatever they are disposed to give.

Contributions may be sent either directly to her, Miss Eveleen Parmelee, 1906 Chestnut St., or put in an envelope marked Altar fund in any offertory, or in the alms boxes in the vestibule. This fund also provides the altar bread, the Palms for Palm Sunday, etc.

The Young Men's Bible Class has formally connected itself with the Drexel Biddle Bible Classes, which organization is extending all over the country and arousing a great deal of interest in the Bible Class system. It gives its members great advantages in the use of its rooms on Mt. Vernon St., its summer Home at Lansdown, and in many other ways.

The Confirmation took place on Sunday morning, Feb. 9th. It was the first time in over thirty years that it was administered in this Parish on a Sunday morning. It has usually taken place on a week day evening near Easter. We were very glad to welcome one of the Bishops at one of our principal services.

As white is the color for a Confirmation, and it was not desirable that that should supercede the color for the day on a Sunday in Lent, the side altar alone was vested in white, and immediately after the sermon the Bishop and the clergy proceeded there; the candidates had previously been seated in front of that altar. The Bishop took his seat just inside the rail, which was then closed and afforded a place for the candidates to kneel as each came up in turn and was Confirmed. At the conclusion of the Office the Bishop and clergy returned to the chancel and the service went on as usual. The whole was performed with great solemnity and order. Twenty-four persons were confirmed, about our usual yearly number.

The Girls' Friendly Society has been sewing during Lent for the Sheltering Arms and for some Indian children in Wyoming.

There will be a Rummage Sale for the benefit of the Society on the afternoon and evening of Saturday, March 1st.

Miss Anabel. In the sudden death of Miss Isabel Anabel the church loses a long devoted member of the Parish. As the principal of a large girls' school she was at times able to bring to the church enough of her scholars to fill two pews. She had charge several times of the Parish Tea, and was always an efficient helper in any entertainments given for the benefit of the church.

A pathetic thing connected with her death was that her aged mother, eighty-eight years old, died three days after her daughter as the result of the shock at her loss. May they both rest in peace.

The Men's Club meeting last month was attended by some fifty men. The orator of the evening was the Rev. Mr. Frank, Rector of the Church of the Advent at 5th and Buttonwood St. He gave a very instructive talk on the question of immigration. He is thoroughly conversant with the subject as he is working among the large class of immigrants who are coming here now from the south of Europe, and explained why they come and how they should be treated.

"The Adelphi Harmony Four" gave a number of quartette and solo songs, which were much appreciated, Mr. Harry Rilsert acting as pianist.

As the third Thursday in this month occurs in Holy Week there will be no meeting of the Club. The April meeting will take place as usual and due notice will be given of the entertainment.

The Ladies' Aid are working on Wednesdays for the needy of the Parish. They have received sufficient donations for the purchase of materials, but would like more ladies to assist them in making them up into garments.

Prize. A gentleman of the parish has offered to give two prizes, to consist of a year's subscription to a popular magazine, one for the boys and one for the girls of the Sunday School, for the best essay on the subject of "the work of the Christian and Sanitary Commissions during the Civil War."

This will make our young people study up about that war and what the Christian people of the North did to alleviate its horrors.

The essays must contain at least two hundred and fifty words, and be handed in before Memorial day, May 30th.

Exchange. On Sunday, March 9th, the Rector will exchange with the Rev. Dr. Pierce, Rector of S. Matthew's Church, 18th St. and Girard Ave.

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The following were received since the last issue.

Mrs. Neilson,
Mrs. Drayton,
Miss Goodman,
Mr. Pugh (2)
Mr. Roberts.

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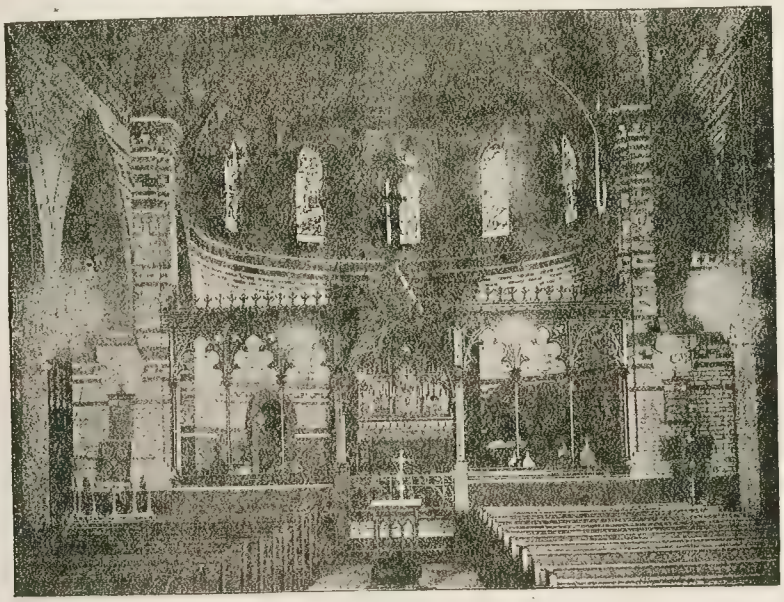

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Acting Asst. Superintendent, Mr. Chester F. Myers
Librarian and .....
Organist ..... Mrs. S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For the Young Men ..... 2.45 P.M.
Miss Hodge
For Young Ladies ..... 2.45 P.M.
Miss Stretch

PROCESSIONS

Why do we have Processions in Churches? First, because they are an orderly and reverent way for a number of persons, the clergy and choristers or other bodies, to proceed to their places in the Church. If each one went in separately, or they all went in a mass, it would not be so seemly, or solemn.

Secondly, Processions are used at certain times for the same reason that we have military, or political Processions, or when some society, as the Masons, wants to make a demonstration of its power and importance, or as when a number of persons, as the Suffragettes lately, want to call attention to their demands, and show how many persons are in sympathy with them, or when manufacturers or others want to display their goods, or historical or other events are commemorated. So in our Churches on great Feast days, like Christmas and Easter or Ascension day, we have processions round the Church, of the clergy, servers and choristers, carrying the cross, and banners and sometimes lights, accompanied with singing of hymns, in order to emphasize the character or teaching of the day. On Palm Sunday those taking part in such Processions carry branches of Palm in commemoration of our Saviour's entering in that way into Jerusalem.

Then we have Processions of Guilds, or Church Societies, or Schools, on their anniversaries or some other occasion, for the purpose of making their members feel that they belong to these Associations, which have definite pur-

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS

THE CLERGY

TREASURER

MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS:

Single Copies, by Mail, 50 Cents a Year

Kalendar

April 4. Friday—Fast.
6. 2nd Sunpay after Easter.
11. Friday—Fast.
13. 3rd Sunday after Easter.
18. Friday—Fast.
20. 4th Sunday after Easter.
25. St. Mark, Evangelist—Fast.
27. Rogation Sunday.
28. Rogation Monday—Fast.
29. Rogation Tuesday—Fast.
30. Rogation Wednesday—Fast.

RECORD FOR MARCH.

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED NEW—
Thomas Craig
Stuart Mason Sears
Oscar Worthington Layton
Albert Ritsert
Henry Franks Jones
John Boyd Jones
Henry James Rodgers
Albert William Eisenger
Rsssell Clinton Franks
Edward Bender Marsh
Watson Debrell Mull
Mrs. Louisa Mary Clare
" Mary Walton
" Lavinia Moore
" Emma Elizabeth McGarrick
" Lidie Marie Barr
" Jeannette Harris
Caroline Ritsert
Florence Brown Harris
Dorothy Matilda Maginnis
Anna Marie Brown
Bertha Matilda Franks
Esther Matilda Neill

BY TRANSFER from S. Stephen's Church, Harrisburg, Pa.
Mrs. Mary Jean Hamersley
From S. Andrew's, West Philadelphia
Irene Stewart Harri
From S. Stephen's Church,
Elizabeth Sager

TRANSFERRED to the Church of the Transfiguration,
Alice Pearson
DIED, Elizabeth Sager
COMMUNIONS OF THE SICK 3
BURIALS, Elizabeth Sager
Mrs. Jennie Harris
Charles John Young 3

OFFERINGS

For current expenses [including Easter offering]	$1,165.29
" Diocesan Missions	64.90
" General "	3.41
" the Poor	15.19
" Flowers	42.70
" Parochial activities	,10
" Benevolent purposes	.99
At discretion of the Rector	5.00
Of the Sunday School	5.72
" " " " for missions	11.56
Total,	$1,314.86

poses in which all should take part and show their interest.

Then there are sometimes Penetential Processions in which the Litany is sung, which is most appropriate for such a purpose from its short broken petitions and constantly recurring refrains. It was originally composed to be used in this way.

So of course there are Processions at Marriages when the bride and groom with their attendants pass to and from the door to the Altar, and Funeral Processions in which the bier is carried followed by the Pall bearers, mourners and friends.

And on such occasions as the laying of Corner-stones, the Consecration of Churches or Cemeteries, or the Meeting of Conventions, or Ordinations or other occasions where a large number of clergy and officials are assembled, there are naturally Processions, both because it is the only way in which the number of persons present could move quietly and efficiently and also to add to the dignity and solemnity of the function.

In the old country, too, the custom is still kept up in places—it was very prevalent in old times—of Processions on the Rogation days, the three days before Ascension, composed of the clergy, choir and people to go round the bounds of the parishes, invoking God's blessing on the fruits of the ground during the coming summer.

All these are very proper, pious and effective purposes for having Processions. And as they are so frequently used for Military, Political, Social and educational purposes,—all our great universities have them—there is no reason we should not have them in the Church.

In fact there is nothing which collects a greater crowd in the streets than a parade of any kind, and there are few occasions on which a church is so well filled as when there is to be a Procession, or few things which are more impressive.

The proper vestment for the chief person or persons, taking part in a church Procession, is a cope, the ancient Latin garment called the Pluvium, because it kept off the rain, and so was used out of doors. It extends from the shoulders to the feet, and is open in front, without sleeves. Its color will vary with the character of the service. It may be of very rich material, decorated with embroidery, and held together by a clasp, called the Morse.

It is especially worn by Bishops, most of their functions involving their going in Processions.

✠

PARISH NOTES

Easter proved a beautiful day and was well kept in the parish. The three early Celebrations were well attended. The 7.30 A. M. service was particularly remarkable for the large number of young men and boys who were present. The number of Communions made equalled those of previous years.

The music at the mid-day service was particularly well rendered. The Mass sung was a new one, Martin in F, and was specially beautiful. At the evening service there was a solemn procession, the Rector preaching the last of his series of sermons on "Moral influences," showing that the Church is the greatest and most important of all.

The only thing the day lacked was a greater display of flowers. We miss very much the banks of flowers we used to have along the base of the Rood screen. But we only provided flowers we could pay for, and as not enough money was given no more could be ordered.

The offering on Easter day was the largest we have had for a good many years, some $900. Within $100 of the amount we asked for. We shall still need, however, some $300 more during the month of April in addition to the ordinary receipts to meet all our expenses up to the first of May. We trust therefore all who have not yet made an Easter offering will do so some time this month, that we may be able to enter a new financial year without any deficit.

Vestry election. On Easter Monday the following gentlemen were elected to serve for the ensuing three years

Harry B. French,
Walter M. Newnam,
John S. Newbold,
George M. Coates, M. D.

At the subsequent meeting of the Vestry, Dr. Neilson was reappointed the Rector's Warden and Mr. M. F. Roberts re-elected as Accounting Warden.

Dr. Neilson, Mr. W. M. Newnam and Mr. John S. Newbold were elected delegates to the Diocesan Convention.

Sunday School Easter Festival took place on Easter Day at 3 P. M., with a good attendance of the school. After a brief session, contents of the Mite Boxes were counted and presented at the altar. A procession into the church was followed by two addresses and a brief service. As the school left the church, an Easter egg and a pot of flowers were given to each scholar and teacher.

The Industrial School Easter Festival was held on the Saturday after Easter. Prizes were given to the boys and girls who had been most regular in their attendance and done the best work during the winter. All received an Easter egg and Easter card and were entertained with ice cream and cake, after which there was "a fish pond" out of which each drew a gift.

St. Agnes' Guild Gift. The Guild, as its custom at Easter, presented the church with a gas lighter of brass and a walnut polished handle with an inscription engraved upon a small plate. It was made by Lamb & Co. of New York.

The Girls' Friendly Society made and presented to the church a flannel cover for the brass eagle Lectern.

St. Agnes' Guild Feast. The Guild will, during the Easter-tide, have a feast, the exact character and date of which has not yet been determined.

Primary Sunday School. This department of the school has recently furnished two good sized classes for the Main School, under the care of Miss Anna Anderson and Miss Anne Carpenter.

We are glad to welcome Miss Coombs to the Primary School and already the children have learned to love her. Mrs. Maginnis still continues her faithful service with the Primary Department.

A Story Class. The Rev. Curate has begun a story class for the Choir Boys. For half an hour before the service on the nights when he is the appointed preacher, and on the other Sundays, for half an hour before the Morning Service, he reads or tells stories bearing upon some point of Doctrine or Practice. On every such occasion a prize of a nickel is given to the boy who best repeats the story or stories of the preceeding Sunday. Our attendance has been a little over a dozen each meeting.

Sermons in April. The Rev. Curate will preach four sermons the Sunday nights in April upon the general topic, "Life and Work in the next World." The subject next Sunday night will be, "Shall we recognize our Loved Ones in Heaven?

A Minstrel show and dance will be given by the members of S. John's Guild on the evening of Thursday, April 10th in the Parish building. Reserved seats 25cts.

The Men's Club will meet on the evening of Thursday, April 17th. It will be the usual Smoker with a lecture by a representative of the Philadelphia Housing Commission illustrated by pictures showing the housing conditions in the city. This lecture has been given in over one hundred churches of the city, and is said to be most interesting as showing conditions with which every citizen should be familar. There will be music by the Hautboy Club and some other entertainment. All men connected with the parish are invited to come and bring a friend. There are no charges for admission or membership.

Ascension day this year occuring on the first day of May we give notice of it in this month's issue. There will be the usual Celebrations at 7 and after Morning Prayer, at 10.30 A. M. The latter being choral. In the evening there will be at 8 P. M., a choral service with solemn Procession and Te Deum and the anniversary sermon by the Rector. The Annual Guild service will be on the following Sunday evening, May 4th, and the Parish Tea on Monday evening, May 5th. We hope to see all our parishioners present with their friends. Tickets 25 cts.

The United Offering. We beg our good women to remember, that in the early days of October, the Woman's Auxiliary will make its great Triennial gift to Missions. What is the United Offering? you ask. It is the Thank Offering, made by the women of the church, at the meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary, when the General Convention is sitting. It is called United Offering, because it aims to include all of our women.

In the joy of the gathering of 1889, a Thank Offering was proposed, as the Service was about to begin, and $200 was given, one-half of it by one lady, to build the first Church in Alaska. It was then resolved to give a three years' preparation for the offering, and it has grown by leaps and bounds ever since. In 1892, $20,353.16; in 1895, $56,198.35; in 1898, $82,742.87; in 1901, $107,000; in 1904, $150,000; in 1907, $224,251; in 1910, $243,390; in 1913, how much? For what is all this money given? For the training and support of our women missionaries. Our ideal is to pay them all, but in using one-third of the gift each year, until the next General Convention, we have thus far only given enough for 130 women's stipend, and more than 300 are in the field. Pennsylvania has borne an honorable part heretofore, and while the need continues, she will not forget it, and will be generous.

✠

The Rector has received the following note to which he calls the attention of the congregation.

To the Pastors of the churches of Philadelphia:—

The public is responsible for considerable of the unnecessary Sunday business of the Retail Druggists of Philadelphia.

We respectfully urge you to request the members of your congregation to assist us in maintaining a proper observance of Sunday, by refraining from buying Postage Stamps, Cigars, Toilet Articles, etc., and confine their purchases to articles of Necessity and Charity.

Very truly yours,
Committee of the Phila.
Assn. of Retail Druggists
(Signed) J. H. Barlow, Secretary,
514 Arch St. Philadelphia, Pa.

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since the last issue.

Mr. Sears
" O'Daniel
Miss Peters
" Dickerson
" Alice Rousseau
" Alice Young
Mr. Reynolds Clark
Mrs. Pfander (2)
Miss Carpenter 2

The Ascension News

Vol. XXVI Philadelphia, May, 1913. No. 5

Church of the Ascension

Broad Street, Below South All Seats Free

Services

Holy Communion

Every Sunday.....7.30 and 11.00 A. M.
Holy Days.....7.00 and 10.30 A. M.
Daily except Thursdays.....7.00 A. M.
Thursdays.....9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer

Sundays (with Sermon).....10.30 A. M.
Daily.....10.00 A. M.

Evensong

Sundays (with Sermon).....7.45 P. M.
Wednesdays (with Address).....8.00 P. M.

Children's Service

Sundays.....3.30 P. M.

All the Seats are Free at all Services **God's House is open to all its Children**

The Church is always open for private prayer, and the Clergy can be seen after any service

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The Ascension News

The Church of the Ascension

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH

'Phone, Locust 32-63A.

CLERGY

REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE, D.D., *Rector*
334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate.*
1624 Spruce Street.

WARDENS

THOMAS R. NEILSON, M.D.
MILLARD F. ROBERTS

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

PHILIP F. ALBURGER

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild	8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P. M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P. M.

OTHER MEETINGS

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid	3.00 P. M.
Wednesdays, Mothers' Meeting	8.00 P. M.
Thursday, Embroidery Class	10.30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society	10.30 A. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.45 P. M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent	The Curate
Acting Asst. Superintendent	Mr. Chester F. Myers
Librarian and Organist	Mr. S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For the Young Men	2.45 P. M.
Miss Hodge	
For Young Ladies	2.45 P. M.
Miss Stretch	

The Use of Pictures and Statues in Churches.

In edifices erected for religious worship, we find almost universal use of paintings and sculpture. The ancients always made statues of their gods, not primarily to worship as idols, but as representations of the gods they believed in, though frequently among ignorant people such use of images degenerated into idolatry.

The Jews, though strictly forbidden, to make the likeness of anything to worship, nevertheless were commanded to make images of Cherubims to be placed over the Mercy Seat in the Holies of Holies, the most sacred shrine of the Temple. So images were used to support the laver of brass in the temple and elaborate carvings of fruits and flowers, and the richest coloring decorated all the parts of the Temple.

It was natural, therefore, that Christians should do the same thing and from the earliest times we find them using both paintings and sculpture in their churches. For a time there waged what was known as the Iconoclastic Controversy, one party in the church wanting to destroy and banish all pictures and images from the churches, the other wanting to retain them. It was finally decided however by a General Council that they should be retained. To this day however there is a difference of use between the Eastern and Western Churches. The Greek allows pictures, but no images in their church buildings, the Latin and English Churches use both.

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EDITORS
THE CLERGY

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS;

Single Copies, by Mail, 50 Cents a Year

Kalendar.

May 1. Ascension Day.
2. Friday—Fast.
4. Sunday after Ascension.
9. Friday—Fast.
11. Whitsunday.
12. Monday in Whitsun-Week.
13. Tuesday " " "
14. Ember Day—Fast.
16. " " "
17. " " "
18. Trinity Sunday.
23. Friday—Fast.
25. 1st Sunday after Trinity.
30. Friday—Fast.

RECORD FOR APRIL.

BAPTISMS: Mrs. Emily Kirkpatrick Craig. 1
CONFIRMATION: Mrs. Emily Kirkpatrick Craig. 1
MARRIAGE:
Charles William Snyder and
Jane Manning. 1
COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED new:
Mrs. Emily Kirkpatrick Craig, 1
TRANSFERRED to the Chapel of the Holy Conforter,
Mrs. Ella Cannon
Catharine Marie Cannon
To the Church of the Resurrection,
Helen Louisa Birmelin
To S. Barnabas, Haddington,
Mrs. Annie Hawkins
George William Hawkins
Elizabeth Annie Hawkins
Alice Ellen Hawkins
Frederick John Hawkins
To the Church of the Redemption,
Mrs. Clara May Levy
To S. Elizabeth's Church,
Richard Mears
Mrs. Eliza May Mears 11
DIED: William Andrews,
Mrs. Elizabeth Marter. 2
COMMUNION OF SICK, 1
UNCTION OF SICK, 1
BURIALS: William Andrews. 1

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$295.76
" the Poor	28.25
" Diocesan Missions	29.11
" General Missions	1.05
" Episcopal and Convention fund	.01
" Missions, through Woman's Auxiliary	
Domestic	23.80
Foreign	27.55
Indian	24.80
Colored	18.05
Diocesan	21.80
" the Periodical Club	3.00
" Altar fund for the year	104.75
" S. John's Guild	30.00
" the Ladies' Aid	30.00
" " United Offering	67.92
" " Prayer Book Society	8.00
" " Tract Society	4.00
" " Missionary box	55.00
" Benevolent purposes	1.08
Of the Sunday School	4.39
" " " " for missions	4.11
Total,	$881.43

The value of pictures and statues in Churches is not only that they are a most beautiful and effective decoration, but they have a distinctively religious value, they are suggestive and indicative, presenting most vividly to the mind, through the eye, religious impressions which it would be difficult to convey in any other way.

The power of suggestion is one which is being more and more recognized and acted on in the modern world. It is being realized that it is sufficient even to produce cures from physical disorders. One personality can often just by a suggestion effectively and permanently influence and control another person. How wise therefore to use it to produce religious impressions. The mere act of gazing on the Figure of Christ hanging on the cross, or on pictures representing important scenes in His life, can certainly make one realize and appreciate all that the crucifixion, or other acts in our Lord's life, mean better than the mere reading or hearing of them could.

So statues or pictures representing the Blessed Mother, the Apostles, the Saints, Confessors, calling to our minds what men and women have done and suffered for the Faith, the virtuous or heroic traits they have displayed, are certainly powerful means of bringing to bear the influence of their lives and characters on those who contemplate them.

It is therefore a true instinct that has led Christians to use such in their Churches. The use has been universal except in modern times by the Puritans, who when they were in power in England pulled down all the statues and the crosses and destroyed the stained glass windows which had pictures in them. But now their descendants are using them again in their Churches.

There is little danger in this enlightened age of the use of pictures and images degenerating into idolatry, and it can be of great benefit by helping the worshipper to appreciate as he could not otherwise so readily do, the great facts and truths which they are intended to set forth. It is wise then to use the great power of suggestion for religious purposes.

* * *

PARISH NOTES.

Gifts. The Church has been presented with the brass gates for the entrance to the Chancel which belonged to the Rood Screen we received from St. Mark's Church. They are much heavier and more elaborate than those we had. By resolution of the Vestry the old ones have been presented to the new St. Barnabas Church, Haddington, which is being erected in West Philadelphia as a memorial to the late Bishop Whitaker.

St. Agnes' Guild has added to one of our Processional Crosses, a Figure of our Lord, so as to make it correspond with the crosses on our altars.

The Rector was presented with two very fine linen surplices imported from England by a lady of the congregation.

A large Welsbach burner for the choir room, three books and a large number of magazines and illustrated papers for the Parish Library were presented, also fifteen gymnasium suits were given to St. John's Junior Guild and twelve prizes for the spring sports.

The Periodical Club which collects and distributes magazines and papers to those who would be glad to see them, requests any person having such for which they have no further use to send them to the Church Reading Room for use during the summer.

The Mothers' Meeting was given an oyster supper on the Wednesday after Easter by Miss Alice Young, who formerly had charge of it. It was much enjoyed by about twenty-five persons who were present. They were also given ice cream and cake at their closing meeting on April 30.

The members of the meeting made 706 garments during the winter. This was a great help to them and benefit for the hospitals for which the sewing was done.

The Ladies' Aid made during Lent some ninety articles of children's clothes which were given to needy families in the parish.

The Men's Club meeting on April the 17th was attended by over fifty men. A very interesting and instructive lecture was given by Mr. Arthur

E. Hutchinson, representing the Philadelphia House Commission, illustrated by lantern slides showing how bad the conditions are in many parts of the city. This was followed by a concert by the Zobo band, Knights of Pythias, Myrtle Wreath Lodge 61 which was most entertaining. We were indebted for its services to Mr. Albert Challman one of our choir men who is a member of the band.

There will be no meeting of the club this month as the Parish Tea takes its place.

Change In The Sunday Morning Service. After Trinity Sunday Morning prayer will be said plain on Sundays during the summer, in order to make it easier for the choir, which will not enter the church until its conclusion, when the Holy Communion will begin. The sermon will be preached after the Creed and the collection made during the offertory. This dispenses with the singing of a hymn and the whole service will be over by twelve o'clock.

New Advertisement. We call attention to a new advertisement we have of H. F. Bruner & Co., who are the successors of J. S. Lowey & Sons, who formerly supplied the Church with coal. We recommend them to our subscribers.

The Fourth Annual Minstrel Show and Dance given by the St. John's Guild under the management of Messrs. Samuel Neill, James Boggs, Alex Boggs and Harry Ritsert was held in the Parish Building April 10th, proved to be a great success in every way.

Messrs. Samuel Neill and James Boggs as endmen kept the audience in laughter with their sayings and actions through the entire performance. The Guild wishes to extend their thanks to Mr. Albert Challman for his services as interlocutor. There was a dance after the show which everyone present enjoyed very much. The total receipts for the entertainment amounted to $20.00 after all expenses were paid. Thanking all our patrons we hope to see them at our next performance.

A dress rehearsal of the Minstrel Show was given on Tuesday evening before the performance, at the Seaman's Mission, Front and Queen streets. It was greatly appreciated by a room full of men, who gave our young men a cordial invitation to come again.

The Members of the Drexel Biddle Bible Class of the Ascension paid their first visit to the Drexel Biddle Home at Lansdowne where a party was given by the Racquet Club. The young men invited ladies to accompany them, so there were eighteen from the Ascension who joined in the dancing and evening's fun. An oyster supper followed. There are thirty-two acres of ground at Lansdowne which our young men have the privilege of using. Several tennis courts, base ball diamonds, and other amusements. We hope that our base ball team will make a good record during the summer.

They also can spend their holidays and any week end there by paying a moderate sum for meals.

The Girls' Friendly will give a "Cafe Chantant" in the Parish Building on Tuesday, June 24th, at 8 P. M. It will be assisted by some members of the choir. Refreshments will be served. Tickets 25cts. A large attendance is looked for.

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ST. ANNA'S HOME

2018 RACE STREET

This Home is provided, by the All-Saints' Sisters of the Poor, for Aged Women who are communicants of the Episcopal Church in Philadelphia and the suburbs. The applicant must be over sixty years of age and in need of such a home.

References are required from the rector of the parish to which the applicant belongs and also from two ladies to whom she is personally known. A physician's certificate is also required.

No admission fee is asked, but it is necessary that a small amount shall be paid for board. It can hardly be expected that the board paid will cover more than one-third of the expenses of the house, and it is earnestly desired that the remainder be provided by donations and annual subscriptions.

The house is open and ready for occupation, but, since it is not endowed, applicants can not be accepted until their support in the Home is assured. The fact that in the four months since the announcement of the opening of the Home, there have been twenty-two applicants proves the need of another such home.

Can we, their fellow-members of the church in this diocese, allow them to remain unprovided and uncared for while one room is empty at St. Anna's Home?

The Home is open for inspection and visitors will be welcome.

Contributions may be sent to Mrs. S. H. Day, Treasurer for Associates of St. Anna's Home, 6388 Woodbine Ave., Overbrook.

✠

St. John's Junior Guild.

On Monday, April 28, the little boys of this organization gave an exhibition of spring sports, which did them much credit. High jumping, potato racing, three-legged racing, calisthenic exercises, etc., occupied the evening. At the close prizes made to boys were awarded.

Thanks to Mr. Rodman Wanamaker's gift of fifteen gymnasium suits the boys were very happy. Twelve members took active parts. The first prize for good behaviour through the year was won by Watson Mull, the youngest member of the Guild. Charles McDermott carried off second prize for efficiency in drill work. The potato races were very exciting, won by George Barr and John Jones, George Mull won the prize for buck work and John Jones for running high jump. The most exciting event being a pie eating contest which was won by Watson Mull and George Morris. Many new members have asked to join next year, and we hope for a full gymnasium. Through the generosity of Mr. Spencer Erwin we have been able to have a good trainer, Mr. Samuel Neil, for this winter of whom the boys are very fond. The object of this Guild is to keep boys from the streets at night and make them better and useful citizens in every way.

* * *

Sunday School To Zoo.

On May 17, the school visited the Zoological Garden as guests of the Board of Education. Some of the children had never been there and so it was a real treat to them.

* * *

St. Agnes' Guild.

They recently visited the Colonial Theater and spent an enjoyable evening with the Moving Pictures and Vaudeville attractions.

* * *

A Fire which occurred in the printing establishment which issues this paper accounts for the delay in this number coming out. All our cuts, type etc. were destroyed. A new cut of the exterior of the Church has been made to take the place of that of the interior we were using.

* * *

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since the last issue.

Mrs. Beates (2)
Miss Massey
Mrs. Wetherall (2)
Miss Goodman
Miss Walsh (2)

The Ascension News

VOL. XXVI. PHILADELPHIA, JUNE, 1913. No. 6

Church of the Ascension

Broad Street, Below South — All Seats Free

Services

Holy Communion

EVERY SUNDAY.....7.30 and 11.00 A. M.
HOLY DAYS.....7.00 and 10.30 A. M.
DAILY EXCEPT THURSDAYS.....7.00 A. M.
THURSDAYS.....9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer

SUNDAYS (with Sermon).....10.30 A. M.
DAILY.....10.00 A. M.

Evensong

SUNDAYS (with Sermon).....7.45 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address).....8.00 P. M.

Children's Service

SUNDAYS.....3.30 P. M.

All the Seats are Free at all Services — **God's House is open to all its Children**

The Church is always open for private prayer, and the Clergy can be seen after any service

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The Ascension News

The Church of the Ascension

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH

'Phone, Locust 32-63A.

CLERGY

REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE, D.D., *Rector*
334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate.*
1624 Spruce Street.

WARDENS

THOMAS R. NEILSON, M.D.
MILLARD F. ROBERTS

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

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SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild ..... 8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society ..... 8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew ... 8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild ..... 8.00 P. M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild ..... 7.45 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 2.45 P. M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent ..... The Curate
Acting Asst. Superintendent ..... Mr. Chester F. Myers
Librarian and .....
Organist ..... Mr. S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For the Young Men ..... 2.45 P. M.
Miss Hodge

For Young Ladies ..... 2.45 P. M.
Miss Stretch

Our Church Year.

Our parochial year runs from May 1st to May 1st when the annual reports are returned to the Bishop. The report for the past year we print in full in this issue.

In commenting on the report, as he always does in his sermon on the evening of Ascension Day, the Rector called attention to the following points. There were ten Baptisms less than last year, just the same number Confirmed, two more Marriages, the same number of Burials. The additions to the Communicant list were two less by first communion, and twenty-four less by transfer from other parishes. The large number last year was due to the accession received from the Church of the Messiah on its being closed. The number lost by death this year was two less and by removal three more.

Those who died during the year were Mrs. Emma Baily, an old member long prevented by physical disability from attending the church. Mrs. Harriet Rocap, who leaves a young daughter. Martha Adeline Moitz, long attached to and interested in the church and a worker on the Altar Chapter. Mrs. Mary Schott Doxie, who leaves a husband and son, the latter one of our choir boys. Margaret McIlhenny connected with the church for nearly thirty years and whose death was most unexpected. William Augustus Dodson, at one time a regular attendant but of late years spending most of his time in the South, being only occasionally in the city. Mrs. Mary Morrow, a member of the old church on Lombard St., transferred afterwards to All Saints, but returning to the parish again when that church was removed to Snyder Avenue, Isable Anabel, long a member of the parish, at one time in charge of St. Mary's

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY
TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

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Kalendar.

June 1, Second Sunday after Trinity.
6, Friday—Fast.
8, Third Sunday after Trinity.
11, S. Barnabas.
13, Friday—Fast.
15, Fourth Sunday after Trinity.
20, Friday—Fast.
22, Fifth Sunday after Trinity.
24, Nativity of S. John Baptist.
27, Friday—Fast.
29, S. Peter.

RECORD FOR MAY.

MARRIAGE, George Henry Morgan and Eveline Ott. 1
COMMUNICANTS TRANSFERRED to S. Clements' Church,
Lavinia Plackett. 1
DIED, Frederick Tallent. 1
COMMUNION OF THE SICK, 1
BURIAL, Mrs. Elizabeth Marter. 1

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$345.37
" the Poor	86.74
" Parochial activities	36.26
" the Endowment Fund	51.66
" Diocesan Missions	9.49
" General "	1.35
" Benevolent purposes	.57
Of the Sunday School	3.45
Total,	$534.89

Guild, and always most efficient in assisting in entertainments, her death was most sudden and unexpected. Elizabeth Sager for a number of years attending the church though not registered as a communicant. William Andrews, who came to the church from the Presbyterians and a regular attendant until the last few years when he became unable to walk any distance. Mrs. Elizabeth Marter, a member of the Mothers' Meeting, herself confirmed in the church and the means of bringing several members of her family to its communion, her death was instantaneous.

We thank God for the good examples and good work of these His servants and pray that they may rest in peace. All but two received the ministrations of the church in their last illness.

The Sunday and Industrial Schools report about the same number of names on their rolls. But neither of these schools are as large as formerly owing to the change in the character of the population in the neighborhood of the church.

The young people's Guilds have been well maintained and made attractive by numerous entertainments. The Girls' Friendly Society had a very successful singing class which gave a concert during the winter. And there were several sociables provided for it and S. John's Guild for young men, a dancing teacher being employed.

The Men's Club held four meetings during the winter at each of which there was an attendance of over fifty. Instructive lectures and interesting entertainments were provided.

The work of the Women's Guild was up to and in some departments, above that of other years, though we have to lament the small number attending the missionary meetings and engaging in other work. The work done by the members of the Mother's Meeting and the Ladies' Aid was in excess of the previous year.

Comparing the financial receipts with those of last year we find the total receipts for parish purposes were only a few dollars less, though last year a special appeal had been made by the Vestry which brought in over $2,000. The receipts from the endowment and from parochial agencies were about the same. The Women's Auxiliary contributed $100 more and the offerings for purposes out side of the parish, owing to the use of the duplex envelopes were $300 more than the previous year.

Some $500 was spent in improvements and repairs, which consisted of two Memorial windows, the putting in of a water heater in the parish building and extensive repairs to the roof of the church.

But while our receipts are in excess even of those of some previous years, we again find ourselves with a deficit at its close owing to the fact that our regular income does not meet our expenses. Will not each member of the parish feel his or her responsibility to give regularly as large an amount as they possibly can.

The conditions of the parish are discouraging owing to the constant removal of our people to the country and the newer parts of the city. But we cannot but believe that eventually our neighborhood will improve and a larger constituency be obtained. And if all of our members are faithful and zealous in its support its efficiency can not only be maintained, but increased.

✠

Public Services.—Sunday, 246; on the other days, 973; total, 1219.

Celebrations of Holy Communion.—400.

Children Catechised.—Times, 246.

Sunday School.—Officers and teachers, 22; scholars, 100.

Other Parish Agencies.—Officers and workers, 70; members, 150; Industrial School Teachers, 5; scholars, 35; Mothers' Meeting, members, 25.

Money Receipts.—Offerings for all Parish purposes, $6,401.67; offerings for purposes outside the Parish, $1,146.73; investments, $606.83; other sources, entertainments, etc., $215.76; Sunday School, $53.38; Women's Auxiliary, $292.42; Endowment Fund, $52.38; total, $8,769.77.

Expenditures.— Parochial current expenses (including salaries of clergy, music, fuel and lighting, care of church building and grounds and ordinary repair of same), $5,308.38; improvements, $434.28; support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools, $334.04; for the Poor, $457.80; added to Endowment Fund, $52.38; miscellaneous, $793.91; total, $7,380.79.

Diocesan.—Episcopal and Convention Fund, $151.01; Diocesan Missions, $121.80; Episcopal Hospital, $15.10; Sustentation Fund, $33.37; for new churches, $40.09; Bishop's Fund, $7.50; total, $346.35.

General Missions.—Sunday School, $14.67; General, $878.49; Foreign, $32.55; Domestic, $80.30; Indian, $24.80; Colored people, $25.05; Prayer Book and Tract Societies, $12.00; Theological education, $10.00; United Offering, $67.92; other objects, $10.00; total, $1,146.78. Total for all objects, $8,898.54.

Financial Condition.— Aggregate value of property of the Parish real and personal, $82,000; incumbrances: mortgage on the Church edifice, Parish building and ground, none! Endowment Fund, $13,500.

✠

To Subscribers.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the **News** is due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since the last issue:

Miss Hoffmann, Mr. William Wilson, Mrs. Shelton, Mrs. Pepper.

✠

Parish Notes.

Ascension Day coming so earlier this year ought to have secured larger congregations than usual, but the annual service for the presentation of the United Offering of the Diocese took away some of our people. And its coming on the same date as that for a stated meeting of the Vestry did secure the presence of some of the Vestry we might not otherwise have had in the evening. Its coming on the first day of the month made it very difficult for the Rector and Accounting Warden to get up all their figures in time for the anniversary sermon and the Vestry meeting after the evening service. Excepting during the time he was at the services and eating his meals the Rector was busily working over figures the whole day. We give a synopsis of his anniversary sermon in this issue.

At the Vestry meeting in the evening the affairs of the Parish were discussed at considerable length. It was determined in the first place to shorten the Sunday morning service during

the summer months by having Morning Prayer said without any music. This has been done very satisfactorily the whole service now being over by twelve o'clock.

Then it was suggested that during July and August instead of having a celebration of the Holy Communion at 7:30 a. m. and another after Morning Prayer at 10:30 a. m., it would be better to have only one service at 9 a. m., consisting of Morning Prayer and the Holy Communion. This will be easier for the Reverend Curate who will be alone during those months, and it will be a much cooler hour than the middle of the day.

In spite of the good financial showing for the year, the Vestry feels the need of economy so as to bring our expenses within our ordinary receipts. As a step in this direction the Vestry withdrew the hundred dollars formerly given for extra clerical services during the summer when one of the clergy was away. In consequence of this there will be no early celebrations of the Holy Communion from July 1st to October 1st.

The Annual Guild Service on the Sunday evening after Ascension Day was an ususally effective one. For the first time the Men's Club and St. John's Guild members made an effective appearance, though there were a many more who might have joined in the procession. The Rev. Mr. Capers, Rector of the Church of the Holy Apostles gave a very appropriate sermon.

✠

REPORT.

The following is the report of the Parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop:

Baptisms.—Adults, 7; infants, 15; total, 22.

Confirmed.—Males, 11; females, 14; total, 25.

Communicants added.—New, 24; by transfer, 9; total, 33; died, 11; removed by revision of list, 8; by transfer, 36; total, 55; present number, 494.

Marriages.—10.

Burials.—25.

Schedule of Games of the Ascension Baseball Team for the Summer.

May 10. Trinity, Darby.
30. A. M. Alleghaney Ave., Baptist.
30. P. M. St. John's, Lansdown.
June 7. First M. E.
14. Ascension Juniors.
21. House of Prayer.
July 12. Fairhill Baptist.
26. St. Bartholomew.
Aug. 9. Cumberland St. M. E.
30. Richardson Memorial.
Sep. 13. Bethany Presbyterian.

All games after June 1st will be on the League Grounds.

✠

The Parish Tea on the following Monday was particularly pleasant. There was a large attendance and plentiful refreshments as usual and a very effective musical program. The Girls' Friendly singing class rendered some very good pieces showing the results of their training during the winter. Mr. George Morgan and Miss Ott sang solos, Miss Hare played and Miss Cavmam gave some of her admirable recitals. The evening closed with a dance by the young people.

The Marriage of Mr. George H. Morgan, the son of our Verger and a member of our choir and Miss Eveline Ott, took place in the church on the evening of May 29th. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Snyder B. Symes, the Rector of the old Swede's Church to which parish the bride belonged, assisted by the Rector of this church. An informal reception was held after the ceremony in the Parish building. The happy couple have the best wishes of all members of the congregation. They were the recipients of many useful and handsome presents.

✠

The Death of Mr. Frederick Tallent took place May 30th. Many of the congregation will remember him as the blind man who formerly attended the church very regularly. For a number of years he has been too infirm to do so, and since before Christmas he has been bedridden. He was really a remarkable man, most well informed on almost every subject and delighted in conversing, bearing his great affliction with wonderful patience. He passed away quietly in his eighty-sixth year.

✠

The New Cut of the exterior of the church which we are now using was made to take the place of that of the interior which was destroyed in the fire at the printers. It was made from a photograph taken some years ago while the burial service of one of our choir boys was going on in the church.

✠

An Entertainment on a large scale for the benefit of the church has been planned for next autumn by one of our most energetic workers. It will consist of a repetition of the representation of "Angels in Art," being living tableaux of ancient pictures of Angels. It was given this spring at the Bellvue-Stratford and was a most beautiful and successful entertainment. Many who saw it before will wish to see it again. Several meetings of our ladies have been held to arrange for it and committees have been appointed to arrange the details. It will be given as the other presentation was in the Bellvue-Stratford sometime in November.

✠

Note Change In Services During July And August.

Sundays

9 A. M. Morning Prayer and Holy Communion.
7:45 P. M. Evening Prayer and Sermon.

Daily

7 A. M. Holy Communion.
5 P. M. Evening Prayer.

Wednesdays

8 P. M. Evening Prayer and Meditation.

✠

During September the services will be:

Sundays

10:30 A. M. Morning Prayer and Holy Communion.
7:45 P. M. Evening Prayer and Sermon.

Daily (except Saturdays)

10 A. M. Morning Prayer.

✠

A Story Class.

Every Sunday night at 7 p. m. the Rev. Curate has about him a little company of boys, who listen to stories illustrating some doctrinal truth or reverent habit and who repeat the stories of the previous Sunday, encouraged by the prize of a nickel to those who tell the stories well. The brief session is closed by a chapter of a child's story of St. Francis Assisi.

The Prizes offered by a member of the congregation for the best essay on "The work of the Christian and Sanitary Commissions during the Civil War," to a boy and a girl of our Sunday School, have been awarded to George Mull and Frances Whitehurst. One was a year's subscription to the American Boys' Magazine and the other the Ladies' Home Journal.

On the evening of Ascension Day the Rector conferred a silver medal awarded by the Choirmaster to John Owen, for regular attendance and good behaviour.

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Gifts one dozen palm leaf fans. Twenty volumes for the Parish Library.

✠

Summer Sermons.

The Rev. Curate will preach a course of sermons on the Sunday nights in July and August upon various modern presentations of religion, such as Christian Science, Mormonism, Spiritualism, Ethical Culture, etc., etc.

The services in church will be followed each night by an After-Meeting and Question Box in the Parish Building. These meetings in previous summers have proved attractive, the number of men attending being especially noticable. On one occasion about 50 men out of about 125 people, came back into the Parish Building for the Meeting, the thermometer on that particular evening registering over 90 degrees in the room.

The Ascension News

VOL. XXVI. PHILADELPHIA, OCTOBER, 1913. NO. 7

Church of the Ascension

Broad Street, Below South — All Seats Free

Services

Holy Communion

EVERY SUNDAY ..... 7.30 and 11.00 A. M.
HOLY DAYS ..... 7.00 and 10.30 A. M.
DAILY EXCEPT THURSDAYS ..... 7.00 A. M.
THURSDAYS ..... 9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer

SUNDAYS ..... 10.30 A. M.
DAILY ..... 10.00 A. M.

Evensong

SUNDAYS (with Sermon) ..... 7.45 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) ..... 8.00 P. M.
DAILY ..... 5.00 P. M.

Children's Service

SUNDAYS ..... 3.30 P. M.

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Teachers' Instruction at 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent	The Curate
Acting Asst. Superintendent	Mr. Chester F. Myers
Librarian and Organist	Mr. S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For the Young Men — Miss Hodge	2.45 P. M.
For Young Ladies — Miss Stretch	2.45 P. M.

The City Church.

The conditions affecting a city church are very diffeaent from those in a small town or in the country. In the latter everyone is known, and if they can be reached at all, by religious influences, they can be brought to bear upon him. In the city there are thousands of all kinds and sorts of people, many of whom it is very hard to come to know or to reach in any way. In the country the church is more of a social institution, and every one feels more his obligation to attend and help support it, it is more easily to do so owing to the social advantages it gives him.

Then the towns and country have generally a more staple population. The same families often live on the same farms or in the same houses for generations. In the city there is constant change. A district which is residential at one time, in a few years may be entirely abandoned to business or to a foreign population.

Then there is the tendency, which we are feeling very much in this parish, for people to move from the central portion of the city to the suburbs or newer parts of the city, where they can get new houses with all modern conveniences, and much more attractive, for the same price they have to pay for old and inconvenient ones. Some move to the country to live there altogether. Then the wealthier people who have country seats are coming to live on them the longer each year, moving into the city only for a few months in the winter.

All these conditions are making it harder and harder to keep up our city churches. In consequence of these tendencies more than thirty churches have been moved from the section of the city south of Market street, and east of Broad, in the last twenty-five years.

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Kalendar.

Oct. 3. Friday—Fast.
5. Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.
10. Friday—Fast.
12. Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity.
17. Friday—Fast.
18. S. Luke.
19. Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity.
24. Friday—Fast.
26. Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity.
28. SS. Simon and Jude.
31. Friday—Fast. Eve of All Saints' day. (Hallow E'en.)

✠

RECORD FOR JUNE, JULY, AUG., SEPT.

BAPTISMS: Regina Elizabeth Amies.
William Stewart Marsh. 2

COMMUNICANTS ADDED:
From Church of Ireland,
John Martin,
Mrs. Mary Ann Martin. 2

TRANSFERRED to S. Peter's Church, Phoenixville, Pa.
Evelyn Bannington Coombs. 2

DIED: John Martin.
William Long Anderson. 2

COMMUNIONS OF THE SICK, 2

BURIALS: Frederick Tallent.
George Washington Frank,
John Martin.
William Long Anderson.
Alatee Buckingham. 5

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$635.03
" the Poor	70.33
" Parochial Activities	38.38
" General Missions	500.05
" Diocesan "	3.14
" the Endowment Fund	.29
" Benevolent purposes	.56
Of the Sunday School	2.18
Total,	$1,249.96

And yet there are plenty of people still in the city, and there is more poverty and religion there than anywhere else. Surely the churches ought to be maintained there. And now, owing to our facility of transportation, a trolley in every street, it is very easy for people living at a distance to attend a particular church if they are attached to it. We have a number of people living at a great distance from the church who attend it most regularly. And our church is most centrally situated, the district north of it is still one of residences. And Broad street must eventually be improved in its immediate vicinity. The proposed subway will certainly give an impetus to such improvement and make the church more accessible.

Moreover one can never tell how soon one wave of population may succeed another, or how quickly the foreigners, by (many of whom we are surrounded) may become Americanized and be drawn to our church. Certainly we ought to try to work among them, giving them facilities to worship in their own languages and according to their own rites, as our Bishops are frequently allowing, and in time they may come to prefer our English ways to their own. We are convinced that there is place and work for Ascension Parish in spite of the difficulties against which we have to contend.

But to keep up the church and do its work requires funds. And if we are losing more and more of our well-to-do-people, then there is more necessity of our parish being endowed. In fact, endowment is the only way by which any church can be put upon a permanent foundation, and secured against the fluctuations of population or changes in the condition of its attendants. There are several of our churches in the eastern part of the city which could not be kept up now were it not for their endowments. Will not all our parishioners who can do so, at least remember the parish in their wills, even if they cannot give largely to this fund in their lifetime?

The Ascension has done a good work in the past, and can do a still greater one in the future, if it is properly supported.

In this connection we gladly print the following letter recently received by the rector:

My Dear Dr. Hodge:

I have been away for the summer and feel I must write and tell you what the return to the Church of the Ascension means to me. I have been to other churches, and seen different services, and am more than ever impressed with the beauty and quiet dignity of ours—the good and reverently rendered music—and our comprehensive service, giving one so much help and benefit spiritually, with so many aids to devotion in the accentuating of all the essentials in our service and lessons of the day.

Can we not use the prayer—"Stir up, O Lord, we beseech Thee, the wills of Thy people"—to bring them more regularly and devotionally into House of Prayer and Worship, which needs their presence—to show not only God, but our fellow men, that we are not going to let the environments and other difficulties interfere with this "Household of Faith"—but make it a "shining light" that will shine more and more unto the perfect day. I can at least pray that others will be moved to feel our opportunities and privileges as I have been led to do—and sign myself

A DEVOTED PARISHIONER.

✠

St. Michael and All Angels' Day.

✠

Parish Notes.

The summer. During July and August, there was but one service on Sundays at 9 a. m., consisting of Morning Prayer said without music, followed by a Choral Celebration with a sermon. It was hoped that this might prove a pleasanter hour than 10.30 A. M. as formerly. But it did not materially increase the attendance.

During September the latter hour was returned to, there being no early Celebration owing to the absence of the Curate and the Vestry having felt obliged to withdraw the appropriation for a supply.

We subjoin our account of the summer work by the Rev. Curate who was in sole charge during July and August.

Sunday School On one of the hot days of the summer, some of the school were taken to the Park for an outing. The ride to and fro and the fresh air and the romps on the green grass were happy events.

St. Agnes' Guild. As usual, this Guild has had no vacation. Every Saturday it has been in operation and the attendance at the Celebration of the Blessed Sacrament at 9 A. M. every Sunday has been good; never a Sunday passing without Guild superiors and children in their pews No rewards are offered to them for this faithfulness; their knowledge of their Saviour's Eucharistic Presence being their sole inducement.

Sunday Nights. The services and after-meetings have gone on as usual during the summer. The after-meetings have been interesting and at least four men and two women are known fruitages of these gatherings. Frank discussions by men especially, of beliefs and practices from the varying points have earnestly taken place, one night nearly eleven o'clock having arrived unconsciously to those present, before the meeting was of necessity adjourned.

Paradise Farm. A number of our boys were visitors at the Country Week's farm; and sun-browned faces and happy countenances and many stories to tell of important events connected with sports and swimming, proved the success of their outing.

The Story Class. Truths and Devotions inculcated through the medium of stories have found lodgement in the heads, and, it is hoped, in the hearts of Choir Boys, as part of the regular Sunday routine all through the summer. From a lot of noisy, busy, restless boys has developed a group of silent listeners, sharing the chair or grouped about the story-teller; and able on the following Sunday night to repeat remarkably well the truth taught, and the story which told it, the previous Sunday.

The Daily Sacrifice. On every morning during the summer the Holy Sacrifice has been offered with an instruction on different days for different objects. On some mornings for those struggling with specific sins; on others for men and women (usually by their Christian names) who are seeking more light as to truth and helps to sanctity; on others for the sick and dying and dead; on every Sunday for the Rev. Rector of this parish.

But on every day, the offering has been for the General Convention which will meet in October, that God would save its members from mistakes through "error, ignorance, pride or prejudice." Let us continue that prayer every day until the conventions close. Prayer has been defined as "suppliant omnipotence," and it can accomplish more for God's glory and the good of His Church than ecclesiastical importance or financial resources or great eloquence. Those who pray hardest will most influence the coming Convention. So let us do our part.

Sunday School Excursion. The most largely attended excursion of the Sunday School for several years took place on Saturday, June 14th.

The day was begun with a Celebration of the Blessed Sacrament at 6.30 A. M. Mrs. Harris kindly played the organ and 60 children and adults sang Eucharistic Hymns from the Children's Eucharistic Card.

Tickets were then distributed and the 8 A. M. steamer was boarded at Chestnut street wharf. It took about two hours to go and two hours to return, the rest of the day being spent in the Island Park.

A game of baseball was played between the St. John's Guild and the choir. The former won by a score of 16 to 6.

Tickets for amusements were given to the children, games were played, everybody was hungry for lunch and dinner, and the two hours' sail home completed a happy day.

Sunday School Prizes. Twenty-seven medals were awarded to scholars for regular attendance.

For the recitation of a whole book of doctrinal statements, which was wonderfully well done, jewelry was given to Frances Whitehurst, Nellie Righter and Margaret Mull. A watch was given to Harry Barr and John Barr, a finer one to George Mull, and a fountain pen to Louis Klofach.

Song Service for School. It is proposed to have every Sunday afternoon at 2.45 P. M. a song service for those of the children who care to come. On the last Sunday of the school the hearty and enthusiastic singing of many popular hymns was only an illustration of how congregational singing can inspire and attract both young and old, if conducted under conditions which experience and results have proved to be essential and successful. It is one means of gathering people within reach of exhortations and instructions, which it seems a pity to have so long neglected. St. Paul was expressing his love for souls, when he said: "If by any means I might save some."

Holidays. The Rector spent his holiday with his wife and two daughters in the Adirondacks. He enjoyed perfhct health in a delicious atmosphere, never hot, and getting plenty of exercise in rowing and walking. In addition he found time to read six volumes of theology, three of history, six of memoirs, and one novel having a theological and socialogical purpose. He also read all he wanted to of one quarterly and two weekly magazines, four weekly church papers and two daily papers. He wrote an essay covering twenty pages of foolscap for a church magazine, the triennial report of the Church Unity Society, some editorials for the NEWS, and carried on quite a correspondence. He also did a good deal of work in connection with the report of the General Convention Committee on the revision of the Sectionary, of which he is a member. And he celebrated the Holy Communion, read Morning Prayer and preached each Sunday he was away. So that he feels that his holiday was profitable as well as healthful and restful. And he trusts that that the opportunity he thus had of communion with nature and with books has given him inspirations which will enable him to minister more effectively to his people during the coming winter.

The Rev. Curate took his holiday in September, spending some days of it in Retreat with the Holy Cross Fathers on the Hudson.

Winter services. The full order of winter services are resumed this month as formerly, except that on Sunday morning the arrangement we began in June of saying Morning Prayer without any music will be continued for the present, until it can be ascertained whether that is more generally acceptable than the former plan of having the choir present at both services. It is not only a great relief to the choir, but shortens the service for the congregation, the whole concluding now at twelve o'clock, instead as formerly at twelve-thirty.

The Sunday School re-opens on the first Sunday of this month, and we trust all the teachers and scholars will be in their places.

SS. Simon and Jude day, Oct. 28th, is the annual meeting of the Women's Guild of the Parish and we hope *all the ladies* of the congregation will try to be present to hear the report of the last year's work, and to arrange for the coming winter.

Girls' Friendly Notes.

On June 24th, there was given one of the pleasantest entertainments which have been held in the Parish House. It was called a "Cafe Chantant," and as the name signifies it was singing in a cafe, the stage made into pretty little restaurant, and the choir men and G. F. S. girls taking the parts, and rendering very delightful songs, and two of them acted as colored waiters and gave much enjoyment with their jokes and by-play. Those taking part were Messrs. Myers, Challman, McNeill, Ritchert, Boggs and Neill, and the Misses Anderson, Whitehurst, Villermong Klofack, Hoffman, and Horscroft. Ice cream and cake were served to all who attended.

The money realized was divided between the Choir and "Friendly."

The regular weekly meetings will begin on Tuesday, October 7th, at 8 P. M. It is hoped there will be a good attendance.

St. John's Junior Guild begins its sessions on Monday night, Oct. 6th, with Miss Trainor.

An entertainment, partly for the benefit of the Church Home for Children, and the Church of the Ascension, entitled "Angels In Art" Tableaux, with musical interpretation, will be given at the Bellevue-Stratford Ball Room, on Friday, Nov. 14th, at 8:15, and Saturday, Nov. 15th, at 2.15. Tickets $2. (No reserved seats.) All who can possibly avail themselves of this opportunity of seeing these lovely pictures will also be helping to benefit these two worthy objects.

✠

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The following were received since the last issue.

Miss Borie (2)
Miss O'Harra
Miss Wylie
Miss Leaming
Mr. Barton
Mr. French

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Acting Asst. Superintendent ..... Mr. Chester F. Myers
Librarian and .....
Organist ..... Mr. S. A. Harris

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Miss Hodge

For Young Ladies ..... 2.45 P. M.
Miss Stretch

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

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THE GENERAL CONVENTION.

The great National Council of the American Church which meets triennially closed its sessions on Oct. 25th. Though we have not yet received the official account of what it did, yet we can gather enough from the newspaper reports to judge pretty well what it accomplished and what it failed to do.

First, the great question of the change of the name of the church about which there was so much debate before the Convention met, hardly came before it at all. Some memorials praying for the change were presented and referred to committees to consider. But they did not report in favor of any action. It was universally conceded that the change ought not to be made without greater unanimity than there is at present. So the matter was practically allowed to drop.

A resolution was passed in the House of Deputies in favor of altering the Constitution of the Church so as to prevent any changes in the Prayer Book or Constitution of the Church except by a two-thirds vote. But this was not agreed to by the House of Bishops as they felt it would be making any change too difficult.

There were several other disagreements between the two Houses. The Bishops voted to allow the establishment of racial Episcopates, chiefly to give the colored people a bishop of their own. But the Lower House would not consent to it. On the other hand the House of Deputies wanted the Church to be represented in the

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EDITORS
THE CLERGY
TREASURER
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Kalendar.

Nov. 1. All Saints' Day,
2. Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity. All Souls' Day.
7. Friday—Fast.
9. Twenty-fifth Sunday after Trinity.
14. Friday—Fast.
16. Twenty-sixth Sunday after Trinity.
21. Friday—Fast.
23, Sunday next before Advent.
27. Thanksgiving Day,
28. Friday—Fast.
30. 1st Sunday in Advent. S. Andrew.

✠

RECORD FOR OCTOBER.

BAPTISM: Robert Hunter Patton.	1
COMMUNICANT TRANSFERRED to S. Clement's Church, Marguerite Anne Davis.	1
BURIAL: Robert E. Spence.	1

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$195.52
" the Poor	23.00
" Parochial activities	22.80
" Diocesan Missions	.25
" the Industrial School	1.00
" " Mothers, Meeting	1.00
" " Endowment fund	.10
" Benevolent purposes	.61
At the Rector's discretion	10.00
Of the Sunday School	2,80
Total	$257.48

Council of "the Federated Churches of America," but the House of Bishops refused to let the Church be represented as one of a number of "Evangelical Churches," but agreed to allow representatives to be sent to the Council from the Commission on Church Unity.

The most important thing the Convention did was the erection of what have been called "the Missionary Districts" into "Provinces." This is the name which has always been given in the Catholic Church to groups of contiguous Dioceses. The Church in the United States has until now been one overgrown Province. It should have long since been subdivided, and even now that Provinces have been created, their right to form new Dioceses and elect and consecrate Bishops has not been given to them. But doubtless that will come in time.

Another good thing the Convention did was to license the tentative Lectionary reported by the special committee, of which our Rector was a member. This is not only a thorough revision of the old Lectionary, giving much more suitable Lessons for Holy days and other special occasions, but it provides no less than four alternative Lessons for nearly all the Sundays in the year, so that we will not hereafter be obliged to read the same Lessons on the same Sunday every year, many of which were not edifying for a general congregation.

A Canon was also passed recognising Religious Orders and Communities in the Church, and putting them under the control of the Bishops of the Dioceses in which they exist.

In addition to this a Commission was appointed to consider the propriety of further alterations and enrichment of the Prayer Book, also one on Marriage and Divorce to report to the next Convention. And five new Missionary Bishops were elected to fill vacancies.

In connection with the Convention a number of very interesting meetings were held in advocacy of religious education, extended missionary work, amelioration of social conditions, promotion of Church Unity, etc

On the whole we have every reason to be thankful with the results of the Convention. Much that many of us would have liked to have seen done was not accomplished, but no harmful or reactionary legislation was effected, and some substantial steps were taken which we believe will enhance the power and efficiency of the Church.

✠

PARISH NOTES.

Gifts. During the summer the church received the gift of a dozen palm leaf fans for the church and some twenty volumes of books for the Parish library, also last month a carpet for the Bible class room, the old one having become very shabby. The Rev. Curate received a small rug to be placed under his writing table in the choir vestry. The similar table in the Sacristy needs one too very much as the carpet there is very worn.

✠

The order of services as we have been having them on Sunday mornings will be continued this month, except that during Advent the Litany will be sung before the mid-day Celebration. The Litany, especially when it is sung, is one of the most beautiful services we have, but it is really only suitable for Penitential seasons such as Advent and Lent, and Wednesdays, Fridays and Rogation days

On the Sunday evenings of this month the Rector will be the preacher. On Sunday, Nov. 2nd, he will preach on "All Souls," and on the other Sundays in the month on some social subject. And he proposes after the service to hold in the Parish Building a meeting for the free discussion of any religious or social subject. There are many persons who are anxious for information and would like to ask questions on these subjects, and many are led astray on account of their ignorance even of fundamental religious truths. It is the province of the clergy to give such information, and the Rector will be ready to answer, to the best of his ability, any questions of this kind which may be asked.

✠

The anniversary of the Women's Guild was held on SS Simon and Jude's day. Some twenty ladies were present. The reports of the past year showed a decided advance in the amount of money received last year. Appointments and plans were made for the coming season. Most of the workers will continue in the places they have held, except that Mrs. H. Christian takes charge of the Mothers' Meeting, in place of Mrs. Knubel who has resigned.

✠

The Mothers' Meeting begins on Wednesday evening, Nov. 5th.

✠

The Industrial School reopens on Saturday, Nov. 8th, at 10 A. M.

✠

S. Andrew's Brotherhood held its first meeting last month and resolved this winter to hold meetings on alternate months with the Church Club.

The first meeting of the Club therefore will be on Thursday evening, Nov. 20th, when in addition to the usual Smoker, an illustrated lecture will be delivered by Mr. H. P. Busch, one of our members, on his travels in Iceland, Spitzbergen and Norway.

✠

Extra envelopes. In sending out the envelopes this quarter we are sending a number of extra sets to some members of the congregation who have not as yet used them, in the hope that they will do so, or in place of them make a quarterly or half-yearly subscription for the support of the church. We need very much a larger regular income.

✠

Subscriptions to the News. Last month and this month we have been mailing copies of the NEWS to a number of our members, who seldom attend the church, in order to keep them informed of what is going on in the Parish, and also in hope of their becoming subscribers, as we require a larger subscription list to enable us to pay our expenses. We are some twenty dollars behind hand at present.

✠

The Angels in Art. Our members will not forget this exhibition which is to be given in the ballroom of the Belleveu-Stratford on Friday and Saturday evnings, the 14th and 15th, at 8.15 P. M., and on Saturday morning at 2.15 P. M. Half of the proceeds are for the benefit of this Parish.

Tell all your friends about it and urge them to be present. Our choir will furnish most of the music, and the members of the Girls' Friendly Society will make candy to sell during the evening. The exhibition was given here last winter and is most attractive. Tickets can be had from Mrs. Perot, 917 Clinton St., and Ryan's ticket offices.

Sermon by Bishop Onderdonk. An elderly lady has presented to the Parish a printed copy of a sermon by Bishop Henry A. Onderdonk preached in 1856. It will be remembered that the Bishop was deprived of the Bishopric of Pennsylvania and suspended from the ministry on account of intemperance. But after more than ten years of repentance and reformation he was restored—not to his Bishopric, for that had been filled,—but to the exercise of the Ministry. And the first sermon he preached after his restoration was this one, in the old Church of the Ascension. We shall preserve carefully so historic a document among the archives of the Parish.

✠

Thanksgiving. We give a turkey dinner to the members of the Mothers' Meeting at Thanksgiving. Donations for it will be gladly received.

✠

A PAINTING FOR SALE.

There has been hung on the north wall of the church a painting of "The Entombment." Prof. Pascale Farina, the Art Critic and Restorer for Mr. John S. Johnson and Mr. John Wanamaker, has examined the painting and pronounces it a fine specimen of the Bologese School, original and not a copy, of about the year 1550.

The owner has inherited the painting from his ancestors, and having no suitable place for keeping it, is anxious to sell it

Further particulars can be learned from the clergy.

✠

ST. AGNES' GUILD ENTERTAINMENT.

The little girls of this Guild will give their annual entertainment on Monday evening, Nov. 17th, at 8 P. M.

It will consist of a series of Tableaux by the children in costume, interspersed with popular songs, in which the children would be glad to have the audience join.

The friends of the children are asked to buy as many tickets as convenient at 10 cents each. This is the Guild's only source of revenue for the whole year's work and pleasure.

✠

HALLOWE'EN PARTY.

On Saturday, November 8th, the Guild will give a Hallowe'en Party. The little ones will be in mask, and they hope to have a fine time.

✠

ST. JOHN'S JR. GUILD.

The weekly meeting for Devotions, Instruction and fun have been begun.

Officers have been elected, viz.: The Rev. Curate as Director; George Mull, President; Charles McDermott, Secretary; John Jones, Treasurer.

Five of the boys have undertaken to serve at the altar on the five weekday early Celebrations of the Blessed Sacrament, at 7 A. M.

The boys' dear friend, Miss Maria Gilpin, helps and brightens their weekly meetings. What would the little boys do without her?

✠

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Three new teachers have been added to our corps, viz.: Miss Margaret Mull, Miss Frances Whitehurst and Miss Anna Ritsert. We welcome them.

The Rev. Curate brought with him from New York a panorama contrivance, and every Sunday a portion of it is shown to the school and explanation given.

✠

MISSIONARY ITEMS.

In 1861 there was only one bishop of the American Episcopal Church and one bishop of the Church of England in all China and Japan. The first converts of modern missionary effort had not been baptized in Japan. There was but a handful of Christians of any name in China. To-day in both China and Japan there are fully organized national churches. Japan has seven dioceses with as many bishops, two American, four English and one Canadian China has eleven dioceses and as many bishops, three American, seven English and one Canadian In both Churches the communicants are numbered by the thousands, besides many additional thousand baptized members and adherents.

About the middle of September the welcome news was sent to the Church papers that the offerings of the Church for the fiscal year ending September 1st, together with the use of undesignated legacies, made it possible to close the year without further deficit. This is the first time since 1909 that the gifts of the year have carried the current expenditure. It has only been accomplished by increased gifts, but even more rigid economy on the part of the Board in making appropriations. The accumulated deficit of the former years amounting to $197,000 still remains to be provided.

The Lenten Offering of the children of the Church amounted on September 1st to the sum of $175,745.71. This is an advance of $8,000 over the offering of last year and constitutes the highest record yet made. The gathering of such an amount of money in small sums during the six weeks of Lent is a really remarkable achievement, and means not only great assistance to the Board of Missions, but a practical educational propaganda among the Church's children.

✠

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Mrs. Darlington (2)

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Miss Hodge

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Miss Stretch

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A WORKING CHURCH.

A Church is built primarily for the worship of Almighty God, the celebration and administration of the sacraments and the preaching and teaching of the Christian Faith. For these purposes only the church building itself is needed, with an additional room, generally in the first floor of the tower, for the Clergy to vest in, and where the Vestry of the Parish can meet. So all our olden churches were built, as Christ Church, St. Peter's, old S. James', S. Andrew's, etc. Then when Sunday Schools were established, it was found necessary to provide a place where they could be held. And the plan was adopted of building churches with a basement beneath, which could be so used, as S. Luke's, the old Epiphany, S. Philip's, and the Ascension This was very objectionable. It put the church proper up in the second story, approached often by a very steep staircase, difficult for elderly and infirm people to climb, and exceedingly awkward, especially in case of funerals. And the basement itself was often very dark and damp. Then too it came to be realized that there were many other works connected with a church in addition to the Sunday School which ought to be carried on, for which such a provision was not suitable.

So the erection of Parish buildings in addition to the Church proper was begun. And now there is scarcely a single church in the Diocese, in the country as well as in the city, that does not have its Parish Building.

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EDITORS
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Kalendar.

Dec. 5. Friday, Fast.
7. Second Sunday in Advent.
12. Friday, Fast.
14. Third Sunday in Advent.
17. Ember day, Fast.
19. Ember day, Fast.
20. Ember day, Fast.
21. Fourth Sunday in Advent.
25. Christmas day.
26. S. Stephen, Fast.
27. S. John Evangelist.
28. Holy Innocents.

The Litany will be sung before the Celebration of the Holy Communion at 11 A. M. on the Sundays in Advent.

✠

RECORD FOR NOVEMBER.

BAPTISM: Estella Margaretta Gilkey.
Catharine Esher Smith. 2

COMMUNICANTS TRANSFERRED
To S. Paul's Memorial Church,
Mrs. Kate Storey Anderson.
To the Church of S. Luke and the Epiphany,
Mrs, Mary Fry Doherty,
Bella Melose Mucklow.
To the Chapel of the Holy Comforter,
Robert Kelso.
Mrs. Annie Kelso.
William James Kelso.
To the Church of the Saviour,
Mrs. Jeanie Irva McCall. 7

BURIAL: George Taylor King. 1

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$502.74
" the Poor	50.41
" Parochial activities	33.55
" General Missions	40.39
" Thanksgiving dinner	11.50
" the Episcopal Hospital	13.03
" Benevolent purposes	1.03
Of the Sunday School	3.53
Total	$656.18
Received from the exhibition of the "Angels in Art"	$550.00

And these buildings are sometimes as large and expensive as the church, sometimes larger, as in the case of the Church of the Holy Apostles.

These buildings provide for a parish carrying on different kinds of work for the benefit of the various classes of people connected with it. A church exists not only for the worship of God and dispensing the sacraments, but it is to a certain extent a social institution, a place to which the young people of the parish can be drawn and taught and interested in church matters, brought under good influences, and kept from the temptations to which they might otherwise be exposed, and where the older people can congregate to work for the benefit of their poorer neighbors or for Missionary purposes. So our Parish buildings are often equipped with work rooms, gymnasiums, kitchens, and drill halls. We have meetings in them every evening in the week and constantly throughout the day.

Thus in our Parish Building there is a meeting every Monday evening for young boys, with an athletic trainer; on Tuesday evening the Girls' Friendly Society meets, on Wednesday, after the service in the Church, a Mothers' Meeting, on Thursdays a Young Men's Guild, which plays basket ball or has a dancing teacher, on Friday is the Choir practice, and on Saturday a little girls' guild, which plays games of different kinds. And each of these Guilds has a part of its time given to an instruction and religious service by one of the clergy.

Then through the day the various departments of the Woman's Guild meets, the Embroidery Class, the

Ladies' Aid, the Missionary Society. And the Parish building is always open. There is a place in the cellar with a Shuffle board where the young men can sit and read and smoke or play. It gives those who are out of work a place to congregate and keeps them from resorting to saloons and pool rooms.

It would be a very good thing, too, if our Parish Buildings could be utilized to give our young people that systematic religious instruction during the week which they do not get in the public schools. But as it is, we give in this way a great deal more instruction than is given simply in the Sunday School. And young people are drawn to and interested in the Church and brought to Confirmation and Communion who would not be reached in any other way.

Constant entertainments and sociables, both for the young and old, are given, too, which attract and make connection with the Church a pleasure as well as a profit to its people.

One who only attends the services of the Church and never goes into, or knows what is going on through the week in the Parish building, has no idea of how many persons the Church is reaching or of the work it is carrying on. But we need more workers, more appliances and more rooms.

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PARISH NOTES.

Christmas. The services on Christmas day will be Celebrations of the Holy Communion at 6.30, 7.30, and 8.30 A. M., and after Morning Prayer at 10.30 A. M. Evening Prayer at 5 P. M.

Special large offerings are asked on that day to make up for the summer season when the congregations are small and the offerings correspondingly so. The Warden reported to the Vestry Nov. 1st that we were then $1,500 in debt. As we have realized $550 from "the Angels in Art," there remains $1,000 to be made up, to do which we must depend on the Christmas offering. Though the cost of everything has gone up so, there has been no increase whatever in the salaries of the officers of the Church. Let us at least see that what they have been receiving is paid fully and promptly.

We shall be glad to receive special donations for the Christmas decorations and to provide Christmas dinners for the members of the Mothers' Meeting.

Children's Christmas Festival. As Holy Innocents' day occurs this year on Sunday, the Children's Christmas service will be held in the Church on the afternoon of that day, Dec. 28th, and an entertainment will be given them in the Parish Building on Monday evening at 8 P. M.

On Sunday afternoon the children will sing their Christmas Carols in the Church. At 3.30 P. M. the School will march from the Parish Building into the Church and pass before the Creche which will be placed in front of the Font. It is a little stable, furnished with straw and filled with about thirteen figures of animals, Shepherds, Wise Men, St. Joseph, the Holy Mother and the Christ-Child. It will be illuminated inside with candles and around it the children will sing carols to the Christ.

The School this year will observe its Christmas Festivities more elaborately than for a number of years past. The various Departments of the School will contribute to the varied program. The Primary School will have its part to perform,—the younger girls are preparing a special feature; the older girls and young men are rehearsing a Play, and the boys are preparing for a Minstrel Show. The affair will take place on Monday night, Dec. 29th. There will be no charge for admission and the congregation is invited.

Toys are asked. The children are requested to bring toys, old or new, on the above mentioned Sunday, that they may be placed around the Creche and so offered to God. Later these toys will be given to a home for poor children. In this way an effort is made to teach the young people, that Christmas should be a time, not only for expecting and receiving gifts, but better still for making offerings and especially for remembering the Poor. The congregation are asked to enter into the spirit of this endeavor and to send toys to the Church, to be used as above indicated.

Thanksgiving day was observed by Morning Prayer as well as the Holy Communion being sung. And that the service might be no longer than the usual Sunday service the sermon was omitted, the Rector only saying a few words from the altar steps on the duty of thankfulness, thus making the service of the day one only of worship. In the evening before a generous hot turkey supper was served by some of the ladies of the congregation to the members of the Mother's meeting and some of their children. The fruit placed on the altar was as usual given to the choir boys after the service, and some of it sent to the sick.

"The Angels in Art" entertainment given on November 14 and 15 in the ball room of the Belleveu-Stratford Hotel was admirably rendered. By a special arrangement with the hotel, people who were unable to pay the full price of the tickets were allowed to attend the dress rehearsal on the evening of the 13th by the payment of 25 cents. It is estimated that thirteen hundred persons were present that night. The next night and the matinee were fairly well attended. All present expressed great admiration at the performance. The share of the proceeds given to the church amount to $550.

The Parish is under deep obligation to all those who took part in it, many of whom worked very hard, especially Miss Elizabeth S. Gilpin, to whom the honor of the whole inception and carrying it out under many difficulties, is entirely due.

Our thanks are also due to the Choirmaster and members of our choir, and to Mrs. Sydney Thayer, Mr. Harvey Hindermeyer, Mr. John N. Frazier and Mr. Arthur Jackson, whose services were given gratuitously.

Socialistic Forum. The Rector has been preaching a series of sermons on the Sunday evenings of last month on Socialism, and has instituted after the service in the Parish Building an open Forum in which any socialistic, economic or religious subject may be freely discussed by those present.

This is an effort to reach and bring into touch with the Church a large and rapidly increasing number of men who are embracing Socialistic principles and who are more or less prejudiced against, and alienated from, the Church. And yet we believe that they are fundamentally actuated by motives which the Church can thoroughly approve, and that they need and can be materially assisted in their aspirations by the Church.

We believe that every effort should be made to make working men feel that the Church is their truest and best friend and that they are making the greatest mistake in separating themselves from it.

Various laymen having the ear of the Socialistic bodies will be asked on different Sunday evenings to conduct this Forum. The way to arrive at truth is to ask questions and have a free discussion of the merits of any subject. And there is no reason why full opportunity for such discussion should not be given in connection with our Church services.

It is hoped these meetings can be continued throughout the winter and that they will do much good to those taking part in them, and fill up the empty seats in our Church at the Sunday night services.

The Men's Club night in November was attended by some forty men. Mr. H. P. Busch gave a most interesting illustrated lecture on a journey he made to Iceland, Spitzenbergen and Norway. This was followed by songs by Mr. W. M. Jones, Mr. Benjamin Dooley and a friend who came with him. Mr. Harry Ulrich acted as accompanist on the piano Mr. Harry Ritsert also played and there was some chorus singing.

The next Club night will be on the evening of the third Thursday in January.

St. Andrew's Brotherhood meets this month on the evening of Dec. 16th, and it is hoped some more of our young men will join the Brotherhood at that time. We need their help especially in the effort to build up the night services.

Sermon of the Rector. The sermon preached by the Rector at the annual service of the Society of the Sons of the Revolution last year in S. Peter's Church has been printed. The Rector has a number of copies he will be glad to give to any who may care to have them.

St. Agnes' Guild Entertainmene. The Guild's Annual entertainment took place on Nov. 17th. The usual large crowd attended and the Guild is very grateful for the generosity of the congregation in purchasing tickets. The following children took part: Aimee Villermaux, Caroline Ritser:, Dorothy Maginniss, Lizzie Moore, Katharine Rocap, Mary Smith, Ruth Smith. Reba McDermott, Margaret Diflo, Lucy Moffitt, Barbara Ritsert, Hilda Bieberbach.

They were assisted by Mr. Harry Ritsert, and the following young ladies, Miss Margaret Mull, Miss Frances Whitehurst, Miss Anna Ritsert and Miss Lottie Bieberbach.

A novel feature of the occasion was the joining of the audience in the popular songs by the Guild.

A New Book by the Rev. Curate. A Book entitled "Stories and Talks on the Sacraments" has just been published by the Rev. Curate. It consists of fourteen chapters, sixty-eight stories and thirty-five poems. As it is illustrated with thirty-two full page, half-tone engravings, and is bound in silk cloth and gold stamping it is suitable for a Gift Book for Christmas. It contains about two hundred pages and has been favorably reviewed by several Church papers. It sells for a $1.00 a copy and is now ready for delivery. It can be obtained at the Church. A circular concerning the book is enclosed in this issue.

Confirmation. The Bishop of the Diocese has appointed Sunday, Feb. 8th, for an all day visitation of the Parish. That means that he will attend all the services that day, visit the Sunday School, meet the Vestry and generally examine into the working of the Parish. He will also administer Confirmation. Instructions preparatory to Confirmation will begin this month of which due notice will be given.

Girls' Friendly Society Schedule for December:

2nd. Devotional Meeting, and business.
9th. Cooking Class, and Embroidery.
16th. Cooking Class, and Embroidery.
23rd. "Christmas In Other Lands." Illustrated talk.
30th. Party.

The Friendly made a quantity of "Fudge" which was sold for the benefit of "Angels In Art" and realized $40 from it.

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TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since the last issue.

Mrs. Roe (2)	Mrs. Ellis
Mrs. L. T. Smith	Miss Schell (2)
Mrs. Busch, Miss	A. H. Chamberlaine
Mrs. Bradley	Mrs. Macken (2)

The Ascension News

Vol. XXVII. Philadelphia, January, 1914. No. 1

Church of the Ascension

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Every Sunday ..... 7.30 and 11.00 A. M.
Holy Days ..... 7.00 and 10.30 A. M.
Daily except Thursdays ..... 7.00 A. M.
Thursdays ..... 9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer

Sundays ..... 10.30 A. M.
Daily ..... 10.00 A. M.

Evensong

Sundays (with Sermon) ..... 7.45 P. M.
Wednesdays (with Address) ..... 8.00 P. M.
Daily ..... 5.00 P. M.

Children's Service

Sundays ..... 3.30 P. M.

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The Church of the Ascension

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334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate.*
1030 Spruce Street.

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THOMAS R. NEILSON, M.D.
MILLARD F. ROBERTS

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

PHILIP F. ALBURGER

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
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GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild	8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P. M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P. M.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid	3.00 P. M.
Wednesdays, Mothers' Meeting	8.00 P. M.
Thursday, Embroidery Class	10.30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society	10.30 A. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent	The Curate
Librarian and Organist	Mrs. S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For the Young Men — Miss Hodge	2.45 P. M.
For Young Ladies — Miss Stretch	3.00 P. M.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays — 10.00 A. M.

WHAT ASCENSION PARISH STANDS FOR.

In the Episcopal Church, unlike the Churches of other Denominations, each parish has generally a peculiar character of its own. While the same Prayer Book is used in all, its services may be very differently rendered, In some Churches they are very plain, in others very ornate. Very few are *exactly* alike. So while the same Creed is professed in all our churches, and the same essential truths are taught, there is nevertheless a great variety in the teaching. Some parishes are what is known as High, some as Low and some as Broad. Of course this character may change from time to time. A parish that is High under one Rector, may become Broad under another, and vice versa. But as the Ascension has now been under one Rector for thirty-three years, and he has held uniformly the same position, its characteristics have been pretty well established. And the Rector is anxious that every one in the parish should understand and appreciate just what these principles are, that they may be heartily and enthusiastically supported.

From his first coming to the parish the Rector was very anxious that it should teach and stand for what he considered the true Anglican idea of the church, as opposed to Roman Catholicism on the one side and the mere Protestant idea of the Church on the other. The Roman Catholic regards the Church as an autocracy governed absolutely by one man, the

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY
TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

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Kalendar.

Jan. 1. Circumcision.
2. Friday—Fast.
4. Second Sunday after Christmas.
6. The Epiphany.
9. Friday—Fast.
11. First Sunday after Epiphany.
16. Friday—Fast.
18. Second Sunday after Epiphany.
23. Friday—Fast.
25. Conversion of S. Paul.
30. Friday—Fast.

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RECORD FOR DECEMBER.

BAPTISM: George Washington Oesterick.	1
COMMUNICANT transferred to Church of the Epiphany, Sherwood. Robert Hunter Patton.	1
COMMUNION OF THE SICK,	1

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses (including Christmas offering)	$910.86
For Christmas decorations and Festival	37.95
" Flowers	10.00
" the Poor	21.80
" General Missions	27.87
" Parochial activities	2.65
" the Missionary box	48.22
" Benevolent purposes	.76
Of the Sunday School	3.90
Total	$1,054.01

Pope, and that every one must believe and do just what he commands. The Protestant on the other hand, sees no necessity of union among Christians and recognizes no authority except in the individual conscience. He thinks Christians can associate themselves together in any way they choose and worship after any manner they see best. The Anglican believes that the Church of England and the Churches which are in communion with it are parts of the one Catholic Church which has come down from the times of the Apostles, which has thrown off the usurped authority of the Bishop of Rome, and some un-Catholic teachings and practices which had grown up in the course of the centuries, and holds and teaches the Christian faith in its original purity and simplicity, and celebrates and administers the Sacraments as they were ordained by Christ. So its essential characteristics in Doctrine, Discipline and Worship are those which have prevailed throughout the great body of the Christian Church, and not those first invented by a Luther or a Calvin a few centuries ago.

And these principles are set forth in the worship of the Church as embodied in the English Prayer Book, especially the first Prayer Book set forth in the reign of King Edward VI, whose principles have never been authoritatively departed from, though in practice and from erroneous teaching they have often been obscured.

One of those principles was that the great central act of worship of the Church, by which every Sunday and Holy day at the least, should be sanctified, should be the celebration of the

Holy Communion, and with those accessories of vestments, lights, music, etc., which had been universally used. So on his first coming to the parish the Rector instituted such a Celebration, introduced a surpliced choir,—his was the third instituted in this city—colored Altar cloths, and vestments of the Clergy, lights on the Holy Table, a musical rendition of the service, etc.

At the same time he has been careful to avoid the copying of peculiar Roman forms and gestures, all of which are really modern. No intelligent Churchman worshipping in this parish would ever think that he was in a Roman Catholic Church, but sees a beautiful, reverent, distinctly English service.

The Rector also instituted a daily service, afforded opportunity for early fasting Communion, and has ever tried to teach what he considered the true principles of the Catholic Church. He is sure that these are the principles which will be eventually recognized universally as the true principles of our Prayer Book and formularies, and which he believes will be those on which all Christians will be finally united. We believe that the regular attendants of this Church have learned to love and value these things and feel that they get in this parish what they do not always find elsewhere.

Next month we will speak of some other characteristics of this parish which distinguish it from many others.

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PARISH NOTES.

Christmas. Though the weather was uncertain on Christmas day fortunately the rain held off until the afternoon and did not interfere with the morning congregations, which though not what we have at Easter were somewhat larger than last Christmas. The church looked beautiful and there were some unusually handsome flowers on the Altar. The music was well rendered, and many in the congregation rejoiced in the return to the old method of having the choir present during Morning Prayer. The offerings amounted to some $700, which is over $200 more than last year. In addition $47.95 were given to provide Christmas dinners, the Children's Festival and the Christmas decorations. So altogether we had a bright and successful Christmas.

Gifts. Two drop lights, with glass shades for the work room. The choir master was presented with an amethyst scarf pin. The Verger was handsomely remembered by the young men of the parish. Christmas baskets were provided for the members of the mothers' meeting and others.

Sunday School Carol Service. On the Feast of the Holy Inncents, Sunday, Dec. 28th, at 3.30 p. m., the children had their Sunday School Carol Service. They formed in line in the Parish Building and marched thence around the church.

Upon reaching the Creche, which had been placed in front of the Font, the crossbearer and the school gathered aroundthe little stable, the Primary School standing in front, and sang "Once in David's City stood a lowly Cattle Shed," Mrs. Harris accompanying the carol on the organ.

While gathered around the Creche, the Rev. Curate commented upon the various details represented by the Figures of the Christ Child, the Holy Mother, the Shepherds, the Wise Men, the beasts, etc.

Upon reaching their pews, the school joined in a brief Office of Devotion, the Rev. Curate made an address, several more carols were sung, and the school returned to the Parish Building.

It was generally thought to be one of the brightest and best attended Children's Carol Services recently held.

The Rev. Father Prescott of Montreal, Canada, was with us for a few minutes in the Parish Building; but, having another engagement, he could not remain for the service.

Toys from the children. Quite a number of the children brought toys to be given to other children, poorer than they. It was a pleasure to see them catching the idea of giving rather than only receiving; and we are sure the Divine Lover of His poor, even though they be only littles, will bless our school for thus participating in generous care for others.

The acumulated toys will be given to a Home for poor Colored Children.

Christmas Entertainment. On Monday within the Christmas Octave, the Sunday School entertainment took place. It consisted of sweet little songs by the Primary School, minstrel performances by the boys, and a play by the young men and girls connected with the school. This part of the evening passed off well and happily.

Then Santa Claus held sway and delivered gifts of toys, etc., and boxes of candy to the whole A merry and happy evening was spent and no doubt it gave pleasure to the Children's King and the Guardian Angels.

St. Agnes' Day. Wednesday, January 21st, will be St. Agnes' Day, the Feast of the Patron Saint of our Guild of Little Girls. We will keep it in various ways.

On the morning of the Feast, the Guild will attend a Celebration of the Blessed Sacrament at 7.30 a. m., at which the children will sing hymns of loving adoration to their divine Guest.

On Thursday evening (22nd), they will attend the theatre and on the following Saturday evening will have a party, to which each member of the Guild is privileged to invite a friend.

We always look forward to our Patronal Guild Festival with happy anticipations and remember it with joy.

The Junior St. John's Guild meets regularly every Monday and a routine of Prayer and Instruction and Payment of Dues is followed with pleasure. At its close, the Gymnastic Class meets and three-quarters of an hour is spent in exciting and wonderful way.

Resignation of Choir Master. We regret very much to announce that Mr. Philip F. Alburger, who has been our Organist and Choirmaster since 1907, has resigned his position, finding its duties interfere with the proper attention to the business in which he is engaged. He has been very successful in conducting the choir, especially in developing the tone of the boys' voices, giving us very good music. We are sure there will be universal regret at his leaving.

The Music Committee has appointed as his successor Mr. Henry C. Ulrich, who was formerly a member of our choir, and for the last four years Organist and Choirmaster of S. Elizabeth's Church, where he made a very good record in organizing and controling an entirely volunteer choir. We trust he will be equally successful here. He will take charge February first.

The Men's Club will meet on Thursday evening, Jan. 15th, when a lecture on "First Aid" in case of accidents will be given by Dr. Hubley R. Owen, a member of our Parish and physician to the City Fire department. This subject is one all should be familiar with as one never knows when he may be called upon to act under such conditions. There will be also a musical program, refreshments and tobacco We hope *all* the men of the Parish will come to get thus to know each other and have an enjoyable evening.

The Girls' Friendly Society program for the month will be on the

6th, Devotional meeting and business.
13th, Cooking, Sewing and Reading.
20th, Cooking, Sewing and Reading.
27th, Illustrated talk on Phila.

The Socialistic Forum we spoke of last month has been kept up every Sunday evening since. The attendance has not been as large as we had hoped, but we have had as many as twenty-five present at a time. The meetings have been very interesting. Each night a professed socialist has presided and after a short statement in regard to some phase of the Socialistic question, he has been ready to answer any questions asked. There have always been a number of questions asked and a good deal of information has been given. The speakers have all expressed themselves as sympathetic with religion, though some of them said they had not been in church for a long time and were evidently prejudiced against it.

The Forum is doing therefore just what we wanted it to do. It is bringing these men into contact with the Church, enabling us to learn just what their thoughts and feelings are, and we hope it is teaching them that the Church is sympathetic with them and can be of use to them in carrying out their plans and aspirations. We wish very much more would attend these meetings whether they believe in Socialism or not. It is only by full and frank discussion of these questions that the truth can be arrived at, and we can all come to work together for the common good.

The Forum will be conducted on the Sunday evenings of the month on the
4th by Mr. James W. Lee.
11th by Mr. Thomas Birtwistle.
18th by Mr. William D. Oursler.
25th by Mr. Harry Goldburg.

Confirmation. As announced the Bishop of the Diocese will visit this Parish on Sunday, Feb. 8th, when he will administer Confirmation. The clergy affectionately call upon all, old and young, who have not yet received this blessing to present themselves for it at this time. Regular preparatory instructions for it are given every Wednesday evening after the evening service at 8 o'clock, by the Rev. Curate. If there are any who cannot attend at that time, he, or the Rector, will arrange to meet them on some other occasions, but their preparation should begin at once as there is only a month left for it.

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MISSIONARY MEETINGS

Annual Meeting of the Foreign Committee of the Women's Auxiliary in The Church of the Holy Trinity on Tuesday, January 13th, at 2.30 P. M.

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A meeting on behalf of S. Luke's Hospital, Tokio, Japan, in the same Church, on January 19th, at 8 P. M.

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The following were received since the last issue.

Miss Lavinia Smith
" Peters
" Whitehouse
" Ashbridge
" Vogdes
" Warts

The Ascension News

Vol. XXVII. Philadelphia, January, 1914. No. 1

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Evensong

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Wednesdays (with Address)——8.00 P. M.
Daily——5.00 P. M.

Children's Service

Sundays——3.30 P. M.

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The Ascension News

The Church of the Ascension

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH

'Phone, Locust 32-63A.

CLERGY

REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE, D.D., *Rector*
334 South Thirteenth Street

REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate.*
1030 Spruce Street.

WARDENS

THOMAS R. NEILSON, M.D.
MILLARD F. ROBERTS

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

PHILIP F. ALBURGER

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild	8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P. M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P. M.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid	3.00 P. M.
Wednesdays, Mothers' Meeting	8.00 P. M.
Thursday, Embroidery Class	10.30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society	10.30 A. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Teachers' Instruction at 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent	The Curate
Librarian and Organist	Mrs. S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For the Young Men	2.45 P. M.
Miss Hodge	
For Young Ladies	3.00 P. M.
Miss Stretch.	

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays	10.00 A. M.

WHAT ASCENSION PARISH STANDS FOR.

In the Episcopal Church, unlike the Churches of other Denominations, each parish has generally a peculiar character of its own. While the same Prayer Book is used in all, its services may be very differently rendered, In some Churches they are very plain, in others very ornate. Very few are *exactly* alike. So while the same Creed is professed in all our churches, and the same essential truths are taught, there is nevertheless a great variety in the teaching. Some parishes are what is known as High, some as Low and some as Broad. Of course this character may change from time to time. A parish that is High under one Rector, may become Broad under another, and vice versa. But as the Ascension has now been under one Rector for thirty-three years, and he has held uniformly the same position, its characteristics have been pretty well established. And the Rector is anxious that every one in the parish should understand and appreciate just what these principles are, that they may be heartily and enthusiastically supported.

From his first coming to the parish the Rector was very anxious that it should teach and stand for what he considered the true Anglican idea of the church, as opposed to Roman Catholicism on the one side and the mere Protestant idea of the Church on the other. The Roman Catholic regards the Church as an autocracy governed absolutely by one man, the

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EDITORS
THE CLERGY
TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS;
Single Copies, by Mail, 50 Cents a Year

Kalendar.

Jan. 1. Circumcision.
2. Friday—Fast.
4. Second Sunday after Christmas.
6. The Epiphany.
9. Friday—Fast.
11. First Sunday after Epiphany.
16. Friday—Fast.
18. Second Sunday after Epiphany.
23. Friday—Fast.
25. Conversion of S. Paul.
30. Friday—Fast.

✠

RECORD FOR DECEMBER.

BAPTISM: George Washington Oesterick. 1
COMMUNICANT transferred to Church of the Epiphany, Sherwood.
Robert Hunter Patton. 1
COMMUNION OF THE SICK, 1

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses (including Christmas offering)	$910.86
For Christmas decorations and Festival	37.95
" Flowers	10.00
" the Poor	21.80
" General Missions	27.87
" Parochial activities	2.65
" the Missionary box	48.22
" Benevolent purposes	.76
Of the Sunday School	3.90
Total	$1,054.01

Pope, and that every one must believe and do just what he commands. The Protestant on the other hand, sees no necessity of union among Christians and recognizes no authority except in the individual conscience. He thinks Christians can associate themselves together in any way they choose and worship after any manner they see best. The Anglican believes that the Church of England and the Churches which are in communion with it are parts of the one Catholic Church which has come down from the times of the Apostles, which has thrown off the usurped authority of the Bishop of Rome, and some un-Catholic teachings and practices which had grown up in the course of the centuries, and holds and teaches the Christian faith in its original purity and simplicity, and celebrates and administers the Sacraments as they were ordained by Christ. So its essential characteristics in Doctrine, Discipline and Worship are those which have prevailed throughout the great body of the Christian Church, and not those first invented by a Luther or a Calvin a few centuries ago.

And these principles are set forth in the worship of the Church as embodied in the English Prayer Book, especially the first Prayer Book set forth in the reign of King Edward VI, whose principles have never been authoritatively departed from, though in practice and from erroneous teaching they have often been obscured.

One of those principles was that the great central act of worship of the Church, by which every Sunday and Holy day at the least, should be sanctified, should be the celebration of the

Holy Communion, and with those accessories of vestments, lights, music, etc., which had been universally used. So on his first coming to the parish the Rector instituted such a Celebration, introduced a surpliced choir,—his was the third instituted in this city—colored Altar cloths, and vestments of the Clergy, lights on the Holy Table, a musical rendition of the service, etc.

At the same time he has been careful to avoid the copying of peculiar Roman forms and gestures, all of which are really modern. No intelligent Churchman worshipping in this parish would ever think that he was in a Roman Catholic Church, but sees a beautiful, reverent, distinctly English service.

The Rector also instituted a daily service, afforded opportunity for early fasting Communion, and has ever tried to teach what he considered the true principles of the Catholic Church. He is sure that these are the principles which will be eventually recognized universally as the true principles of our Prayer Book and formularies, and which he believes will be those on which all Christians will be finally united. We believe that the regular attendants of this Church have learned to love and value these things and feel that they get in this parish what they do not always find elsewhere.

Next month we will speak of some other characteristics of this parish which distinguish it from many others.

✠

PARISH NOTES.

Christmas. Though the weather was uncertain on Christmas day fortunately the rain held off until the afternoon and did not interfere with the morning congregations, which though not what we have at Easter were somewhat larger than last Christmas. The church looked beautiful and there were some unusually handsome flowers on the Altar. The music was well rendered, and many in the congregation rejoiced in the return to the old method of having the choir present during Morning Prayer. The offerings amounted to some $700, which is over $200 more then last year. In addition $47.95 were given to provide Christmas dinners, the Children's Festival and the Christmas decorations. So altogether we had a bright and successful Christmas.

Gifts. Two drop lights, with glass shades for the work room. The choir master was presented with an amethyst scarf pin. The Verger was handsomely remembered by the young men of the parish. Christmas baskets were provided for the members of the mothers' meeting and others.

Sunday School Carol Service. On the Feast of the Holy Inncents, Sunday, Dec. 28th, at 3.30 p. m., the children had their Sunday School Carol Service. They formed in line in the Parish Building and marched thence around the church.

Upon reaching the Creche, which had been placed in front of the Font, the crossbearer and the school gathered aroundthe little stable, the Primary School standing in front, and sang "Once in David's City stood a lowly Cattle Shed," Mrs. Harris accompanying the carol on the organ.

While gathered around the Creche, the Rev. Curate commented upon the various details represented by the Figures of the Christ Child, the Holy Mother, the Shepherds, the Wise Men, the beasts, etc.

Upon reaching their pews, the school joined in a brief Office of Devotion, the Rev. Curate made an address, several more carols were sung, and the school returned to the Parish Building.

It was generally thought to be one of the brightest and best attended Children's Carol Services recently held.

The Rev. Father Prescott of Montreal, Canada, was with us for a few minutes in the Parish Building; but, having another engagement, he could not remain for the service.

Toys from the children. Quite a number of the children brought toys to be given to other children, poorer than they. It was a pleasure to see them catching the idea of giving rather than only receiving; and we are sure the Divine Lover of His poor, even though they be only littles, will bless our school for thus participating in generous care for others.

The acumulated toys will be given to a Home for poor Colored Children.

Christmas Entertainment. On Monday within the Christmas Octave, the Sunday School entertainment took place. It consisted of sweet little songs by the Primary School, minstrel performances by the boys, and a play by the young men and girls connected with the school. This part of the evening passed off well and happily.

Then Santa Claus held sway and delivered gifts of toys, etc., and boxes of candy to the whole A merry and happy evening was spent and no doubt it gave pleasure to the Children's King and the Guardian Angels.

St. Agnes' Day. Wednesday, January 21st, will be St. Agnes' Day, the Feast of the Patron Saint of our Guild of Little Girls. We will keep it in various ways.

On the morning of the Feast, the Guild will attend a Celebration of the Blessed Sacrament at 7.30 a. m., at which the children will sing hymns of loving adoration to their divine Guest.

On Thursday evening (22nd), they will attend the theatre and on the following Saturday evening will have a party, to which each member of the Guild is privileged to invite a friend.

We always look forward to our Patronal Guild Festival with happy anticipations and remember it with joy.

The Junior St. John's Guild meets regularly every Monday and a routine of Prayer and Instruction and Payment of Dues is followed with pleasure. At its close, the Gymnastic Class meets and three-quarters of an hour is spent in exciting and wonderful way.

Resignation of Choir Master. We regret very much to announce that Mr. Philip F. Alburger, who has been our Organist and Choirmaster since 1907, has resigned his position, finding its duties interfere with the proper attention to the business in which he is engaged. He has been very successful in conducting the choir, especially in developing the tone of the boys' voices, giving us very good music. We are sure there will be universal regret at his leaving.

The Music Committee has appointed as his successor Mr. Henry C. Ulrich, who was formerly a member of our choir, and for the last four years Organist and Choirmaster of S. Elizabeth's Church, where he made a very good record in organizing and controling an entirely volunteer choir. We trust he will be equally successful here. He will take charge February first.

The Men's Club will meet on Thursday evening, Jan. 15th, when a lecture on "First Aid" in case of accidents will be given by Dr. Hubley R. Owen, a member of our Parish and physician to the City Fire department. This subject is one all should be familiar with as one never knows when he may be called upon to act under such conditions. There will be also a musical program, refreshments and tobacco We hope *all* the men of the Parish will come to get thus to know each other and have an enjoyable evening.

The Girls' Friendly Society program for the month will be on the

6th, Devotional meeting and business.
13th, Cooking, Sewing and Reading.
20th, Cooking, Sewing and Reading.
27th, Illustrated talk on Phila.

The Socialistic Forum we spoke of last month has been kept up every Sunday evening since. The attendance has not been as large as we had hoped, but we have had as many as twenty-five present at a time. The meetings have been very interesting. Each night a professed socialist has presided and after a short statement in regard to some phase of the Socialistic question, he has been ready to answer any questions asked. There have always been a number of questions asked and a good deal of information has been given. The speakers have all expressed themselves as sympathetic with religion, though some of them said they had not been in church for a long time and were evidently prejudiced against it.

The Forum is doing therefore just what we wanted it to do. It is bringing these men into contact with the Church, enabling us to learn just what their thoughts and feelings are, and we hope it is teaching them that the Church is sympathetic with them and can be of use to them in carrying out their plans and aspirations. We wish very much more would attend these meetings whether they believe in Socialism or not. It is only by full and frank discussion of these questions that the truth can be arrived at, and we can all come to work together for the common good.

The Forum will be conducted on the Sunday evenings of the month on the
4th by Mr. James W. Lee.
11th by Mr. Thomas Birtwistle.
18th by Mr. William D. Oursler.
25th by Mr. Harry Goldburg.

Confirmation. As announced the Bishop of the Diocese will visit this Parish on Sunday, Feb. 8th, when he will administer Confirmation. The clergy affectionately call upon all, old and young, who have not yet received this blessing to present themselves for it at this time. Regular preparatory instructions for it are given every Wednesday evening after the evening service at 8 o'clock, by the Rev. Curate. If there are any who cannot attend at that time, he, or the Rector, will arrange to meet them on some other occasions, but their preparation should begin at once as there is only a month left for it.

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MISSIONARY MEETINGS

Annual Meeting of the Foreign Committee of the Women's Auxiliary in The Church of the Holy Trinity on Tuesday, January 13th, at 2.30 P. M.

✠

A meeting on behalf of S. Luke's Hospital, Tokio, Japan, in the same Church, on January 19th, at 8 P. M.

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since the last issue.

Miss Lavinia Smith
" Peters
" Whitehouse
" Ashbridge
" Vogdes
" Warts

The Ascension News

VOL. XXVII. PHILADELPHIA, ~~MARCH~~ February, 1914. No. 2

Church of the Ascension

Broad Street, Below South — All Seats Free

Services

Holy Communion

EVERY SUNDAY ..... 7.30 and 11.00 A. M.
HOLY DAYS ..... 7.00 and 10.30 A. M.
DAILY EXCEPT THURSDAYS ..... 7.00 A. M.
THURSDAYS ..... 9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer

SUNDAYS ..... 10.30 A. M.
DAILY ..... 10.00 A. M.

Evensong

SUNDAYS (with Sermon) ..... 7.45 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address) ..... 8.00 P. M.
DAILY ..... 5.00 P. M.

Children's Service

SUNDAYS ..... 3.30 P. M.

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The Church is always open for private prayer, and the Clergy can be seen after any service

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2022 St. Albans Street

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BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Men	2.45 P. M
Miss Hodge	
For Young Ladies	3.00 P. M
Miss Stretch	

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays 10.00 A. M.

A FREE CHURCH.

We spoke last month of what Ascension Parish stands for in doctrine and worship. Let us speak now of another marked characteristic of this parish. For thirty-three years it has been a Free Church. By that is meant one in which no pews or sittings are sold or rented or permanently appropriated to anyone.

The practice of renting seats in churches arose in this country to take the place of endowments for the support of religion, or direct payments of the clergy by the state, which is so common in the old country. And when the country was new and the towns and cities were small, so that almost everyone was known and could be provided with a place in church, it was not so objectionable. But now, when our cities are so vast, filled with such an immense and heterogeneous population it is a great hindrance to the Church accomplishing the good it should. It presents an utterly false conception of the Church to the world, as if its privileges were only to be given to those who were willing to agree before hand to give a certain money equivalent. And it is certainly very inconsistent with the idea of the Church as an universal Brotherhood in which all stand on a level and have equal rights, to see people seated and graded in a Church according to their wealth, the richest in the front pews in the middle aisle and those less well off further back or on a side aisle, and the poor up in a gallery.

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Kalendar.

Feb. 1. Fourth Sunday after Epiphany.
2. Purification of the B. V. M.
6. Friday—Fast.
7. Septaugesima.
13. Friday—Fast.
15. Sexagesima—Fast.
20. Friday—Fast.
22. Quinquagesima.
24. St. Matthias.
25. Ash Wednesday.
All days in Lent are Fasts.

RECORD FOR JANUARY.

BAPTISMS, John Wittman Bieberbach.

MARRIAGE, Joseph Robert Clewell and Edith Emma Hubley.

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED from St. Timothy's Church
Mrs. Charlotte Matilda Bieberbach from Calvary Church, Pittsburgh.
William Moore Wharton
Transferred to Grace Church, Plainfield, N. J.
Mrs. Matilda O'Brien.

DIED, William Anderson.
Mrs. Annie Hall Zahn.

BURIALS, Wililam Anderson.
Mrs. Fannie Short Long.
Mrs. Annie Hall Zahn.
William Anderson Raborg.

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$227.75
" the Poor	6.70
" General Missions	12.89
" Parochial activities	1.35
" Episcopal and Convention Fund	.02
" Benevolent purposes	.76
Of the Sunday School	3.81
Total	$253.28
Additional receipts from "Angels in Art"	50.00
	$305.28

If there is any place on the earth which should be absolutely free and open to everyone, in which one should feel he had a right and a welcome, it should be the house of the One Universal Father. No one should feel that he was ever excluded from a church, except it were by the numbers wanting to attend it, or that he could only go there if he was able to pay a sufficient sum, or by trespassing upon the uncertain hospitality of those who could afford to pay. It is a matter of common experience that many persons are very disagreeable about having strangers put in their pews, and even if they do welcome them, who wants to go where he is uncertain how he will be received and feels that he is intruding, perhaps incommoding or turning out those who have a right to be there. And a stranger feels constrained put into the midst of a family or company, who looks inquisitively at him, wondering who he is or how he will behave.

We believe that there is nothing which has done so much to alienate people from the Church, and make them give up the habit of church going altogether as the pew renting system.

In our finest churches you cannot even rent a sitting, you must rent a whole pew, or make a private arrangement with others to divide one. People in moderate circumstances cannot do this. And for those living in boarding and lodging houses, constantly moving about, as so many do, it is not worth while to rent a pew in a particular church if they could. There are thousands of young men and women in our cities who are living by themselves, without any families. Can you expect them to go to church under such circumstances? The result is they do not go, at least regularly; multitudes not at all.

And how can the Church hope to win the erring, the vicious or the indifferent classes if she demands a payment before anyone can even enter her buildings and hear her message? This is not giving the Gospel "without money and without price."

But, it is said, churches have to be supported. True, but the church must always depend for that support upon the voluntary gifts of those who value its blessings for themselves and are glad to extend them to others. And those who have the means should provide *endowments* for Churchs so that they can be permanently supported, no matter what fluctuations of population or membership may take place in their neighborhood.

On this principle of an absolutely free church this parish has been carried on successfully for thirty-three years, and we believe that it has reached a larger number and more people of different classes, and has received *more money* for its support than it would have under the pew rented system.

✠

PARISH NOTES.

The Bishop's Visitation. For the first time in all its history this parish will receive an all day visitation by the Bishop of the Diocese. Usually the Bishnps have come to a single service, generally of a week day evening, preached and administered Confirmation and that was all. This time the Bishop will hold the following services:

Saturday, February 7, at 8 p. m. A devotional meeting of all the Communicants of the Parish. The Bishop desires, and the clergy urge, all our people, as many as possibly can do so, to be present at this service. It will be conducted in the Church but will be entirely informal.

Sunday, February 8, at 7:30 a. m. The Bishop will celebrate the Holy Communion. At the mid-day service he will preach, and after the service he wishes to meet the Vestry of the Parish. He will visit the Sunday School in the afternoon, and also Confirm a sick member in private. At 7:45 p. m. the Bishop will preach again and administer Confirmation, and we hope attend the Socialistic Forum, in which we know he is much interested.

All this will make a very full day for him, and ought to be of great benefit to the Parish. We hope to see all members at these services. The offerings at the evening service will be for the "Bishop's Purse," which he uses for Benevolent purposes.

The Rev. Curate has been giving confirmation instruction every week as follows:

On Tuesdays at 4 p. m. to children; on Mondays at 8 p. m. to boys; on Tuesdays at 8 p. m. to adults; on Wednesdays at 8 p. m. to adults and children; on Fridays at 4:45 p. m. to children; and on Saturdays at 7:45 p. m. to girls. These will be continued through this month.

Visitors were welcomed at any of these meetings and quite a number came to the Wednesday evening class,

Sunday School Missivnary Service. On Sunday afternoon, January 11, the Sunday School joined in a missionary service prepared by the Board of Missions in New York. It involved prayers and Psalms and address by the Rev. Curate.

✠

St. Agnes Day. On Wednesday, January 21st, there were present at a Choral Celebration of the Blessed Sacrament 20 children and 6 adult at 7:30 a. m. They sang heartily their hyms of adoration and so far as observed every child behaved with proper reverence, kneeling before his Saviour.

On Thursday 26 went to the Colonial Theater at the invitation of the manager and enjoyed a clean and amusing series of vaudeville acts and songs.

On Saturday 27 came to their party. It had rained all day and continued through the evening and this, of course, kept away some of our guests. But it is hard to quench the joy and ardor of children; so in the midst of the rain we had our party.

The regular attendance at the Guild on Saturday evenings this winter is larger than it has been for several years, nearly doubling that of last year.

✠

The Men's Club last month was attended by about forty men, old and young. Doctor Hubley Owen gave a most interesting and instructive lecture on "first aid," telling and illustrating what should be done in cases of accident, the resuscitation of those who are overcome by smoke, drowning, etc. The lecture was listened to with the greatest attention, and the thanks of all were tendered to Dr. Owen for giving it. The next meeting of the Club will be on the evening of the third Thursday in March, of which due notice will be given.

✠

The Socialistic Forum has been continued every Sunday evening, and though the numbers attending have not increased, different persons have come each night, and the meetings have been interesting. Questions have been freely asked and answered and the best temper possible has been displayed. We only regret that more do not come to them. The way to determine what is wisest and best, is to hear all can be said both for and against any proposition. If the opponents of Socialism, as well as its advocates, would attend the Forum, its discussions would be more profitable. It will be continued as long as an attendance can be secured.

✠

Minstrel Show and Dance. S. John's Guild will give a minstrel show followed by a dance in the Parish Building on Thursday evening, February 12th. Tickets of admission, 15 cents. The Guild will also give a Sociable, at which there will be dancing, on Thursday evening, February 19th. Admission by invitation.

✠

Girls Friendly Program for February.

3d.—Devotional meeting, sewing and reading.
10th—Cooking, sewing and reading.
17th—Cooking, sewing and reading.
24th—Illustrated talk, "Washington and the Revolution."

Acknowledgment of Missionary Box sent in December:

December 10, 1913.

My dear Mrs. Smith:

This letter I am writing to you for the Woman's Auxiliary of the Church of the Ascension from whom came the box, which we received in good order yesterday. It is very hard to write this letter, for it is so utterly impossible to express our gratitude and appreciation. It was such a surprise and like Christmas ahead of time. Not only did it stand for a great deal in a financial way, which counts a great deal with most missionaries, but it also meant much, very much, in a personal way of joy and added encouragement. It is such a little thing just to say "Thank you," and the most we can do is to work still harder for the spread of Christ's Kingdom in this country even as you are working together for its advancement.

You cannot realize what it means to us who are working on the outposts where the Church is weak to feel that after all me are but a part of a big army, and that, though far away, yet the others are with us and we are one in the battle. Here, where often the crisis is not one of advancement, but often of very existence, one needs that sense of fellowship. Such was the message the box brought to us, and we will go on with a new courage gained from this token of your interest and sympathy.

Most sincerely yours,

———————

✠

The Ladies' Aid will work for S. Andrew Church, Sewanee, Ten., which is conducted by the Holy Cross Fathers. It does a splendid work among the poor white people who are in great destitution.

✠

Our New Organist and Choirmaster Mr. Henry L. T. Ullrich entered on his duties the first Sunday of this month.

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since the last issue.

Miss Rhein.	Miss Barrington.
Mrs. Connelly (2).	Miss Hamilton.
Mr. Newnam.	Mr. Sears (2).
Mrs. Mason.	Mrs. Van Pelt.

✠

Gifts. Three rugs for the Sacristy. Orders for four tons of coal for the poor. A gas cooking range presented by the Girl's Friendly Society.

✠

The Envelopes sent out for this quarter are marked on the Benevolent side "For Diocesan Assessments." Formerly they were for "Diocesan Missions," but by direction of the Vestry their designation was changed so as to include the assessment on the parish for the Episcopal and Convention Fund. The total amount needed to meet all our Diocesan Assessments it will be noticed is $343. We trust the offerings will be sufficient to cover this sum, otherwise it will have to be taken out of the offerings for church support, which are not large enough even for that purpose.

The Ascension News

VOL. XXVII. PHILADELPHIA, MARCH, 1914. NO. 3

Church of the Ascension

Broad Street, Below South — All Seats Free

Services

Holy Communion

EVERY SUNDAY.....7.30 and 11.00 A. M.
HOLY DAYS.....7.00 and 10.30 A. M.
DAILY EXCEPT THURSDAYS.....7.00 A. M.
THURSDAYS.....9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer

SUNDAYS.....10.30 A. M.
DAILY.....10.00 A. M.

Evensong

SUNDAYS (with Sermon).....7.45 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address).....8.00 P. M.
DAILY.....5.00 P. M.

Children's Service

SUNDAYS.....3.30 P. M.

All the Seats are Free at all Services — **God's House is open to all its Children**

The Church is always open for private prayer, and the Clergy can be seen after any service

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The Ascension News

The Church of the Ascension

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH

'Phone, Locust 32-63A.

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REV. H. PAGE DYER, *Curate.*
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WARDENS

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2022 St. Albans Street

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Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	8.00 P. M.
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Teachers' Instruction at 2.30 P. M.

Superintendent	The Curate
Librarian and Organist	Mrs. S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Men	2.45 P. M
Miss Hodge	
For Young Ladies	3.00 P. M.
Miss Stretch	

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays 10.00 A. M.

AN OPEN CHURCH.

Another characteristic of the Church of the Ascension is that it is an ever open Church. Since it was erected twenty-seven years ago its doors have never been closed a single day, winter and summer. On the outside of the church is a brass plate stating that the church is always open for private prayer. And in the vestibule there is a printed sign asking every one who enters there not to leave the church without saying a prayer for himself, for those who minister in the church, and those who worship in it.

Many doubtless have done so, and who can tell what blessings have resulted from such prayers, which would never otherwise have been offered.

The church is the best and most appropriate and inspiring place in which to say prayers and the fullest opportunity for its use in that way should be given.

And the church has not only been open all through the day, but services have been said in it daily throughout most of the year. Morning and Evening Prayer have been always said, also a service on Wednesday evening, and for the last eight years there has been a Celebration of the Holy Communion daily at 7 a. m., except on Thursdays when it is at 9 a. m. This is in accordance with the intention of the Prayer Book which provides for a daily Celebration and prayers morning and evening. As the church is the best place in which to pray, so a regularly arranged service is the most helpful way in which to pray.

The Ascension News

Amonthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY
TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS;

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Kalendar.

March 1. First Sunday in Lent.
" 4. Ember day.
" 6. Ember day.
" 7. Ember day.
" 8. Second Sunday in Lent.
" 15. Third Sunday in Lent.
" 22. Fourth Sunday in Lent.
" 25. Annunciation B. V. M.
" 29. Passion Sunday.
All days in Lent are Fasts.

RECORD FOR FEBRUARY.

BAPTISMS, *Adults*,
John Ware (Conditionally)
Mrs. Nellie Anderson Warrilow "
Mrs. Mary Emma Smith "
Mrs. Martha Cooper Sappington "
Jeannette Esther Ward "
Susan Rebecca Righter "
Frank Consalvi "
Robert Curry McMeekin
Infants, Clarence Clinton Martz
Henry Roy Hannums
Anna Mary Mendoza 10
CONFIRMED, John Ware
Stanley Smith Hannums
Frank Consalvi
Henry Percival Norris. Jr.
Robert Curry McMeekin
Mrs. Bella Challman
Mrs. Mary Emma Smith
Mrs. Nellie Anderson Warrilow
Mrs. Margaret Martha Washington Wilson
Rose Ann Smith
Ruth Crowder Smith
Charlotte Bieberbach
Rebecca Rankin McDermott
Jeannette Esther Ward
Aimee Fanny Villermaux
In private.
Mrs. Margaret Spence
Mrs. Martha Cooper Sappington 19
COMMUNICANTS added by transfer from S. James' Church,
Mrs. Annie Smith. 1
Transferred to S. Clement's Church,
Mrs. Mary Jean Hammersley.
To House of Prayer, Branchtown.
Mrs. Emmilie Hortense Beck. 2
DIED, Sarah Vogdes. 1
BURIALS, Sarah Vogdes.
Mrs. Mary A. Burns. 2

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$258.70
" Diocesan assessments	40.85
" General Missions	11.31
" the Poor	12.51
" Missions to Foreigners	105.00
" Parochial Activities	2.08
" the Bishop's Purse	12.81
" All Souls Church for the Deaf	2.00
" Washington's Memorial	.10
" Benevolent purposes	.64
Of the Sunday School	3.00
Total	$449.00

Our Bishop at his visitation of the Parish last month urged the communicants to reserve some portion of each day for prayer, and not to make their prayers mere selfish cries for something for themselves. Now the surest way to do that would be to attend the daily services in the church, or at least one of them. Our forms of service secure our praying in the right way and for just those things for which we ought to pray. We are sorry our people do not use these services as they should. They would be a great blessing to them if they did. But even if only a few persons come, the church by being always open and holding these services is setting the example and giving the opportunity to all to pray, and the clergy are using them for their own spiritual benefit and they are thus too dischaging their Priestly obligation of intercession for their own people and for all who need their prayers.

So the open church is not only a call and opportunity for prayer but it affords a place into which any one who is passing may go for a while for rest and meditation, where he can have his thoughts taken away from their disquieting and often debasing engrossments, and elevated to higher things. Many persons are so circumstanced that they have really no other place they can go where they can enjoy quiet and have spiritual influences so strongly brought to bear upon them. The church can and should afford such a place and opportunities to her children. It is a shame, and waste of a large and costly plant, to have a church closed and standing idle, unused except one day a week. Then, too, the church being always open and services being held in it daily at regular hours, enables the people to know when and where they can see the clergy if they desire to do so. And any one having anything to send to the church can do so at any time, knowing it will be received. And it is thus always ready for special devotional meetings of Societies or Guilds or for marriages or burials or extra services.

And an open church should mean, too, an open Parish building, where church workers and committees can carry on their activities at all times, and where the young people, especially when out of work, can congregate and have healthful reading matter and games provided for their occupation.

All these are ways by which an ever open church can contribute to the spiritual and social benefit of a parish. We have found it most effective here used in these various ways.

PARISH NOTES.

The Bishop's visitation was most delightful and helpful. The Parish is favored in being one of the few parishes this year to have an all-day Visitation. At the meeting for communicants the evening before over sixty persons were present and the Bishop's instruction was most admirable. At the early Celebration on Sunday there were twenty-seven communicants. We regret there were not more present. At the mid-day service, the Bishop preached an excellent sermon, and afterward greeted the members of the Vestry and others of the congregation. After dinner with the Rector and his family, he returned to the church for the 3.30 P. M. Children's Service where he spoke. The Rector then went with him to Confirm a paralized lady on Seventeenth St., and then he went with the Rev. Curate to Confirm another aged and infirm lady in Pine St. At the evening service he preached again and Confirmed a class of seventeen, making the total Confirmed nineteen. We had hoped he would have attended the Socialistic Forum after the night service, but having been very much rushed during the previous week he did not feel that he could do so.

But we are most thankful for the time he gave and interest he manifested in our parish. He particularly complimented our music.

Lent. We enter on the Lenten season with this month and we earnestly trust our people will try to use it as a special means for the cultivation of their spiritual life. As we have so many services regularly no additional ones are put on, but our people can

make more use of them than they usually do. The boys of the choir will be present at the evening service every Tuesday and Friday. On Tuesdays the Rector will lecture on the primary duties of life, our duty as individuals, as members of a family, of the community, of the State, of the Church. On Friday afternoons a visiting clergyman will lecture, and it is well for our people to hear other preachers beside their own clergy who speak to them so often.

We urge all our people to make a rule to attend at least one service a day during Lent,—we have three each day and four on Wednesdays,—and at least one Celebration of the Holy Communion a week, and to adopt a definite rule of self-denial in the way of fasting or abstinence from amusements, luxuries and other indulgences. If Lent is used in this way it can be be of real service in making us truer and better Christians.

Special sermons. In addition to the week-day lectures during Lent, the Rector proposes to deliver a course of sermons on Sunday evenings on some of the fundamentals of religion, such as "the existence of God, what is the Bible, has there been a Revelation, the Divinity of Christ, is there a future life, and are there future rewards and punishments."

It may seem strange that it should be thought necessary to teach any of these truths from a Christian pulpit, but the fact is that owing to our want of general religious teaching in this country there are now multitudes of people living among us who have never been instructed in the truths of religion and consequently are sceptical or without faith on these points. We hope that many who are so will attend these sermons and hear what can be said on these questions.

The Girls' Friendly Society meets each Tuesday evening this month to do Lenten work, except on the first Tuesday when it has its usual devotional meeting.

The Men's Club will have a Smoker on Thursday evening, March 19th.

Cantata. On the Tuesday evening of Holy Week our Choir, probably augmented, will render Stainer's "Crucifixion."

Death of Miss Vogdes. Last month the parish lost one of its oldest and most devoted Parishioners in the death of Miss Sarah Vogdes. For twenty-four years she has belonged to the parish. For some years, she taught in the Sunday School and helped in other ways the work of the Church, She presented to the Church the large Lectern Bible now in use. Though for some years she has been living in Christ Church Hospital, she came into the Church as often as she could.

R. G. P.

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SERMONS BY THE CLERGY.

The Rev. Curate will preach this Lent in the city at St. Philip's; St. Luke's, Kensington; Good Shepherd, Kensington; St. Elizabeth's; and All Saints', Darby. Also at St. Mary's, Baltimore; St. Stephen's, Camden, N. J.; Sewickley, Pittsburg; All Saints', Norwood; Trinity Cathedral, Easton, Md.; St. John's, Norristown.

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Prayers Asked. The Rev. Curate asks the prayers of the congregation on behalf of several series of addresses he is to make this Lent. On March 19th to 22nd he will conduct a series of Evangelistic Services at All Saints', Darby. On Friday, March 13th, he will conduct a Quiet Day for women at Trinity Cathedral, Easton, Md., and on that night will speak to a meeting of men in the Cathedral. On Passion Sunday, March 29th, he will begin a series of Conferences on the Holy Eucharist to continue every night during that week at St. Stephen's Church, Sewickley, Pittsburg. At the same place he will conduct a Quiet Day for women on April 2nd, and on Tuesday, March 31st, he will address a meeting of clergy and laymen of Pittsburg at St. Stephen's Church, Sewickley. Also on March 30th and 31st and on April 1st a meeting of the children will be held.

On Good Friday, he will preach at the Three Hours' Devotions at St. Timothy's, Roxboro.

He begs the intercessions of this congregation that work for God and souls may be accomplished at these various meetings.

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St. Agnes' Guild. The Guild has been having a series of parties during the past month. On Feb. 7, there was no meeting of the Guild because of the Visitation of the Bishop. On the 14th a party in honor of St. Valentine was given at which in the rain there were five adults and twelve children. Little red hearts, made of paper, were given to the children, and chocolate and cake served. On the 21st a Washington Birthday Party was held, at which were present five adults and seventeen children. Little paper hatchets and candy drops were distributed to the children, and chocolate and cake provided. Lest it may seem that we are growing very extravagant, we would state that each "Party" cost the handsome sum of 65 cents in the aggregate. Their office of Devotion was said and as usual an Instruction on some point of doctrine or practice was given at each meeting.

ST. JOHN'S GUILD.

On Thursday, Feb. 12th, gave its annual minstrel show.

It was followed by dancing.

On Thursday, the 19th, the Guild gave a Sociable to the members of the Girls' Friendly and others at which there was dancing and refreshments.

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NOTICE.

List of Lectures upon "The History of Missions" to be given by Bishop Rhinelander in the Chantry of the Church of the Holy Apostles on the Thursday evenings in Lent at eight o'clock.

I. Missions in the First Age.
II. The Eastern Missions of the Eastern Church.
III. The Conversion of the Northern Nations.
IV. Missions of the Middle Age.
V. The Missionary Expansion of the Roman Church.
VI. The Prelude of Modern Missions and the 19th Century.

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since the last issue.

Miss Perry (4)	Mr. Pugh (2)
Miss Lloyd	Mrs. Waterall (2)
Misses Epprecht	Mrs. Wirgman (2)
Mr. Roberts	Mrs. Christian (2)
Mrs. Barrett	Miss Dickerson
Mr. Kelly (2)	Miss Hare.

The Ascension News

Vol. XXVII. Philadelphia, April, 1914. No. 4

Church of the Ascension

Broad Street, Below South — All Seats Free

Services

Holy Communion

Every Sunday ..... 7.30 and 11.00 A. M.
Holy Days ..... 7.00 and 10.30 A. M.
Daily except Thursdays ..... 7.00 A. M.
Thursdays ..... 9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer

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Daily ..... 10.00 A. M.

Evensong

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Daily ..... 5.00 P. M.

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Superintendent ..... The Curate
Librarian and Organist ..... Mrs. S. A. Harris

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For Young Men ..... 2.45 P. M
Miss Hodge

For Young Ladies ..... 3.00 P. M.
Miss Stretch

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays ..... 10.00 A. M.

GIVING.

No man lives, or should live only for himself. We all belong to a social order in which each member is dependent more or less on the others. In that order, through different circnmstances some are well off and prosperous and some are needy. And those who have the means to do so should give to those who are in need. God has made even the maintainance of His Church and its extension throughout the world dependent upon the gifts of its members. It is best that it should be so. Men value most that which costs them something, and one of the loftiest and most pleasurable qualities one can possess is that of charity.

It is the duty of every one therefore to given. Even the poorest should give something. It is not the amount but the intention and motive from which the gift is made which constitutes its real value. But of course it should always be proportionate to the ability of the giver and the worthiness of the object for which it is given.

And this is what many givers fail to consider. They give only on impulse. They never think about giving at all, do not recognize it as a normal obligation, unless some special object of charity is obtruded on their notice, something that appeals to their benevolent impulses. And they do not realize their obligation to contribute to the support of the Church or the spreading of the Gospel. They see that Churches are supported in some way, so they do not concern themsel-

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Kalendar.

April 5. Passion Sunday.
6. Monday before Easter.
7. Tuesday before Easter.
8. Wednesday before Easter.
9. Maundy Thursday.
10. Good Friday.
11. Easter Even.
12. Easter Day.
13. Monday in Easter Week.
14. Tuesday in Easter Week.
17. Friday—Fast.
19. Low Sunday.
24. Friday—Fast.
29. S. Mark Evangelist.
26. Second Sunday after Easter.

All days in Lent are Fasts.

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RECORD FOR MARCH.

BAPTISMS, Alberta Rita Pelacy.
John Albert Smith. 2

MARRIAGE, Andrew Jackson Moore,
Mary Ann Snodgrass. 1

COMMUNICANTS, *new*, John Ware,
Stanley Smith Hanmuns,
Robert Curry McMeekin,
Mrs. Bella Challman,
Mrs. Mary Emma Smith,
Mrs. Margaret Martha Washington Wilson,
Mary Ann Smith,
Ruth Crowder Smith,
Charlotte Beiberback,
Rebecca Rankin McDermott,
Jeannette Esther Ward,
Amy Fanny Villermaux,
Susan Rebecca Righter. 13

RECEIVED from Christ Church,
Bordentown, N. J.
Mrs. Rebecca Osborn Hammuns. 1

TRANSFERRED to the Church of S. Luke and the Epiphany,
George Engle Zimmer. 1

DIED,
Matilda Buckingham, 1

BURIAL, Matilda Buckingham,
John Anthony Snyder, 2

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$269.99
" Diocesan assessments	41.53
" General Missions	1.93
" the Poor	52.43
" Ladies' Aid	5.00
" Prayer Book Society	10.00
" Sunday and Industrial School	5.00
Total	$386.88

ves about it. And as for the spreading of the Gospel, they either do not think of it at all, or they are doubtful of its utility, at any rate they do not feel any obligation in the matter.

Then there are others who give only when they feel they have to give. If a plate is passed to them in Church they do not like not to put something into it, but they put in just as small a coin as they can, or if a personal application is made to them for a subscription to any charitable object, they will give because they feel they have to do so, and they make the amount as small as they dare to.

Such giving is not charity. It is the "cheerful giver" whom "the Lord loveth." Only he who is glad of the opportunity, and takes real pleasure in relieving want or ministering to the comfort or enjoyment of others, or of futhering some good cause, is the truly charitable man, the good giver.

Such a one will seek out opportunities and be careful to see that the object to which he gives is deserving, and one where his gift will produce the greatest or best results.

Then giving should always be systematic, and regular, in full and proper proportion to one's ability. What that proportion shall be every one must decide for himself, being guided by his obligations and the demands

upon him. Under the old Dispensation every one was required to give a tenth of all his receipts. But that included the taxes for the support of the government. In the New Dispensation no arbitrary rule is laid down. A man with a large income should give more than a tenth, while a man with a small income, with perhaps a large family to provide for and their future to ensure, is not required to give as much. "He that has much should give plenteously and he that has little should give gladly of that little." Certainly the rule that all should follow is, not to spend more on luxuries and amusements and extravagances than he does on good works.

So one should carefully study the claims of the objects presented to him. He should never give without satisfyfying himself that it is worthy, and will be really helped by his gift and that his charity will do the most good if bestowed upon it. Never give just because you are asked. Often more harm than good results from doing so. There are persons who resort to begging because they find it is easier to get their living so than by working. Always investigate each case, either in person or by refering it to some agent who will do it for you. Our charitable societies exist for the very purpose of finding out and discriminating between the deserving and undeserving and of extending help to the needy in the wisest way. It is far better to give through your Church, or through Societies where all cases are investigated than to give personally without inquiry.

Regard all giving as a solemn duty —to be conscientiously and carefully discharged. And look upon it as something which will give you pleasure to do to the extent of your ability, that you may thereby express your thankfulness for the blessings you yourself enjoy, and which will bring relief and happiness to those who are in need, or less well off than you are. Look upon the Church as the greatest of all charities, because it ministers to the souls as well as to the bodies of men, and to whose support it is your duty regularly to contribute, to the extent of your ability. And the work the Church is able to do will be in proportion to the gifts which it receives.

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PARISH NOTES.

Holy Week Services. There will be the Procession of Palms on the morning of Palm Sunday, and Celebrations of the Holy Communion each day in the week at 7 and 10 A. M., except Good Friday, when the mid-day service will consist of the Morning Prayer and Litany at 11 A. M., followed by the singing of the Reproaches and the preaching of the Cross from 12 to 3 P. M. The Rev. James B. Halsey, Rector of S. Timothy's Church, Roxborough, will be the preacher. The preaching will be interspersed as usual with the singing of hymns during which persons may enter or leave the church if they cannot remain all through. In addition to the Evening Service at 5 P. M., the Stations of the Cross will be observed each night in the week, except Tuesday, at 8 P. M. They will also be observed on Good Friday at 9.30 A. M. for the children of the parish.

On Tuesday evening at 8 P. M. the Cantata of the Crucifixion will be sung.

Easter Day there will be Celebrations at 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 A. M. Morning Prayer and Sermon and Choral Celebration at 10.30 A. M. The Children's Easter service at 3 30 P. M., and Procession and Sermon at 7.45 P. M.

Easter offering, The following is the statement of the Accounting Warden of the amount needed for the Easter offering to meet our current expenses up to May 1st, the end of our financial year.

Coal bill,	$221.00
Salary of the Rector,	817.51
Gas bill,	60.00
Loan,	100.00
	$1,198.51

In addition to which we owe for Diocesan Assessments.

Sustentation fund,	$ 33.11
Episcopal and Convention fund,	182.84
Convocation fund,	100.00
	$315.95

To meet which only $95.11 has been received through the envelopes as yet.

The offerings on the other Sundays of this month will be required to meet the salaries and expenses for the month not mentioned above, so that it will require a very large Easter offering to enable us to come out at the end of our year free from debt.

It will be remembered that what we received from the proceeds of the "Angels in Art" was not much more than what was required to pay off our indebtedness for the previous year. So that we shall again have to face a large deficit unless our people give very liberally at Easter. We would especially ask those who attend the Church very irregularly and *contribute nothing* at any other time, to make up for that by a large contribution at Easter.

Flowers. Offerings for Easter flowers are also asked for.

"The Crucifixion", a Sacred Cantata by Sir John Stainer, will be rendered in the Church on Tuesday of Holy Week, April 7th, at 8 P. M.

The choir will be especially augmented to 75 voices on that evening, being assisted by the choir of the Church of the Incarnation, and Mr. Walter St. Clare Knodle, one of our former Organists, who will be at the Organ. Mr. Ullrich, our present Organist, will sing the Baritone part.

Mr. Ullrich looks forward to an excellent performance of this beautiful Lenten Cantata, and it is earnestly hoped all will take advantage of the opportunity to hear it sung on such a splendid scale.

Easter Party for Sunday School. The Sunday School expects to have a Party on the Monday in Easter Week at 8 P. M. The performers in the entertainment part will be the members of the School. Each scholar is authorized to invite one guest. We hope to have a merry time. Light refreshments will conclude the affair.

The Daily Eucharist. It is a pleasure to record that the attendance this Lent and this winter has been materially larger than in recent years. A real test of one's love for our dear Lord is found in the degree of attractiveness which the veiled Presence of our Divine Redeemer exerts upon a soul. We have reason for gratitude in this regard.

The Junior St. John's Guild. Another encouragement is the attendance this winter at this Guild. Perhads twice as many have come as in recent times and it affords a chance for the Spiritual Director to instruct boys both of this parish and from various Denominations in the truths of God's ancient Religion. Every Monday night Devotion and Instruction form a part of the Guild programme.

The St. Agnes Guild. This Guild, also, has about doubled in numbers this winter, and not for years have their evenings been happier and more edifying.

St. Agnes' Guild Party. The little girls will be happy on Saturday in Easter Week, when their Party will occur. They will each invite a little girl. Games and refreshments add to the evening's pleasure.

A Dramatic Reading. On Tuesday, April 21st, at 8 P. M., a delightful entertainment will be given in the Parish House for the benefit of the Girls' Friendly Society, and St. John's Guild. Miss Ethel Barrington, the clever Dramatic Monologist, will give four of her interpretations, and other artists will contribute music and singing. Tickets of admission 25 cts.

Girls' Friendly Society. The cooking class has been a great success, and very much enjoyed, and the sewing during Lent for the Indians and mountain whites, has been of great inest. Mrs. Edward B. Meigs spoke one evening to the Senior Members, and Miss Maule on "Social Service" and "Vocational teaching."

The Men's Club met on Thursday, March 19th. The entertainment consisted of an interesting Boxing match between two representatives of the Young Men's Christian Association. This was followed by an instructive talk by Mr. T. Henry Walnut on the Reform of the Civil Service. There was the usual smoking and refreshments. This will be the last meeting of the Club for the season as next month the Parish Tea takes its place.

The Sunday night sermons by the Rector this month will be on Palm Sunday on "Salvation", Easter day, "The Resurrection", Low Sunday, "Is there a future life?" Second Sunday after Easter, special sermon to "The Knights of Pythias," who will attend in a body.

Wanted. Some persons in the parish who would like to send regularly Harper's Magazine, the Cosmopolitan, and Ladies' Home Journal through the Church Periodical Club. Miss S. E, Gilpin, 904 Clinton St., will be glad to give the addresses.

Rummage Sale. Any contributions for a Rummage Sale will be thankfully received. Things sent to the Parish House before the end of April.

Warren McGarrick. The deepest sympathy of the congregation is extended to our fellow members, Mr. and Mrs. McGarrick, on the mysterious disappearance of their little boy.

✠

MEMORIAL TO THE REV. WILLIAM BERNARD GILPIN.

A very handsome bronze tablet was unveiled in Trinity Church, Hoboken, N. J., of which he had been the Rector, with a special service of Dedication on Sunday, March 1st.

This is one of the many memorials erected to the memory of our late beloved Curate.

✠

OBSERVANCE OF GOOD FRIDAY

The following resolution was adopted at the late General Convention of the Church held in New York last October.

"Resolved, That we recognize with sympathy the inability of many Christian people to share in the age-long custom of setting apart Good Friday as a day of public and private devotion in commemoration of the sacrifice of our Lord. In view of this fact we call upon them at noon on that day to unite in at least a few minutes of special personal contemplation of Christ crucified."

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the News is due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since the last issue.

Mr. Cope	Mrs. Wylie
Mrs. Cope	Mrs. Carmen
Miss McKnight (2)	Mr. Barton
Miss Holbrook	Miss Walsh
Miss Means	

The Ascension News

VOL. XXVII. PHILADELPHIA, MAY, 1914. No. 5

Church of the Ascension

Broad Street, Below South — All Seats Free

Services

Holy Communion

EVERY SUNDAY.....7.30 and 11.00 A. M.
HOLY DAYS.....7.00 and 10.30 A. M.
DAILY EXCEPT THURSDAYS.....7.00 A. M.
THURSDAYS.....9.00 A. M.

Morning Prayer

SUNDAYS.....10.30 A. M.
DAILY.....10.00 A. M.

Evensong

SUNDAYS (with Sermon).....7.45 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Address).....8.00 P. M.
DAILY.....5.00 P. M.

Children's Service

SUNDAYS.....3.30 P. M.

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The Church of the Ascension

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Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew ... 8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild ..... 8.00 P. M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild ..... 7.45 P. M.

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Superintendent ..... The Curate
Librarian and Organist ..... Mrs. S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Men ..... 2.45 P. M
Miss Hodge

For Young Ladies ..... 3.00 P. M.
Miss Stretch

PARISH VISITING.

Every clergyman wants to know the different members of his congregation. He wants to know their characters, dispositions and circumstances, their views and opinions on religious matters, and the difficulties or problems they may have in their lives that he may, if possible, be of service to them. The idea of the Pastoral office is that the Pastor should be to his people what that word implies, a Shepherd to a flock, one who watches over, leads, guards, and feeds in spiritual things those committed to his charge. He should be their friend and confident and adviser. And if he sees they are negligent of their duties or wandering from the right way, it is his duty to go after them to try to recall them, and if necessary to rebuke them. This is an exceedingly difficult office to discharge. It requires a great deal of tact and delicacy. And above all it is necessary that he should know his people. This can only be done by his visiting them, seeing them in their homes and surroundings, becoming intimate with them and they with him. It is as necessary that they should come to know and trust him, as for him to know them.

Of course every clergyman has times appointed when he can be seen in his church or office We publish in every issue of this paper that the clergy of this parish can be seen in the Church after any service, or are ready to meet people there at any time by appointment. But there are only some who go of their own accord to

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Amonthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY
TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

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Kalendar.

May 1. SS. Philip and James. Fast.
2. Third Sunday after Easter.
8. Friday. Fast.
10. Fourth Sunday after Easter.
15. Friday. Fast.
17. Rogation Sunday.
18. Rogation day.
19. Rogation day.
20. Rogation day.
21. Ascension day.
22. Friday. Fast.
24, Sunday after Ascension.
29. Friday. Fast,
31. Whitsunday.

✠

RECORD FOR APRIL.

BAPTISMS. John Engle Ware.
Albert Eugene Kaufmann. 2

MARRIAGE. Carlton Smith and
Mrs. Lillian Hull Loughlin. 1

COMMUNICANTS ADDED *new*.
Mrs. Margaret Spence.
Mrs. Nellie Anderson Warrillow.
Henry Percival Norris, Jr.
Rose Ann Smith. 4

BY TRANSFER,
Marie Ella Krewson. 1

TRANSFERRED to Trinity Church, Southwork,
Edward Kelly.
Mrs. Edith May Tisdale. 2

DIED.
John Reed Mason.
Frances Bond. 2

COMMUNION OF THE SICK. 1

BURIALS, John Reed Mason.
Frances Bond, 2

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses (including Easter offering)	$1,103.62
" the Poor	28.39
" Diocesan assessments	47.98
" Parochial activities	.45
" Flowers	40.25
" Altar Chapter for year	101.50
" Ladies' Aid	44.78
" Mothers' Meeting	50.00
" Benevolent purposes	.49
" General Missions	.55
Of Woman's Auxiliary for Missions	98.15
" " United offering	29.16
" the Sunday School	2.35
Total	$1,566.27

see their Pastor. It would be much easier and more satisfactory for him if more would do so. And the Church is the most suitable place for interviews on religious matters. But in most cases the clergyman must go after his people, he must visit them in their homes.

And this is an exceedingly difficult thing for him to do, especially in a city congregation of any size. Owing to our modern facilities of transit, the members of a city congregation now are often widely scattered. There are people living in West Philadelphia who come regularly into the city to church, and there are those living in the city who go out there. The old parish idea of those living in the vicinity of a church attending it, is rarely carried out. People belong to churches to which they have become attached, or to which they are attracted, no matter where they are situated. We have people coming to this church who live as far south as Shunk St. 2600 south, and above Erie Ave. 3700 north, and from Second St. to Sixtieth. There are four parishioners living in Germantown, three ladies in Christ Church Hospital on the edge of the Park, who still want to see their old Pastor sometimes, there are some thirty houses in West Philadelphia the Rector visits.

All this involves an immense amount of labor and consumes a great deal of time. The Rector's rule is to spend part of each day throughout the winter in parish visiting, unless he is prevented by other duties, attending funerals or meetings of societies or committees to which he belongs, etc. And even so it takes him the whole winter to get round and see every one belonging to the parish once. And he does not accomplish even that, for he often fails to find those whom he calls upon at home, even after three or four attempts to do so. And there are some persons whom it is very difficult for a clergyman to see at any time, especially the men and above all the young men of the parish, a class to whom his friendship might be of more use than to any others, if it could really be secured. But how is he to do so? Such persons are never at home during the day, and they cannot be pursued and interrupted at their places of business, and they are rarely at home in the evening. So there are multitudes of young men who do not know or even speak to a clergyman throughout their lives.

If only people would consider these things they would realize how extremely difficult and unsatisfactory a thing parish visiting is, and yet how important it is if a clergyman is really to know and be of any real use to his people in their daily lives.

If any in the Parish think that the clergy do not call to see them as frequently as they would like them to do let it be remembered that it is not because the clergy are indifferent to them or do not want to know them, but because it is a physical impossibility for them to visit them as often as they would like.

The clergyman wants to know and become intimate with and be a help to his people, but when their numbers mount up to the hundreds and they are scattered over a large area, and he has many other engagements and duties to perform, he is not really able to do more than call on each family once a year. And he is not able to accomplish even that, though he always tries to do so.

If his people would not leave all the visiting to be done by him, but would stop after any of the services when they come to church, especially during the week, when he can give them more time, it would be much more satisfactory, and that intimacy which should subsist between a Pastor and his people would be increased.

✠

PARISH NOTES.

Easter. We had a beautiful Easter day, though the weather bureau had predicted rain. But being so fine a day instead of bringing more people to church, it took many to the seaside and other places of resort, so that we did not have the crowded church we used to have always on that great Festival. The service was beautiful and the music well rendered, part of it was the S. Cecilia Mass of Gounod which is such a favorite. It was repeated on Low Sunday, and on the following Sunday.

The offering at Easter was over $950, a handsome amount, and yet not sufficient to meet all our expenses to the end of our financial year. The Vestry is considering very seriously whether it is possible for us to go on in this way year after year coming out with a deficit, trusting to its being made up by entertainments of one kind or another. This is certainly not the way to support churches. If the people belonging to a parish cannot give more than a certain sum for its support, then its expenses should be kept within that amount.

On Easter afternoon the Children's Easter service took place, when their Lenten offerings were presented and each child—thanks to their old friend Mr. Witmer—was given a flowering plant. These plants brighten up homes which have often little in them in the way of beauty and are preserved in some cases from year to year.

On Easter evening and the Sunday following there was full Cho al Evensong and a Procession.

On the second Sunday after Easter, Myrtle Lodge, No. 61, of the Knights of Pythias, attended tne church in a body. The church was decorated with their banners and a special sermon was preached to them by the Rector, who took for his subject the motto of their order.

Vestry election. At the annual election for Vestrymen held on Easter Monday, the members whose term expired were re-elected, with the exception of Mr. William C. Lloyd, who declined re-election owing to his inability to attend the Vestry meetings or even the Church services, except very occasionally. Mr. William Moore Wharton was elected in his place.

St. Agnes' Guild Party. On Saturday in Easter Week a happy company of some twenty-five or thirty little girls and half a dozen ladies took part in their Easter Party. The only persons of the sterner sex present were the Director of the Guild and one lone boy. Many games were played, for some of which prizes were offered. Ice cream and cake were the refreshments, for which we were indebted to Mrs. Frank Hoffman, a kind friend who has often been good to us.

Sunday School Party. About seventy children and some adults participated in one of the happiest Sunday School affairs of recent years. Indeed this was the first Sunday School Easter Party for two or three years and perhaps for that reason among others it was so much enjoyed. Refreshments, games and some prizes were features of the evening and nothing occured to mar our pleasure.

St. Agnes' Guild Gift to Parish. At Easter this Guild of little girls gave to the church a copy of the Holy Bible with the Marginal Readings for use at the Stalls before the Side Altar. This Guild had already donated the two Prayer Books used there; so that they have the pleasure of knowing that they have provided all the books used for the Daily Choir Offices. The book just given is of the finest seal flexible binding, gilt edges and thin paper.

Ascension day. We remind our people of the coming this month of this Festival, our special Parish Festival. There will be Celebrations as usual in the morning, the full choir being present at mid-day service, and in the evening as well at eight o'clock, when the Rector preaches his anniversary sermon, reviewing the work of the parish during the past year. We hope all our people will be present on this occasion. On the Sunday evening after the Ascension is the Annual Procession of the Parish Guilds, in which we hope there will be a full turn out. The preacher of this occasion will be the Rev. Elliot White, Rector of St. Mark's Church. And on Monday evening, May 25th, the Annual Parish Tea will take place, a custom we have observed without a break for nearly thirty years. They have always proved most enjoyable occasions

The Sunday evening Forum which we have had since the first of December is discontinued for the present owing to the difficulty in securing persons to conduct it. Now that the warm weather is coming on speakers are so much in demand for outdoor addresses that they cannot be spared for indoor meetings.

Missionary box. In spite of many bad Wednesdays which interfered with a full attendance, the Ladies' Aid succeeded in making up a very substantial box for the Holy Cross Fathers in Sewanee, Tenn. It was valued at $50.

An entertainment was given on April 21st through the efforts of the Misses Gilpin and proved a very delightful and successful affair. There was a large attendance. The talent being entirely gratuitous and outside the Parish, with the exception of Mr. Ullrich who kindly consented to sing three songs, made it very interesting.

Miss Ethel Barrington gave her four impersonations and monologues n her own charming and clever way, and the other artists—Mrs. Leonard who sang, Mrs. F. H. Gilpin who played on the violin, and Veto la Monica who played on the piano, with Mr. Ullrich's charming songs—won great applause.

The proceeds will be used for the Girls' Friendly Society work and St. John's Guild.

The Girls' Friendly Society will continue its regular meetings on Tuesday evenings through May. A Rummage Sale will be held on Saturday, the 16th, from 3 to 9 o'clock, in the Parish Buildings.

Church Periodical Club. It is hoped that all who are closing their homes this Spring will not forget to send all their magazines to the church, or offer to send a magazine regularly through the summer to some address supplied by Miss S. E. Gilpin, Librarian.

Special sermons. The Rector is preaching on the Sunday mornings of this month a series of sermons on the history of the Christian Church. And in the evenings he will speak on the present types of Christianity, Roman, Protestant, Liberal, and Catholic

A Dance. On Thursday evening, April 28th, an informal dance was given by Miss Hodge, in the Parish House, to the members of her Bible Class. There were fifteen young men and young ladies present, and after dancing, they were served with ice cream, cake, and coffee. It was voted a great success, and it is hoped to have one every Spring. The music was furnished by a borrowed phonograph.

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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The following were received since the last issue.

Mrs. Tait	Mrs. Pepper (2)
Dr. Neilson	Mrs. Christian
Miss Goodman	Mrs. Drayton

The Ascension News

Vol. XXVII. Philadelphia, June, 1914. No. 6

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Daily ..... 10.00 A. M.

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SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

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Librarian and Organist	Mrs. S. A. Harris

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Men (Miss Hodge)	2 45 P. M
For Young Ladies (Miss Stretch)	3,00 P. M.

ANNIVERSARY SERMON.

The Rector preached his thirty-fourth anniversary sermon as Rector of the parish on the evening of Ascension day.

He began by dwelling on the great significance of the Feast of the Ascension and its special importance to this church as its parochial festival.

He expressed his thankfulness for his continued good health which had enabled him to officiate on every Sunday in the year with one exception.

He then went on to read the items of the annual report of the parish as made to the Bishop on May 1st and to comment upon them. We publish the report in full in this issue.

The number of Baptisms was the same as for the previous year. There were six less Confirmations, Marriages and Burials, and nine less added to the Commnnicant list, but twenty less were lost, making the total loss eleven.

Those who died were Mr. Frederick Tallent, an aged blind man, long a faithful attendant until he moved to West Philadelphia and was too feeble to come so far. John Martin, who became a communicant when on his death bed. William Long Anderson, Confirmed in the parish and for some time a regular attendant but who had been an invalid for some years. William Anderson, a familiar figure in the Church as he always sat near the front in the middle aisle and was present each Sunday morning. as he was devotedly attached to the Church. Mrs. Ann Hall Zahn (nee Patterson), Confirmed in the Church, she was

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Kalendar.

June 1. Whitsun-Monday.
2. Whitsun-Tuesday.
3. Ember day.
5. Ember day.
6. Ember day.
7. Trinity Sunday.
11. S. Barnabas.
14. F'rst Sunday after Trinity.
19. Friday—Fast
21. Second Sunday after Trinity.
24. Nativity of S. John Baptist.
26. Friday—Fast.
28. Third Sunday after Trinity.
29. S. Peter, Apostle.

✠

RECORD FOR MAY.

MARRIAGE, James Robinson and Mrs. Elizabeth Frank. 1

COMMUNICANTS transferred to S. Andrew's, West Philadelphia.
Mrs. Charlotte Walker.

To the Church of Canada,
Alice Olive Young.

To the Epiphany, Sherwood.
Mrs. Elizabeth Jefferson Smith.

To S. Michael's Chapel of S. Mark's parish,
Mrs. Sarah Jane Hogue.

To S. Elizabeth's,
David McGregor.

To the Church of Ireland,
Mrs. Jane Gallegher. 6

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$417.90
" the Poor	47.86
" Diocesan assessments	7.12
" Parochial activities	18 80
" the Endowment Fund	45.99
" General asstssments	.25
Of the Sunday School	1 29
Total	$ 540.21

married out of the city, but returned to her sister's during her last illness where she was ministered to by the Rector. Sarah Vodges for many years connected with the Church and at one time a teacher in the Sunday School, she presented the Lectern Bible and Altar service book now in use, she died in Christ Church Hospital where she has been living for some years. Matilda Buckingham, she had lost all her relatives and living alone, became despondent and took her own life, the first case we believe of a communicant of the parish commiting this awful crime. John Reed Mason, for many years a choir boy, he lost his young wife some years ago and now dies himself leaving a small son. Frances Bond, for some years a faithful attendant of the Church and Mothers' Meeting, but lately living too far from the church to continue doing so. All these were ministered to by the clergy in their last illness with the exception of Miss Buckingham. May they rest in peace.

The Sunday and Saturday Industrial Schools of the parish have maintained about the same numbers as last year, but neither are as large as formerly owing to the different character of the population in our neighborhood.

The Guilds have been well maintained especially the Junior S. John's and S. Agnes. The former made a good showing at their annual spring sports, and the latter every Sunday as they sit in the front seats in the church. The Men's Club had three interesting meetings and S. John's Guild and the Girls' Friendly a num- of sociables. The latter had also a very profitable cooking class. We regret that more of the younger girls did not avail themselves of learning this very important art.

The Mothers' Meeting was very regularly attended by a dozen or more, and was of great assistance to them as well as aid to the Hospitals for which they worked.

The little band of the Woman's Auxiliary sent off a very substantial missionary box and their usual offerings to the different branches of the missionary work.

The still smaller group of the Ladies' Aid sent a box valued at $50 to a school in the south, beside doing necessary work in caring for the clergy and choir vestments.

The financial items of the report show about $1,000 less received than last year, but the expenses were some $800 less also. This difference was largely due to the cost of two stained glass windows and a water heating apparatus being included in the last report. The receipts for current expenses and the total receipts were quite up to the average of a number of years past. We are especially indebted to the ladies who worked so hard in connection with "The Angels in Art" which secured the church so large a sum.

In spite of these facts, however, we find ourselvee again with a deficit of some $500 at the end of the year. And as this seems to have become our chronic condition, the Vestry have resolved that some intrenchment must be made and our expenses kept hereafter within the limits of our income.

The general conditions of the Church have been changing in the last few years, and the Church must alter her methods to meet them. Some plans for doing so are under consideration and will be announced in due time.

The Rector closed by urging every one connected with the Church to do his utmost, by regularity in attendance, taking part in its work and contributing to its support, to assist in helping the Church to the full measure of its efficiency.

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REPORT.

The following is the report of the Parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop:

Baptisms.—Adults, 8; infants, 15; total, 23.

Confirmed.—Males, 5; females, 14; total, 19.

Communicants added.—New, 19; by transfer, 5; total, 24; died, 9; removed by revision of list, 8; by transfer, 21; total, 38; present number, 483.

Marriages.—4.

Burials.—18.

Public Services.—Sunday, 246; on the other days, 973; total, 1219.

Celebrations of Holy Communion,—400.

Children Catechised.—Times, 246.

Sunday School.—Officers and teachers, 19; scholars, 110.

Other Parish Agencies.—Officers and workers and members, 100; Industrial School Teachers, 4; scholars, 30; Mothers' Meeting, members, 15.

Money Receipts.—Offerings for Parish support, $4447.40; offerings for purposes outside the Parish, $755.20; investments, $699.45; other sources, entertainments, etc., $737.90; Sunday Schools and Guilds, $229.56; Women's

Auxiliary and Guilds, $223 56; Endowment Fund, $52.30; Altar Chapter, $187.42; total, $7782.56

Expenditures.—Parochial current expenses (including salaries of clergy, music, fuel and lighting, care of church building and grounds and ordinary repair of same), $5,058.87: improvements, $192.00; support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools and Guilds, $299 21; for the Poor, $457.27; added to Endowment Fund, $52.30; payment of loans, $400; miscellaneous, $408.17; total, $6,867.82.

Diocesan.—Episcopal and Convention Fund, $182.84; Diocesan Missions, $135.18; Episcopal Hospital, $13.03; Bishop's Fund, $12.81; total, $343.84.

General Missions.—Sunday School, $31.08; through Woman's Auxiliary, $205.31; Collections, $607.22; Clergy Relief, $9.60; Prayer Book and Tract Societies, $17.25; other objects, $15.00; total, $986.46. Total for all objects, $8,098.12.

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PARISH NOTES.

Ascension day was a beautiful day and we had a most inspiring service in the morning and an interesting one in the evening.

There was a good turn out of the young people at the Annual Guild service on the following Sunday evening, when an excellent sermon was preached to them by the Rev. Mr. White, Rector of S. Mark's Church.

The Annual Parish Tea was as usual a happy occasion. A number of musical pieces, recitations, etc., by members of the parish and some of their friends were given and bountiful refreshments provided.

Summer services. Last summer the experiment was made of having only one Celebration of the Holy Communion on Sundays at nine o'clock, but it did not prove a success. There will therefore be no change made this summer. The Rev. Curate will celebrate at 7.30 A. M. and the Rector at the 10.30 A. M. service. He expects to spend the summer near the city and will come in town each Sunday. The Curate will preach at the Sunday night service.

Boy Scouts. It is proposed to organize a Boy Scout band in the Parish. Boys between twelve and eighteen years old are invited to meet in the Parish Building on the evening of Monday, June the 8th, for the purpose. Mr. Patton, head of the organization in this city, will be present to constitute the Ascension Band

The Girls' Friendly had a busy month, with the devotional service in the church on the first Tuesday, and a party on the 7th in connection with St. John's Guild, and one evening the members gave a supper to the Secretary and Associates, after which a large and handsome boquet was presented to the Secretary, and a gift and flowers to the lady who had kindly given them some lessons in cooking during the winter.

The Rummage sale was very successful and the Secretary wishes to thank all who kindly sent donations of things for it.

Then came the Guild service, with 12 in attendance, and the members also acted as aids at the Parish Tea.

The last meeting of the season was on Tuesday, June 2nd, at 8 p. m.

The report of St. John's Guild for this month shows 20 members. The receipts from an entertainment given by the kindness of Mrs. Owens amounted to forty dollars of which ten dollars was given to the Church and to the Girls' Friendly and St. John's Guild each fifteen dollars. The Guild had their annual sociable and all enjoyed it greatly. Dancing and a good supper were given by friends of the Guild on the 5th of May.

On the 4th of May the Junior Guild had their spring sports with prizes. The first three were for Church attendance and regularity won by Louis Klofach, who has served most faithfully, and Charlie McDermott. Races and stunts were the order of the day.

St. John's Guild propose giving an excursion next month by moonlight on the Delaware to make money for the Guild, and tickets may be had from any member of the Guild. A good time and dancing will be enjoyed.

The sketch given at the Parish Tea by Messrs. Neill and Rissert was very well done.

Three new members have been added to the Guild this month and we hope for more Juniors.

Mr. Spencer Erwin and Richard Gilpin acted as judges for the boys' sports very kindly.

The last meeting until October was held on Thursday, June 5th.

The News. There will be no issue of this paper during the months of July, August and September.

St. Agnes' Guild Parties. Two children in the past month were honored on their birthdays, one on May 2nd, and the other on May 23rd. A Birthday cake on each occasion was provided, furnished with the proper number of lighted candles. No one was iuvited excepting the members of the Guild, but there were about 25 of them on each occasion. Never were Birthday Parties more happy and sweet. Several new members have been added to our numbers and it is pleasant to see how promptly they are received into the hearty good graces of the Guild.

Sunday School Excursion. Saturday, June 13th, has been fixed upon as the day and Burlington Island is the place for our Annual Excursion. We will meet for the Celebration of the Blessed Sacrament at 6:30 on that morning, and all the teachers and scholars are expected to assist at that Service. Indeed it has been a pleasure in the years past to visit their Eucharistic Lord and to ask a blessing before entering on their day's pleasure.

Sunday School Prizes. On the last session of the Sunday School which will be on June 7th, 43 prizes will be given for regular attendance, etc This is 9 more than was given last year.

St John's Junior Guild. This Guild has had during the last Season the largest attendance in its history. It was a pleasure to see how intelligently and interestedly the company of boys entered into the study and discussion of the various matters included every Monday night in the Instructions given by the Director. A kind friend of the Guild offered a prize to the boy who proved most proficient in an examination on the Instructions given and it was awarded to Master George Mull. At his request there was selected a year's subscription to The American Boy.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since the last issue.

Miss Peters Miss Hoffmann

The Ascension News

VOL. XXVII PHILADELPHIA, ~~SEPTEMBER~~ October, 1914. No. 7

Church of the Ascension

Broad Street, Below South — All Seats Free

Services

Holy Communion

EVERY SUNDAY ..... 7.30 and 11.00 A. M.
HOLY DAYS ..... 7.00 and 10.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer

SUNDAYS ..... 10.30 A. M.

Evensong

SUNDAYS (with Instruction) ..... 4.00 P. M.
DAILY ..... 5.00 P. M.
SUNDAY SCHOOL ..... 3.00 P. M.

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The Church of the Ascension

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CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

HENRY L. T. ULLRICH.

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN

2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild	8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P. M
Thursdays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P. M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.45 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent	The Rector
Secretaries	Mr Louis Klofack Mr. William Whitehurst

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Men — Miss Hodge	2.45 P. M
For Young Ladies — Miss Martin	3.00 P. M

ACTION OF THE VESTRY IN REGARD TO THE CURATE.

At the regular meeting of the Vestry on the first Thursday in May, all but two of the members being present, a full discussion of the condition and resources of the Parish took place. The result of which was the adoption of a Resolution to the effect that owing to the changes in the neighborhood of the church and the decrease in its membership, it was not wise to continue the effort to support two clergymen, and that it would be necessary therefore to discontinue the services of a Curate. This action was afterwards concurred in by the two members of the Vestry who were not present when it was taken. It also had the entire approbation of the Rector.

Due notice of this action was given to the Rev. Mr. Dyer, who has been Curate for the last twelve years, and his connection with the Parish terminated September first.

This will make necessary a considerable change in the services of the church

The Sunday night service will be given up. For the last year or two it has been found very difficult to secure a congregation at the Sunday night service. Very few churches in the central part of the city have a night service. In place of it, there will be a shortened Choral Evensong with an Instruction at 4 P. M. This will be attended by the children of the Sunday School, and we trust by many adults as well, and we hope it will

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A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITORS
THE CLERGY
TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

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KALENDAR.

Oct. 2. Friday—Fast.
4. Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity.
9. Friday—Fast.
11. Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.
16. Friday—Fast.
18. S. Luke, Evangelist.
23. Friday—Fast.
25. Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.
28. SS. Simon and Jude.
30. Friday—Fast.

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RECORD FOR JUNE, JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER.

BAPTISMS. Frederick William Ritsert. 1

MARRIAGE. Raymond Bachelor Reeves and Edna Grace Hackney. 1

COMMUNICANT, transferred to St. Paul's Church, Chiltenham.
Mrs. Lavinia Elizabeth George. 1

To the Church of the Good Shepherd, Rosemont, Pa.
Bessie Homer Jennings.

DIED. Mrs. Emma M. Jordon.
Elizabeth Gibbons Lloyd. 2

BURIALS. Mrs. Emma M. Jordon.
Warren H. McCarrich.
Elizabeth Gibbons Lloyd. 3

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$310 43
" the Poor	128.98
" Diocesan assessments	.40
" Parochial activities	44.51
" General Missions	500.16
" the Endowment Fund	6.45
" Outing Fund	25 00
Of the Sunday School	1 71
Total	$1,017.59

prove a more convenient hour for a second service than at night.

This will make only three Sunday services, and the Rector will secure the assistance of some clergyman at one of them, probably that in the middle of the day.

There will be no Celebrations of the Holy Communion during the week except on the mornings of Holy Days at 7 and 10 A. M. and on Thursday at 9 A. M. from Advent to Easter.

The daily prayers at 10 A. M. and 5 P. M. will be continued, with service on Wednesdays at 8 P. M. from November to May.

With such assistance as he may be able to get, the Rector thinks he can keep up these services himself.

He has also secured, at least temporarily, the services of Deaconess Elizabeth Walker, who has had a long experience in church work, as Parish Visitor. It will be a great help to the Rector and benefit to the Parish to have one who can give her time to this work. She will also have charge of the Mothers' Meeting, S. Agnes' Guild, the Primary department in the Sunday School, and the Saturday Industrial School.

The Rector expects to be with each of the Guilds of the Parish, one evening in each month. As however the whole work of the Parish will come upon the Rector, he will have to rely largely upon the assistance of the lay people, and he hopes very much that there will be those both among the men and women of the Parish, who will aid him in carrying on the various benevolent activities.

The good wishes of the congregation will follow the Rev. Mr. Dyer who has been with us so long and who has gained for himself many warm friends. He has removed with his family to New York where he has taken up work in one of the large city parishes.

THE WAR

All Christians' hearts are torn with grief at the terrible catastrophy which is involving so much of the civilized world in the horrors of war. That such an event should be possible is a test to our faith in Divine Providence.

But we must remember that it is not the result of God's ordering, but of human passions and ambitions. And if it is permitted at all, it is doubtless because in no other way can the nations of the world be taught the folly and wrong of maintaining enormous standing armies and spending so much treasure in creating engines of destruction, and submitting to autocracies which inevitably use these powers to promote personal ends.

So far from shaking our faith in religion, it should convince us all the more of its necessity, as the only possible influence that can sufficiently "control the unruly wills and affections of sinful men" and lead them in the paths of righteousness and peace.

It is said that in England the churches were never so well attended as they are now. Many that have been kept closed throughout the week are now opened, and the bells are frequently tolled to call the people to prayer.

Why should we not use our own open church and daily service for the purpose of invoking Divine aid to help and comfort all who are suffering from the fearful calamities this war is bringing to such multitudes of people, and to so overrule human events that it may speedily come to a close?

PARISH NOTES.

The Summer has been very uneventful in the Parish. The services were kept up as usual until August, when the Rev. Mr. Dyer's work ceased. After that the Sunday night service was stopped and all services during the week. The early service on Sunday and the 10 30 and 11 A. M. services were continued.

Beginning with September the daily Prayers were resumed, the Rector being assisted by the Rev John W. Cook, and on September the 20th, the Sunday School resumed its sessions, followed by the 4 P. M Sunday afternoon service. It is proposed to continue this service at this hour during the winter instead of the 7.45 P. M. service we have been having.

So many of our people have removed to such a distance from the church it seems impossible for them to get there at night any longer.

We hope this afternoon service will be more convenient for them At any rate the children of the Sunday School will attend it, and we trust their parents as well. So that will furnish a congregation. It will consist of a shortened choral Evensong with an Instruction by the Rector.

The Wednesday evening service at 8 P. M., followed by the Mothers' Meeting, will recommence on the first Wednesday in November.

Sunday School. The Sunday School sessions came to a close on Sunday, June 7th. Hymns were sung, addresses made by the Rev. Curate and Mr. Witmer, forty-three prizes were distributed to various adults and children.

It reopened on Sunday, September 20th. The hour of beginning will be 3 P. M. hereafter the scholars attending the regular church service at 4 P. M. instead of having a separate service of their own as formerly. This will be much more attractive for the children and will teach them to use the Prayer Book and make them familiar with the ordinary church service which is very important. The Instruction given at this service will be appropriate for both children and adults.

There were seven teachers and some thirty scholars at the first session. We hope these numbers will soon be largely increased.

Some changes among the teachers have taken place. We regret to lose from the school the Misses Stretch but they have removed so far from the church that they find it impossible to continue to attend it. The Rector has secured Miss Agnes Martin to take Miss May Stretch's class. She will organize it as a Drexel-Biddle Bible Class, she having had charge of such class at the Church of the Holy Trinity for the last two years, is thoroughly competent to do so. She will begin on the first Sunday of this month. Miss Marian Stretch's class will be taken by Mrs· Harris, whom the girls all know. The boys she has been teaching will go into the Bible Class. Mr. Robert McNeil has taken a class of boys, and the Rector hopes to get other young men of the Parish to do the same. He is superintending the school himself at present, but trusts he will be able to find some thoroughly competent man who will devote himself to this most important branch of parochial work.

A new class book has been adopted in which a record will be kept of the attendance, punctuality, conduct and proficiency of each scholar. Regular marks will be given and at the end of the season, the averages will be deter mined and prizes awarded accordingly. Special prizes will also be given for learning the catechism and bringing in new scholars. The teachers will be supplied each week with papers containing the lesson for tne day.

S. John's Junior Guild will re-begin its meetings on Monday evening, the fifth of this month. Mr. Raymond Reeves will have charge, organizing it as a band of Boy Scouts, as we announced in our last issue was the intention, Mr. Reeves being the Scout Master.

S. John's Senior Guild, the Brotherhood of S. Andrew and the *Girls' Friendly Society* and *S. Agnes' Guild* all recommence their meetings this month.

Women's Guild. The ladies of the Parish will remember that SS. Simon and Jude's day, Oct. 28th, is the anniversary of this General Guild, and we trust there will be a large attendance at the meeting which will be held immediately after the morning service at 10 o'clock.

Gifts to the Church. Our choirmaster, Mr. Henry Ullrich, has presented to the church a very fine cabinet organ, which has been placed in the side aisle of the church in front of St. Saviour's Altar, in place of the very inferior one we had there. He has also placed a superior Welsbach burner and shade on the gas fixture in the Sacristy, and in June he had a photograph taken of the whole choir, the Clergy and Verger in a group; a copy has been hung in the choir room.

Opportune gift. In June an anonymous donation of $50 came by mail to the church. It arrived just in time to pay the quarterly gas bill which was about that amount and for which there was no funds in hand. Our thanks are due to the unknown donor.

Repairs. We are glad to say no extensive repairs will have to be made to the church building this autumn, beyond having the walls and ceilings of the parish rooms cleaned, as they very much needed it. We have however a bill for $60 for repairs made to the roof of the church last spring which is not yet paid.

Prayers for Peace. A special service set forth by the Bishop Suffragan for peace will be used on Sunday morning, October 4th.

St. Agnes' Guild. As usual for several years past, the Guild continued its sessions through most of the summer. During a part of June and the whole of July, they formed the basis of a choir of girls and women, sitting at Evening Prayer in the front seats of the church. The heat at Guild meetings may have been at times intense, but no weather conditions can destroy the capacity for joy and fun on the part of children.

On July 30th, they attended at 7.30 P. M. a performance at Keith's and surely none of the audience were more appreciative than they.

Sunady School Excursion. On Saturday, June 13th, the members of the school attended a Celebration of the Blessed Sacrament at 6.30 A M. Almost every teacher and scholar was present, who went on the excursion.

Eighty adults andchildren had a fine sail up the Delaware and the day was spent joyously and without mishap.

Refreshments and amusements were purchased for the children and their carfare paid to and from the boat

The attendance was the next to the largest for several years and we wished Sunday School excursions came more often.

St. John's Guild Senior's Moonlight Excursion on July 9th was a great success. Some ninety people in all went, about thirty from the parish. The receipts were some thirty dollars.

Deaths. There have been only two deaths among our communicants during the summer months. One was Mrs. Emma Jordon, who, with her husband, was for over twenty-five years a regular attendant of the church. The last two years she has been an invalid, and died in Christ Church Hospital in June.

The other was Miss Elizabeth G. Lloyd, who for many years was most interested in the church, and was constantly doing kindly things for the poor of the parish. For a long time, however, she has been paralyzed, unable to leave her room. Her death was a gracious release.

May these our departed sisters rest in peace.

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Miss Leaming, Miss O'Hara.

The Ascension News

Vol. XXVII. Philadelphia, November, 1914. No. 8

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Holy Communion

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Holy Days.....7.00 and 10.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer

Sundays.....10.30 A. M
Daily.....10.00 A. M.

Evensong

Sundays (with Instruction).....4.00 P. M.
Daily.....5.00 P. M.
Wednesdays (with Instruction)....8.00 P. M.
Sunday School.....3.00 P. M.

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WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild ---------- 8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society ---------- 8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew --- 8.00 P. M
Thursdays, St. John's Guild ---------- 8.00 P. M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild ---------- 7.45 P. M.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid ---------- 3.00 P. M.
Wednesdays, Mothers' Meeting ---------- 8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class ---------- 10,3) A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society ---------- 10.30 A. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent ---------- The Rector

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Men ---------- 2.45 P. M
Miss Hodge

For Young Ladies ---------- 3.00 P. M.
Miss Martin

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

Sunday, October 18th, was observed at the request of our Bishops as a day for the consideration of, and prayer for, Sunday Schools and other agencies for religious education. There is no more important matter connected with the spiritual life of our people.

Owing to the divisions among Christians it has been assumed that it would be impossible to have any religious instruction given in our public schools. And it was thought that the various churches could provide for their adherents what was needed. And they have tried to do so. But a school at which the attendance is entirely voluntary and of which the teachers are volunteers, and untrained themselves, and which is held only for one hour once a week, cannot accomplish very much. This is coming to be very generally recognized.

Religion is the most valuable factor in the life of an individual or community, and the best means by which religion can be imparted and cultivated is education. It does not come to men naturally, except in a very crude and imperfect way. And to trust to men becoming religious by spiritual influences being brought to bear upon them in after life, is a very uncertain means of securing that end. The best and surest way is by the education of children. Childhood is the most plastic and impressionable period of life. Lessons then learned and impressions produced will be likely to determine the whole future life of those who receive them. So nothing

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EDITOR
THE RECTOR
TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

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KALENDAR.

1. All Saints.
2. All Souls.
6. Friday—Fast.
8. Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity.
13. Friday—Fast.
15. Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity.
20. Friday—Fast.
22. Sunday next before Advent.
27. Friday—Fast.
29. First Sunday in Advent.
30. S. Andrews.

✠

RECORD FOR OCTOBER.

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED from the Church of the Evangelists,
Mrs. Annie Mary Cooley.
Mrs. Eleanor Leeds. 2

TRANSFERRED to S. George's Church, Richmond,
Winfield Scott Smith,
Mrs. Amanda Amelia Smith. 2

DIED, Mrs. Martha Washington Wilson. 1

BURIAL, Edward Bailey Hill. 1

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$263.32
" the Poor	23.61
" Parochial activities	27.42
" General Missions	2.80
" Diocesan assessments	2.30
" Clergy relief	16 61
" the Red Cross	7.75
" the Sunday and Industrial Schools	2.00
" the Edowment Fund	.20
" Ladies' Aid	5 00
At the Rector's discretion	5.00
Of the Sunday School	3.60
Total	$359.61

is more vital to the welfare of a community than that its children should receive a religious education.

The most potent means by which that can be given is by the influences of a truly Christian home. If the atmosphere and surroundings in which a child is brought up are really religious the child will be pretty sure to turn out well. But such homes we fear are rare even in Christian countries. Multitudes of parents are not themselves religious, are indifferent to, and unappreciative of religious matters, and so do not concern themselves with the religious development of their children. And many even of those who want to do what is right for their children are utterly incompetent to direct and influence them as they should.

If the Sunday School then is but a feeble means for accomplishing this end and the home fails to do so, what can be done to secure this all important object? That is the question all Christian people should think about and try to solve. A general society has been formed to promote Christian education throughout the land. Our own Church has taken it up very seriously. It occupied more attention at the last General Convention than anything else, and a special Board to advance the cause was created.

There is no reason why moral education, at least, should not be given in our Public Schools, and text books giving such courses have been provided and are being used in some places. In a few of our States opportunities are being given to the clergy of the various Denominations to give religious instruction to the children of their own adherents during school hours, so many times a week.

In other places the churches are trying to establish distinctly religious schools, and colleges, or church halls connected with the State colleges. By these or other means the question must be solved in some way.

All who are parents should feel that they have no greater responsibility than that of bringing up their children in "the nurture and admonition of the Lord." And all Christians, whether parents or not, should feel the importance of seeing that this education is provided for the children of the nation generally. And no man or woman could give themselves to a better or more needed work than that of helping in making our Sunday Schools as efficient as possible. We are trying to do this in our parish and sorely need helpers. Who will volunteer?

✠

PARISH NOTES.

Gifts to the Church. A walnut folding table a small stand, twenty-seven books for the Parish library, a large quantity of writing paper and long envelopes, a thermometer for the Sacristy, some small games for children, and 12 grape juice glasses, 21 Boy Scout Prayer Books. One of our parishioners kindly gave $60 to pay for the repairs to the roof of the church.

The Guild room. Our choirmaster has fitted up the Guild room as his studio. He provided the material to paint the walls and oil the floor and our Verger did the work, thus saving the expense of a regular painter. He has put a grand piano in it to use in the choir practice, a desk, typewriter, etc., making the whole room very attractive.

The Deaconess has been doing very effective service. She has paid during the last month over one hundred and thirty visits to members of the congregation and Sunday School, some at a great distance. She has taken charge of the Primary department of the Sunday School and hunts up regularly all the absentees. She is one of the Superiors of S. Agnes' Guild, and she will have charge of the Mothers' Meeting and of the Industrial School which both begin this month, and will play the organ at the Wednesday evening service. So she is filling many positions most usefully.

The Parish Guilds have now all recommenced their sessions and bid fair to have a successful winter. The Junior St. John's Guild has been provided with a ball and have been playing football while the weather permits out of doors on Saturday afternoons, and basket ball in doors on Monday evenings. It has twenty members in attendance.

The Senior S. John's Guild is also playing basket ball and has had one match with a visiting team. It is also arranging for a sociable to be given on the evening of November the twelfth.

The Girls' Friendly has started the winter with its regular meeting every Tuesday at 8 p. m., with a good attendance and renewed interest. The members are working for the Red Cross Society, and one evening enjoyed a Hallow E'en party.

S. Agnes' Guild has been meeting on Saturday evenings with a fair attendance. It will have a Hallow E'en

party on the evening of November seventh. We are very glad to say that the Misses Stretch, though unable to attend the church at present, will continue to act as Superiors to this Guild.

The Mothers' Meeting will re-open on Wednesday, November fourth, and *the Industrial School* on Saturday morning, the seventh.

The Sunday School is getting well organized. The Rector has determined to continue to act himself as Superintendent, and Mr. William Palmer, a member of our choir, and Miss Margaret Kent have become teachers. Miss Martin has taken charge of the Girls' Bible Class, and as soon as it is large enough it will be regularly constituted as a Drexel-Biddle class.

Each Sunday the teachers are provided with a Lesson paper giving an Instruction both in the Bible and Catechism. The School opens with a hymn after which the Rector reviews the Lesson of the previous Sunday. Then follows the Lesson for the day taught by the Teachers. The whole lasting about three-quarters of an hour. Then the school attends the four o'clock Choral Evensong in the church, which is shortened by omiting the discretionary parts, and abbreviating the Psalter and Lessons The Rector then preaches a short sermon on the Sunday School Lesson for the previous week suitable for adults and children both. The service is bright and attractive and is closed at a quarter to five, and has the great advantage of familiarizing the children with the regular Episcopal Church service.

The Brotherhood of S. Andrew met Oct. 20th. Seven members were present and after a devotional meeting in the church, a business meeting was held at which plans for the coming winter were discussed.

The next meeting will take the form of the Men's Club on the evening of November nineteenth. Cards announcing it with the entertainment to be provided will be sent out to the male members of the Parish as usual.

The Quarterly envelopes for the support of the Church and for a benevolent purpose will be sent out before the first Sunday of this month. The Rector will be glad to give a set to any one applying for it. And *every one* attending the Church ought to use them as they take the place of pew rents which are required in other parishes.

All Souls' day. This old English Festival on November 2nd which is often confounded with All Saints' day, but which really has a very different meaning, will be observed as formerly in this parish by Celebrations of the Holy Communion at seven and after Morning Prayer at ten o'clock. Any desiring to have the names of departed friends specially remembered at that time can send them in to the Rector before those services.

The Rector wants to acknowledge his obligation to the Rev. John W. Cook for the assistance he has been rendering him, not only at one of the Celebrations each Sunday for which he has engaged him, but for voluntarily attending the other Sunday services and taking the daily evening prayers throughout the week.

NOTICES.

Mission Study Class. Dr. Hamilton Jeffreys of S. Luke's Hospital, Shanghai, will give a series of six mission study classes to laymen in the Church House on Thursday evenings at 8 P. M., beginning November 5th. We are sure that any one attending them will find them very interesting.

The Annual Meeting of the Women's Auxiliary will be held November 13th in the Church of the Holy Trinity at 10 A. M. and 3 P. M. Addresses by Bishops and others at 1.30 P. M. Lunch will be provided in the Parish Building at twenty-five cents.

Mass Meeting for Men. In Cooper Hall, 23rd and Christian St., Monday evening, Nov. 9th, 8 P. M., to promote the improvement of the 30th Ward. Addresses by Hon. John Wanamaker and Mr. Edward I. Cattell, City Statistician. As our church is in this Ward we hope all our men will show their interest in this movement by attending this meeting, and doing what they can to promote its object.

✠

WHAT EFFECT WILL WAR HAVE?

A question that must have occurred to many of our Church people who are conscientious in their stewardship, is "What effect will the war have upon missionary and charitable giving?" The reply is "That depends upon how fully we believe in our missionary work. There is only one agency which can abolish war, and that is the promulgation and practice, by nations as well as individuals, of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It is God only who can "make wars to cease in all the world." If, realizing its horrors, we desire to work for its abolishment, we certainly will not regard curtailment of income as an excuse for failing to spread the Gospel of the Prince of Peace. In proportion to our ability, our gifts for the extension of God's Kingdom are small indeed; perhaps hardship or loss may make some of us realize the truth.

✠

CHURCH FINANCES.

This Parish is using the Duplex Envelope System. It is the duty of every Communicant member to contribute regularly to the support of the Church expenses. The Rector and Vestry strongly urge those who are not using these envelopes to adopt the system at once. We ask for additional contributors.

5c	per	week	means	only	$2.60	a	year	
10c	"	"	"	"	5.20	"	"	
15c	"	"	"	"	7.80	"	"	
20c	"	"	"	"	10.40	"	"	
25c	"	"	"	"	13.00	"	"	
50c	"	"	"	"	26.00	"	"	
$1	"	"	"	"	52.00	"	"	

Will you not be one to agree to adopt the Duplex Envelopes for systematic regular contributions for the work of the Church at home and abroad? Reply promptly to the Ac counting Warden at the Church.

✠

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Miss Moitz (2) Miss Hamilton

The Ascension News

Vol. XXVII. Philadelphia, December, 1914. No. 9

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SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent ..... The Rector

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Men ..... 2.45 P. M
Miss Hodge

For Young Ladies ..... 3.00 P. M,
Miss Martin

OUR PARISH.

The bounds of the district assigned to this Church as its parish by the Ecclesiastical authorities, are from Lombard St. to Washington Ave. and from Broad St. to Seventeenth St. This is for missionary purposes, that is, the Rector of this parish is expected to look after all the people residing within those bounds. It does not mean that people residing there cannot go to another church if they prefer, or that persons outside these bounds cannot attend this church. It means that all the houses in this district should be visited by some one from this church and invited and urged to come here, if they are going nowhere else, and that they should be assisted materially as well as spiritually if they are in want.

Now there is a great difficulty about our carrying out this idea in our parish, owing to the fact that this district is now so largely occupied by colored people. When the church was built here nearly thirty years ago, there were scarcely any colored people living west of Broad St. All the small, as well as the principal, streets were filled with white people many of whom came to this church and sent their children to our Sunday and Industrial Schools and other Parish agencies. Now there are but few white people within our parish limits and those who are there are chiefly Roman Catholics and Jews. There are only about a dozen families living there who attend this church. And the Deaconess has been visiting through-

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITOR
THE RECTOR
TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

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KALENDAR.

Dec. 4. Friday—Fast.
6. Second Sunday in Advent.
11. Friday—Fast.
13. Third Sunday in Advent.
16. Ember day—Fast,
18. Ember day—Fast.
19. Ember day—Fast.
20. Fourth Sunday in Advent.
21. S, Thomas Apostle,
25. Christmas.
26. S. Stephen.
27. S. John Evangelist.
28. Holy Innocents.

✠

RECORD FOR NOVEMBER.

BAPTISM, Catharine Marguerite Baird.	1
MARRIAGE, Adolphus Battle Thompson and Kata Hanczarek.	1
COMMUNICANT RECEIVED from the Chapel of the Prince of Peace, Henry Lister Townsend Ullrich.	1
TRANSFERRED to Grace Church, Haddonfield, N. J. Walter Millward Conger, Mrs. Elizabeth Long Conger. Mrs. Florence Brown Conger.	
To S. Elizabeth's Church, May Saylor Stretch, Marian Monachesi Stretch.	5
COMMUNION OF THE SICK,	1
BURIALS, Mrs. Mary Ann Hoover, Martha Lucas.	2

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$371.28
" the poor	24.47
" Parochial activities	6.97
" the Episcopal Hospital	56.64
" Thanksgiving dinner	28.00
" the Sunday and Industrial Schools	2.00
" General Missions	56.22
" Diocesan assessments	.10
" Religious education	1.00
At the Rector's discretion	10.00
Of the Sunday School	3.90
Total	$560.58

out it lately and reports that she finds but very few white persons of any kind. Some whole blocks are entirely colored.

This is making the work of the parish extremely difficult. Those who formerly attended the church when they were living near it, have moved to a great distance, and if not transferred to other churches, come here very irregularly, not more than to one service a Sunday at the most, and they cannot send their children so far. Consequently neither our congregations nor our schools are as large as formerly.

Now the question is, will this condition continue? We think not. The colored people are very migratory. If within thirty years they have so generally removed from the east to the west of Broad St., we believe they will move still further. This part of the city will become too valuable to be given up to them. And their places will be taken by Americans under improved housing conditions, or by white foreigners who are becoming rapidly Americanised and so can be drawn into our English Church. Then, too, there is already a movement on Broad St. in the improvement of real estate, though as yet it is not just what we hoped for, but it may improve; apartments and finer residences may be built along it, bringing a more church-going class of inhabitants. The building of the subway, too, will further the improvement of the street. And the central and prominent position of the church is such that it should always be maintained and eventually may make it very useful.

Our effort therefore should be to strengthen and improve the church in every way, especially, if possible by increasing its endowment, thus rendering it independent of any temporary fluctuations of population, and enabling it to do its work effectively. We hope all our people will do all in their power thus to uphold and strengthen it.

✠

PARISH NOTES.

Christmas. As usual there will be Celebrations of the Holy Communion at 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 A. M., as well as after Morning Prayer at 10.30 A. M. on Christmas day. Evening Prayer, plain, at 5 P. M.

The Christmas offering will be for the current expenses of the Church. And we depend on large special offerings at this time to make up the average necessary to meet our expenses for the year. Every summer when so many persons are out of the city our receipts are very small, and we have to borrow at least $1,000 to carry us over those six months, or else default in paying our salaries. *That is what we have done this year.* And now we must pay it back. Though we have dispensed with the services of a Curate, the amount paid the Deaconess, and for the occasional clerical services the Rector must have, make only a small economy. We trust every person in the congregation will give a special offering at Christmas according to his or her ability to make up this amount. There is a special envelope in each set of envelopes for this purpose. There are also others in the rack at the back of the church.

A Christmas festival for the children will be given on the evening of Holy Innocents' day, Monday, Dec. 28th, at 7.30 P. M. There will be singing of Christmas Carols and an entertainment provided for them in the Parish Building

The Rector will be glad to receive special contributions for this purpose, for the Christmas decorations and for dinners for our poorer members as well.

The St. Cecilia Mass. The Choir is preparing this wonderfully beautiful setting of the Communion Service to be sung in its entirety on Christmas Day and the two following Sundays. While the St. Cecilia has been sung many times at the Ascension, it has not been used for some five years, and Mr. Ullrich is planning to make the rendition of this work at Christmastide one of exceeding significance.

The performance of this work has been frequently associated with orchestra accompaniment, but without the most careful rehearsing, entailing great expense, the result is apt to be extremely unsatisfactory. So that Mr. Ullrich feels the organ accompaniment will prove entirely adequate.

The service on Christmas Day will mark the first important work of one of the younger boys of the choir, Master William Bender, whose fresh, young voice will show to distinct advantage in the soprano solos. The other solos will be sung by Mr. Albert Challman, Bass, and Mr. Robert M. MacNeill, Tenor, who are both indefatigable workers in the Choir. The Choir is exceedingly well-balanced and will have the assistance of extra voices for this occasion, which will tend to increase the solidity of the splendid choruses.

The St. Cecilia Mass contains some of the most beautiful solos we have in Church music and is interspersed with numerous trios Most persons are familiar with the beauty of the "Sanctus", but one cannot fail to appreciate the majesty of the "Creed" and the "Gloria", and the impressiveness of the "Kyrie", the "Benedictus", and the "Agnus Dei".

It is earnestly hoped that not one member of the Church will fail to attend one or all of these services or to speak about it to friends.

Elaborate programmes have been printed together with small cards taking the form of invitations, which may be sent by mail, and all who can are urged to distribute them. Mr. Ullrich will be glad to hand them to all those who are desirous of making this Festival of Christmas at the Church of the Ascension one of exceeding beauty.

Mr. Ullrich wishes to take this opportunity to write a word of praise for the entire Choir. The work of the Choir has been extraordinary, having been well-organized and well-trained by Mr. Alburger, and it has been indeed a source of continuous pleasure to be associated with such a splendid organization.

The boys of the Choir took part in the performance of "The New Life" by the Choral Society of Philadelphia at the Academy of Music on Thursday evening, November 19th.

In addition to the large chorus of the Choral Society there was a boy choir of 100 voices, made up from churches in Philadelphia, including our boys. They were especially trained by Mr. Walter St. Clare Knowdle, a former choirmaster of our parish.

The performance was a notable one, and the parts by the boys stood out quite prominently.

To those who may not know, the Choral Society of Philadelphia is the only Society in this city giving the large choral works on such a splendid scale.

Henry Gordon Thunder is the Conductor, and the performance of Handel's "Messiah" at Christmastide is one of the unvarying features of the work of this Society.

Girls' Friendly Society. There will be an interesting course of lectures on Hygiene given by the Superintendent of the Women's Hospital in West Philadelphia on the first Tuesday in the month. Any woman in the Parish interested will be welcome. The next two Tuesdays there will be a teacher for an interesting class; on the third Tuesday gifts will be made for the children at Blockley, and on the fifth Tuesday there will be a party for Christmas.

The Industrial School opened with a larger attendance than usual this winter. We have two new teachers for the girls, Miss Clara Williamson and Miss Parke, and a student from the Art School has kindly undertaken a wood carving class for the older boys.

Year Book. The new Parish Year book giving an account of the work of the Parish for the year from May 1, 1913 to May 1, 1914 has been printed. Copies will be found in the rack inside the Church by the main door.

The Men's Club Night, Nov. 19th, was a great success. Over forty men were present. The address by Major Moses Veale, a veteran of the Civil War giving reminiscences of that exciting time, was listened to with rapt attention by all present. The Major is an admirable speaker and we appreciate very much his kindness in coming and giving us this talk.

On our next Club night in January we expect to have some one who will give an account of the present European war.

The Mothers' Meeting. We are glad to welcome some new members to the meeting this year in addition to all the old ones, and we hope to see it grow. On the evening before Thanksgiving day a bountiful turkey and cranberry supper was supplied by the generosity of some of the congregation.

We trust the members of this meeting will attend the Sunday afternoon service at four o'clock, thus coming to church with their children which is very important.

During Advent the Litany will be said on Sundays after Morning Prayer and there will be a Celebration of the Holy Communion on Thursdays at 9 A. M. The usual changes will be also made in the music in the Sunday services.

✠

NOTICES.

Advent and Epiphany Lectures by Bishop Rhinelander. It has been Bishop Rhinelander's custom, since his consecration, to give a course of conferences or instructions in some parish church during the Advent season. This year, at the invitation of a group of students belonging to the Episcopal Church, and with the support of the University Christian Association, he has consented to give the course at Houston Hall, University of Pennsylvania, and to extend the number to six lectures, three to be given in December and three in January. Members of the University, both faculty and students, are cordially invited to attend, and all persons who are interested will be welcomed.

GENERAL SUBJECT:
THE CHRISTIAN CHARACTER AS RELATED TO THE CHRISTIAN CREED

Thursday, December 3, 4 P. M.—Character the Aim of Christianity.
Thursday, December 10, 4 P. M.—The Character of Christ the Test and Standard.
Thursday, December 17, 4 P. M.—The Christian Character dependent on Personal Religion.
Thursday, January 7, 4 P. M.—Faith Essential to Discipleship.
Thursday, January 14, 4 P. M.—The Creed as the Voice of Faith.
Thursday, January 21, 4 P. M.—The Holy Spirit and the Christian Life.

The Church Periodical Club. Diocese of Pennsylvania. The United Effort-Library will be sent this year to the Church of the Advent, Farmington, Minn. Each librarian is asked to collect as many books as possible (all kinds) and send to the Church of the Incarnation, Broad and Jefferson Streets, before December 15th. Packages should be marked Church Periodical Club, and have on them the name of the Parish from which they come. Librarians are asked to bring this to the notice of the whole Parish.

✠

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Dr. Coates	Mr. Milliken
Miss Carpenter	Mrs. Darlington (2)
Mrs. Ellis	Miss Haynes (2)
Mrs. L. L. Smith	Mrs. Busch
Miss Schell (2)	Mr. French (2)
Misses Epprecht	

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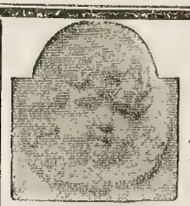

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Miss Martin

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays ..... 10 A. M.

THE FUTURE OF OUR PARISH.

We spoke last month of the present condition of this parish, pointing out how its immediate neighborhood is almost entirely occupied by a colored and foreign population. We said, however, that we did not believe that this would last, but in time it would again become a white district, occupied by a teeming population which might be attracted to the church. Then there is also the probability of improvement on Broad Street. A real estate movement has been already started and though, as we said, it is not as yet of a kind to be of much service to the parish, there is still plenty of room below the church for improvement in the way of residences and apartments, and in the neighborhood east and west. And the position of the church is so prominent on this great central avenue of the city that it ought to be retained at all costs. There are many places in the newer parts of the city to which the church might be removed and do a larger work than where it is at present. But we believe it should be held for the future. There must always be a population in the center of the city, and there should be churches there to minister to it.

But that the position may thus be held and the church be made useful, it is most essential that it should be sufficiently endowed. All the churches in the old part of the city, Christ Church, S. Peter's, S. Andrews, S. Stephen's, S. Luke's and the Epiphany, S. Mark's, the Holy Trinity, and

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITOR
THE RECTOR
TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS;

Single Copies, by Mail, 50 Cents a Year

KALENDAR.

Jan. 1. Circumcision—Fast.
3. Second Sunday after Christmas.
6. Epiphany.
8. Friday—Fast.
10. First Sunday after Epiphany.
15. Friday—Fast.
17. Second Sunday after Epiphany.
22. Friday—Fast.
24. Third Sunday after Epiphany.
25. Conversion of S. Paul.
29. Friday—Fast.
31. Septuagesima.

✠

RECORD FOR DECEMBER.

BAPTISM, George Samuel Peck. 1

MARRIAGE, Harry Ritsert and Katherine V. Gregory.
William Strickler Jones and Mrs. Mary Ethel Forbes.
William Marsh and Ethel Forbes. 3

COMMUNICANTS received by transfer from
The Church of the Evangelists,
Harriet Robb.
From Grace Church,
Emily Casey.
From Epiphany Chapel,
Mrs. Pauline Clark.
From S. Elizabeth's,
Chark Wylie.
Ethel L. Wylie. 5

DIED, Mrs. Kate Storey. 1

COMMUNIONS OF THE SICK, 1

BURIALS, Mrs. Kate Storey,
James Henry Kelsh. 2

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses (including Christmas offering)	$862.42
" General Missions	26.46
" the Poor	6.70
" Christmas dinners	22.00
" Christmas Festival and decorations	38.55
" Parochial activities	1.55
" Missionary box	54.00
" Diocesan Missions	5.00
" Diocesan assessments	.11
Of the Sunday School	4.20
Total	$1,021.00

S. James', have each a large endowment. Several of these could not be kept up today if it were not for their endowments. And every one of them charges pew rents in addition. Whereas the Ascension has been maintained for over thirty years as an absolutely free church, and has as yet only an endowment of some fourteen thousand dollars.

Endowments ought to be provided for all churches. Owing to the constant fluctuations of population, a district which is well-to-do, may in a few years be deserted and become a slum district, which could not maintain a church, and yet it is just such a district which needs a church most. And even in a populous neighborhood the death or removal of one or two persons who have been liberal contributors may cripple it very much.

It would be a great satisfaction to the present Rector to see the church thus provided for so as to secure its future, after he has spent so many years of labor in it.

We may add that, as by action of the Vestry, any money given for this purpose is placed in the hands of the Pennsylvania Trust Co., persons making bequests for the endowment fund can feel perfectly sure that it will be permanently secured as such.

We trust, therefore, that every one in the Parish who has any money he or she could give or bequeath to a charitable purpose, will remember this need. The Parish has had a number of benefactors in the past, whose gifts erected the church, furnished and decorated it, removed its entire indebtedness and partially endowed it, and we sincerely trust that there are others still, who will complete this good work and secure its future against all possible contingencies by seeing that it is *sufficiently endowed.*

✠

CONFIRMATION.

The annual Confirmation of the Parish will occur this year on the afternoon of the last Sunday in February.

The Rector affectionately urges *all* adults connected with the church who have not yet been confirmed, to be so on this occasion. They owe it to themselves that they may receive all the blessings which the ordinances of the church can bestow, and they owe it to Christ and to the world, to enroll themselves avowedly in that great army which is enlisted in the glorious task of winning men to God and goodness. Not to be a full member of the church is to stand aside, and to appear at least indifferent to that cause.

Instructions preparatory to Confirmation will be given every Wednesday evening at the eight service in place of the usual lecture, beginning with the first Wednesday of this month. All looking forward to Confirmation will be expected to attend these instructions. If there are any who cannot possibly do so, the Rector will arrange to meet them at some other time.

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PARISH NOTES.

Christmas. This great Festival was observed in this parish as it always has been with every mark of festivity. There were the usual four celebrations of the Holy Communion, three early and one in the middle of the day. The latter was accompanied by a procession of the clergy and choristers to the chancel with the processional cross and banners, one of the Agnus Dei and the other the Eucharistic banner, both made by ladies of the parish. The music was the S. Cecilia Mass of Gounod, which was most beautifully rendered. The same service was repeated on the Sunday after Christmas, and there was a solemn procession after the four o'clock service in the afternoon.

Our only regret about these services was that the attendance was not larger. The musical program had been very widely advertised and we certainly thought we should have had a crowded church, at least on the Sunday after Christmas. The mid-day attendance on Christmas day itself was somewhat better than usual, but nothing like what it should be. And our greatest regret is that there were not more communicants at the early celebrations. Not one-third of the registered communicants of the parish made their communions on Christmas day. Some doubtless did so in other churches which were more convenient for them, and some will probably come on the first Sunday of this

month, but we should suppose that all devout churchmen would want to receive on Christmas day itself. We trust our people will not fall into the Roman Catholic habit of communicating only once a year, at Easter. That shows very little appreciation of this great privilege.

Seventeen bounteous Christmas baskets were sent to the members of the Mothers's Meeting and one or two other members of the parish.

The Children's Festival took place on the evening of Holy Innocents' day. A creche was arranged as usual in the Guild room representing the Nativity group in a stable, dimly lighted, before which the children assembled and sang a Christmas hymn. Other hymns were sung upstairs in the large school room, and after a short address by the Rector, a magician performed some wonderful tricks to the amazement of the children. Then Kris Kringle appeared through one of the windows and began distributing gifts to each member of the Sunday School. These were arranged at the foot of a beautiful tree lighted by electricity supplied by our kind friends of the Storage Battery Company and Mr. Richard Gilpin. All present, young and old, were given tasteful boxes of candy Each member of S. John's Junior Guild also received a very attractive book from their ever kind friend, Miss Maria Gilpin.

The Christmas offering this year amounts to some $588, which is about the average of previous years. But each year $1,000 is asked for and needed. And until this amount is made up our salaries have to stand in arrears. We wish very much that a sum could be obtained in some way to be used as a reserve fund to be drawn upon during those months in the year when our receipts are small, to be replaced later in the winter.

Gifts. The embroidery class of the Women's Guild presented a very handsome white silk embroidered stole to the Rev. John W. Cook in recognition of the services he has been rendering the parish, and a new linen girdle to the Rector. Our Verger also was the recipient of a handsome remembrance from the same class, and from several members of the congregation.

Deaconess Walker, we are sorry to say, was taken sick the end of November and obliged to go to a hospital, where she remained throughout December. We are glad to say that now she is much better but she is unable to resume her work at present. During her sickness her place in charge of the Mothers' Meeting was supplied by Miss Walsh. Miss L. P. Baugh took charge of the Primary department in the Sunday School, and Miss Anna Airey and Miss Margaret Hilferty have taken charge of the little girls' guild, and Miss Clara Williamson and Miss Parke of the Saturday sewing class. Miss Baugh also did some visiting for the Sunday School. So we have made shift to get along. The Rector has now secured the services of Miss Lydia W Drinker as Parish Visitor in place of the Deaconess. She begins her work with this month.

The Men's Club will meet on the evening of the third Thursday of this month when we hope to have a speaker who will give some account of experiences during the present European War.

The Church Fair for S. Martha's House, in which every church in the Diocese, by the Bishop's request, was asked to take part, proved a great success, about $8,000 was cleared.

The ladies of our Parish responded very kindly to the appeal for fancy articles, and we sent a box of most attractive things, about sixty-four in all. The Ascension shared a table with St. Martin's, Radnor, and also took charge of the supper with the help of others outside the parish; $6.00 being contributed by our ladies for butter. Ham, tongue, salmon, rolls, etc. were also donated. Quite a number of the young ladies gave their services as aids to serve the supper for three nights It was very strenuous work and we are much indebted to them for their help.

S. Agnes' Guild The members of this guild who have been regular in their attendance since it recommenced in October were taken to Keith's on the evening of Wednesday in Christmas week.

S. John's Junior Guild have been playing a number of basket ball matches with other teams both here and in the parish buildings of other churches.

S. John's Guild. The basket ball season is well under way and our two teams, playing every Thursday evening, are rapidly rounding into form. The first team, after getting off to a poor start by losing the first two games, finally struck their stride and were victorious in the next two. The last game was on Thanksgiving evening, when our team defeated a team that had previously beaten them; this game was witnessed by the largest crowd that ever turned out to see the red and white, our Rector being among those present. The second team got under way and although they were defeated in their only game, there is every reason to believe that they will win the majority of their games.

On the evening of Nov. 12, we gave our annual "Fellowship Dance", which is primarily to bring together the athletic members, also those who do not come out for the teams. The young people were chaperoned by Miss Gilpin and Miss Hodge.

✠

NOTICE.

The Epiphany meeting of the Pennsylvania Branch of the Woman's Auxiliary at St. Stephen's Church, 10th Street, above Chestnut, Monday, January 11th, 1915, at 2.30 P. M. Bishop Garland will preside. Speaker Bishop Lloyd, President of the Board of Missions. There will also be an address on Mexico. All members of the Auxiliary and their friends are invited. Collection for Foreign Missions.

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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The following were received since the last issue.

Miss Whitehouse	Mrs. Shelton (2)
Mr. Newnam	Miss Wurts (2)

The Ascension News

Vol. XXVIII. Philadelphia, February, 1915. No. 2

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Holy Days ..... 7.00 and 10.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer

Sundays ..... 10.30 A. M.
Daily ..... 10.00 A. M

Evensong

Sundays (with Instruction) ..... 4.00 P. M.
Daily ..... 5 00 P. M.
Wednesdays (with Instruction) ..... 8.00 P. M.
Sunday School ..... 3.00 P. M.

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CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

HENRY L. T. ULLRICH.

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN

2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild ..... 8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society ..... 8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew ... 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild ..... 8.00 P. M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild ..... 7.45 P. M.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid ..... 3.00 P. M.
Wednesdays, Mothers' Meeting ..... 8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class ..... 10 30 A. M
First Friday, Missionary Society ..... 10.30 A. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent ..... The Rector

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Men ..... 2 45 P. M.
Miss Hodge

For Young Ladies ..... 3.00 P. M.
Miss Martin

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays ..... 10 A. M

THE TWO SIDES OF RELIGION.

Religion is the recognition of the relationship in which we stand toward God and our fellow men and the duties we owe to them, with the sincere desire and effort to fulfil them. This is, of course, in its essence a spiritual act. Unless it embodies a sincere intention, it is worthless, and becomes an hypocrisy or a farce.

But if it be sincere, it involves certain outward actions. It requires the public acknowledgement of our sense of that relationship, the public worship of God, and the use of those instrumentalities by which man is assisted in the discharge of his duties, and in the attainment of his highest spiritual development. Thus we find that men everywhere have, not only believed in God, but have erected temples to His honor, and systematically performed rites of worship and maintained a Priesthood, or other agents for the purpose, and have used what Christians call Sacraments, or their equivalent, as a means of gaining help from God.

So then there are these two sides to religion. One is entirely spiritual, consisting of the inward intention and disposition of the soul; the other is outward, involving acts and exercises of devotion. And there is always a tendency to lay an undue emphasis on one or other of these sides. Some say religion is entirely a matter of the heart, it does not need the help, nor require the exercise, of any outward acts, they are regarded as formality and show. So, many hold that a man

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KALENDAR.

Feb. 2. Purification B. V. M.
5. Friday—Fast.
7. Sexagesima.
12. Friday—Fast.
14. Quinquagesima.
17. Ash Wednesday.
21. First Sunday in Lent.
24. S. Matthias, Ember day.
26. Ember day.
27. Ember day.
28. Second Sunday in Lent

All days during Lent except Sundays are Fasts.

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RECORD FOR JANUARY.

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED from the Church of the Advocate, Amy Powel Peters. 1

TRANSFERRED to S. Luke and the Epiphany, Clarence Arthur Zimmer.

To S. Luke's Chapel, New York City,
Mrs. Thomasene Virginia Dyer.
Mary Virginia Dyer.

To S. James' Church,
Mrs. Virginia Moylan Struthers
Helen Von Lenverick Struthers. 5

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$309 65
" General Missions	36.94
" Parochial Activities	1.35
" the Poor	9.62
" " Mothers' Meeting	10.00
" " Endowment Fund	200.00
Of the Sunday School	5.21
Total	$572.77

can be truly religious and not belong to any church, nor ever attend public worship, nor use any sacraments. Or if, like the Friends, they do have a church organization or maintain public worship, it must be of the simplest, plainest character possible, all else is formality, and looked upon as a hinderance to, and inconsistent with, true worship.

On the other hand there are those who lay an undue stress upon what is outward. The extreme of this tendency is seen in the man who thinks that if he attends Mass every Sunday, goes to Confession and Communion once a year and receives the last sacraments when he is dying, he is sure of his salvation, even if his religion does not make him sober, truthful or kindly. And undoubtedly there are many persons who perform the outward acts of religion with great regularity and apparent devotion, and yet who, as far as we can see, are very little influenced by it, either in their lives or characters.

There are two distinct dangers therefore in connection with religion to be guarded against. That of looking upon it solely as a spiritual matter, which has nothing to do with outward acts and ordinances, though there are very few who are so spiritual as to be able to dispense with such helps altogether. And the other is, that of relying only on what is outward, irrespective of the heart. The outward acts are necessary because they are the natural and necessary expression of one's inward feelings, and the most powerful means by which those dispositions may be aroused and quickened. At the same time they should never be regarded as being the whole substance of religion.

Then it should be recognized that people are very differently constituted. There are some who are very much influenced by what appeals to their physical senses. Music, poetry, eloquence, art, ritual, affect them powerfully. They are awed, inspired, helped by worship in a grand church, amid beautiful surroundings, with a reverent or elaborate service.

Whereas on the other hand, there are those who care for none of these tnings, are even repelled by them, prefer the simplest and plainest surroundings. These differences are temperamental. And a truly Catholic Church should make provision for both classes. You cannot force all men into a single mould. We see these differences of taste and disposition in the members of the same family. So the Church, which is the universal family of all God's children, should recognize the variety of character among those belonging to it, and arrange that each may worship in the way that is found most helpful and congenial.

Nor is it necessary that they should be divided into separate organizations in order to do so. There is no reason why there should not be in the same Church different kinds of services to suit different tastes.

Certainly those who prefer an ornate mode of worship should not accuse those who do not care for it, of having no religion at all. Nor should those who do not like it, look upon those who do as hypocrites and formalists.

✠

PARISH NOTES.

Confirmation will be administered in this Parish by the Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese on the afternoon of Sunday, Feb. 28th. The remaining Instructions preparatory to it will be given by the Rector on the Wednesday evenings of the month at the 8 P. M. service in the church.

Gifts. The Church has received a very handsome gift of a reproduction in bronze of Leonardo da Vinci's "Last Supper." It has been placed on the wall of the west aisle of the church near S. Saviour's Altar. This is not only an appropriate place for it, but it is in a good light, there being two extra gas lights on the top of the column directly opposite to it. The bronze was purchased by the late John Hare Powel of this city nearly a hundred years ago and by him presented to a friend who afterwards gave it back to a member of the Powel family who owned it for many years, and it is now presented to the church as a memorial to Mrs. Amy Smedley Powel and her daughter, Mrs. Julia de Veaux Powel Peters, which is recorded with the dates of their respective births and deaths on a brass plate beneath the bronze.

We were also much gratified last month by the receipt of a donation of $200 towards the Endowment Fund of the Church by a lady, who is not a member of the congregation, but was moved to make the donation by reading the article in our last issue on this subject.

We have also received an ink eraser and blotting pad for the Sacristy, 5 games for the little girls' Guild, and 16 books for the Parish Library.

Lent. As this Holy Season begins with Ash Wednesday on the 17th of

this month, we announce that the service on that day will be as on Sunday, 7.00 A. M , Holy Communion, 10.30 A. M., Morning Prayer, Litany, Penitential Service and Communion, Evening Prayer at 5 P. M , and Penitential service again and Instruction at 8 P. M. During Lent, as in Advent, the Litany will be said every Sunday morning after Morning Prayer. There will be a special Celebration of the Holy Communion each Thursday until Holy Week at 9 A. M., and an address each Friday after Evening Prayer at 5 P. M.

The Holy Week services will be announced next month.

Organ Recital. On Thursday evening, February 11th, Mr. Henry L. T. Ullrich, our Organist and Choirmaster, will give an Organ Recital in the Church at eight o'clock.

Mr. Ullrich will have as his assistants Master William H. Bender, the soprano soloist of the choir, whose voice pleased so well in the St. Cecilia Mass at Christmastide, and Mr. Henry Gurney, Tenor.

Mr. Gurney will sing arias from both The Creation and The Messiah, as well as the familiar "Love Divine" duet for tenor and soprano by Stainer with Master Bender. Mr. Gurney has sung in opera in Italy and oratorio and concert through Europe, and his voice is one of extraordinary lyric beauty. Mr. Gurney has sung in the Ascension before, but some years ago.

The organ numbers of Part II of the programme will be devoted entirely to compositions of Mr. Ralph Kinder, Organist and Choirmaster, of the Church of the Holy Trinity, Philadelphia. Mr. Kinder has written many works for the organ of unusual interest, and a careful selection has been made for this Recital.

Altogether, the programme is one of much attractiveness, and it is earnestly hoped that all will avail themselves of the privilege of hearing the wonderful programme of organ and vocal music which has been arranged.

Mr. Ullrich will be very glad to hand cards of invitation which may be distributed among friends who may not otherwise know of the Recital.

The Men's Club meeting on January 20th was attended by about the usual number who enjoyed very much a most interesting account from Mr. Reed A. Morgan of the experiences of himself and family on the breaking out of war in Europe this summer.

All the meetings of this Club have been interesting. Our only regret about them is that more do not avail themselves of the advantage of attending them. Out of nearly one hundred and fifty invitations sent out to men connected with the parish, the attendance is rarely more than a third of that number.

The next meeting will be on the evening of the third Thursday in March, of which due notice will be given.

S. John's Guild. In addition to their weekly basketball matches is planning for another sociable on the evening of Feb. 16th.

Boy Scouts. Arrangements are now being perfected for the regular organization of all the boys of S. John's Junior Guild over thirteen years of age as a Boy Scout Band, with Mr. Raymond Reeves as the Scout Master. We are sure this will be a very useful, interesting and profitable thing for the older boys of the parish.

Envelopes. A new quarter's set of envelopes is sent out the beginning of this month, and we want to remind our people that it is on the receipts through the envelopes and the Christmas and Easter offerings that the church relies entirely for its support. Every one interested in the church should contribute through them, and just as regularly as they would pay a pew rent, thus securing the inestimable benefit of an absolutely free church to those who can not afford to give much if anything towards its support. The cost for the maintainance of our church is very moderate, and yet we think that those who attend it have all the advantages they would get in some of our richest churches. And those costs should be promptly met, but on the contrary we are far behind in our payments, and we do not see our way to meet our expenses up to the first of May, even by a large Easter offering. What we need are more regnlar contributors.

The offerings for purposes outside the parish this quarter are for the Diocesan Assessments for the Episcopal and Convention Fund, Diocesan Missions and the Sustentation Fund to aid poor parishes. For these purposes this parish *must* pay $341.36, and if that amount is not received through the "other side" of the envelopes, the difference must be taken out of the amount contributed for the support of the church, which of course diminishes the receipts for current expenses.

Will not each contributor give the same amount this quarter on each side of the envelopes?

The Poor Fund. The Rector has to announce that the Fund at his command from which he assists the poorer members of the congregation is exhausted. And yet there are still three months during which the Mothers' Meeting is carried on, and this we think is the best way to give its members help, by supplying them with work. To do this requires from seven to eight dollars a week. In addition to which there is one pensioner of the parish who receives $5.00 and two others $4.00 a month each. So about $100 is needed to meet these demands up to May 1st when another set of envelopes for "the Poor" is sent out.

The Ladies' Aid will meet as usual on Wednesdays during Lent, and propose this year to sew for "the Emergency Fund" for the relief both of our own people and the sufferers from the war in Europe.

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NOTICE.

The Bishop of the Diocese will hold a series of conferences for men in the Assembly room of the Church House on Thursdays during Lent at 4 30 P. M.

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TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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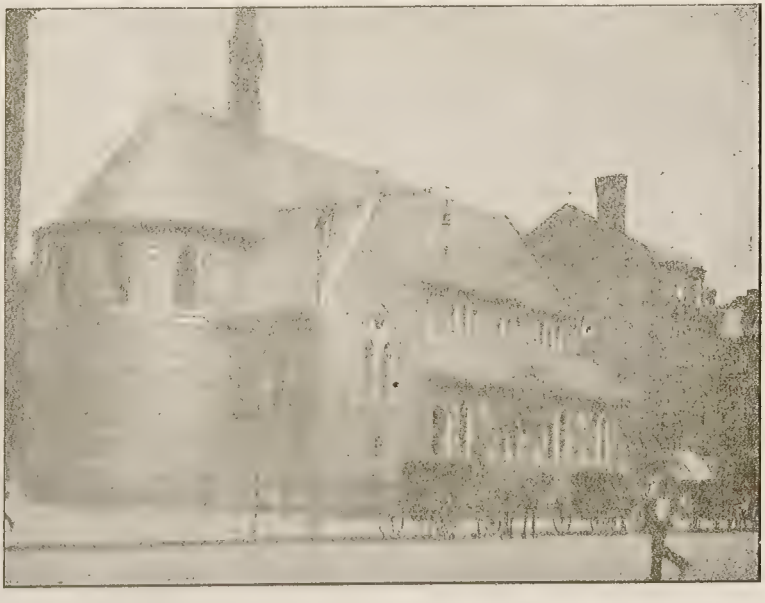
The following were received since the last issue.

	Mrs. Macken
Miss Barrington	Mrs. Neilson
Miss Macartney (2)	Miss Rhein
Mrs. Borei (2)	Miss Ashbridge
Miss Harriet Robb (2)	

The Ascension News

Vol. XXVIII. Philadelphia, March 1915. No. 3



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Holy Days.....7.00 and 10.30 A. M.

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Evensong

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Daily.....5 00 P. M.
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Sunday School.....3.00 P. M.

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The Ascension News

The Church of the Ascension

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH

'Phone, Dickerson 5446W

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334 South Thirteenth Street

PARISH VISITOR

MISS AUGUSTA H. MURPHY

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THOMAS R. NEILSON, M.D.
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CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

HENRY L. T. ULLRICH.

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild ..... 8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society ..... 8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew ... 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild ..... 8.00 P. M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild ..... 7.45 P. M.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid ..... 3.00 P. M.
Wednesdays, Mothers' Meeting ..... 8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class ..... 10 M
First Friday, Missionary Society ..... 10.30 A. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent ..... The Rector

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Men ..... 2 45 P. M.
Miss Hodge

For Young Ladies ..... 3.00 P. M.
Miss Martin

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Saturdays ..... 10 A. M

THE USE OF LENT.

Lent is the Church's regular annual season of revival. All religious bodies recognize the necessity of revivals from time to time. The Roman Catholics have what they, and we, call missions, conducted in different Churches usually by the members of religious Orders. The Methodists, Presbyterians and others have sporadic revivals led by some noted Evangelist, when one can be found, such as that being conducted here just now. Christians are liable to become careless, and indifferent, and lukewarm in the performance of their religious duties, and so need to be stirred up to renewed life and activity. Lent is the regular annual season which has been observed from the earliest times in all parts of the Catholic Church for this purpose.

In order to observe it aright we should do as Moses did when he was drawing up the great code of the moral law for the guidance of his people, and as our Lord did when He deliberately faced the temptations which He knew would come to Him in His human nature, "go apart into a desert place," that is seclude ourselves as far as possible from other thoughts and occupations which so constantly engross us. Lent should be a time when we abstain from pleasures and amusements, which may be perfectly innocent in themselves, but which if indulged in all the time occupy too much of our attention and strength. It should be a time for a great deal of Church going or the observance of time for religious devotion at home, in addition to what is our

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A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITOR
THE RECTOR

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

TERMS;

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KALENDAR.

March 7 Third Sunday in Lent.
14 Fourth Sunday in Lent.
21 Passion Sunday.
25 Annunciation B. V. M.
28 Palm Sunday.
29 Monday before Easter.
30 Tuesday before Easter.
31 Wednesday before Easter.
(All days in Lent are Fasts)

✠

RECORD FOR FEBRUARY

BAPTISMS, Adult, Rachel Madeline Jane Scott.
Infants, Elmira Eck.
Margaret Elizabeth Wick. 3

CONFIRMED John W. Patten.
William Henry Rogers.
James Doherty Hill.
John Owens.
George Edward Kohlhund.
Robert Zahn.
Federick Zahn.
Mrs. Edna Grace Reeves.
Rachel Madeline Jane Scott
Fanny Hillyard Kohlhund.
Jennie Elizabeth Cannon
Hilda Bieberbach. 12

COMMUNICANTS transferred to the Church of S. Luke and the Epiphany.
George Muchlow.
Mrs. Sarah Muchlow. 2

BURIAL Rebecca Carrian. 1

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$263 57
" the Poor	24.46
" " Mothers' Meeting	0.00
" Parochial Activities	1.83
" Ladies' Aid	5.00
" General Missions	24.70
" Diocesan Assessments	43.16
" Church Extension	1.00
" Bishhp's Purse	15.50
Of the Sunday School	3.49
Total	$422.71

ordinary habit, and more frequent use of the Sacraments. What we need is to think about spiritual things, to make a real endeavor to get the better of tendences or habits we have formed, and to cultivate spiritual graces.

We need to realize, far more than we do, the relationship in which we stand to God, and should stand in regard to our fellowmen. To be a member of the Church, means to be a member of a body of which Christ is the Head and every member of which should regard himself as connected with Him, just as the members of a human body are connected with and dependent upon its head. It is the head or mind, that uses the various members of the body to accomplish its various purposes So Christ formed the organization He called His Church, and into which He commanded that all should be incorporated by the sacrament of Baptism, that He might use them to accomplish the purposes He has at heart. Every Christian therefore should do what Christ did. His feet should go on errands of mercy, his hands should be laid on the sick, his mouth should speak words of love and consolation, of exhortation or reproof, his face should express sympathy with the suffering and afflicted, just as Christ did when He was on earth. Lent is a time when each one should ask himself whether he is doing these things, and if not, to set about doing them, or provide the means to secure others to do so on his behalf.

Then as the members of a body are dependent for life and vitality upon the head, so all members of Christ's body are dependent for spiritual strength upon Him. Thus we need

to realize and continually by prayer and sacrament seek this grace and help.

We should use Lent especially to do this More real prayer and devotion, confession, and contrition for sin, resolutions of amendment, engaging if possible in some special good work, Church going, the hearing of sermons, or devotional reading, acts of self discipline and self sacrifice, by these means we can keep a good Lent, and it will prove to be of immense value in obtaining the mastery of our evil tendencies, and in establishing and perfecting our spiritual characters.

✠

PARISH NOTES

Lenten Services. Daily 10 A. M., Morning Prayer; 5 P. M., Evening Prayer; Wednesdays 8 P. M., Penitential Service and Lecture; Friday at 5 P. M. Lecture, the boys of the choir being present; Thursday 9 A. M., Holy Communion.

Holy Week, 7 A. M., Daily Holy Communion; 10 A. M., Morning Prayer and Holy Communion, except on Good Friday when Morning Prayer and the Litany will be said at 11 A. M., followed by the preaching of the Cross from 12 to 3 P. M. This is interspersed with the singing of Hymns, during which persons can enter or leave the Church. At 8 P. M., fhe Stations of the Cross will be observed daily except on Tuesday and Saturday.

Easter Day. Holy Communion at 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 and after Morning Prayer at 10.30 A. M. Children's Easter Service at 4 P. M.

There will be the Procession of Palms on Palm Sunday at the mid-day service, and a solemn Procession on Easter and Low Sunday afternoons.

Easter Offertory. As our next issue will not appear until after Easter we have to urge our people now to be prepared to make a large Easter offering. We began our financial year May 1st, with a deficit of $505, which has never been made up. So that in addition to meeting our expenses for this year we have still that to pay. This will require an offering of considerably over $1,000. That amount was asked for at Christmas and only something over $600 was received. Let us see if by a strenuous effort on the part of all we cannot remove our entire indebtedness. If *every one* connected with the Church would do all he or she might do, that result could certainly be accomplished.

Musicales. The organ recital on Feb. 11th, was well attended and proved a most enjoyable occasion. A printed program contained all the numbers rendered. Mr. Ullrich brought out the capacity of our organ as we have seldom heard it. Master Bender sang his part very well and Mr. Gurney's voice was much admired.

On Friday, March 19th there will be at 8 P. M. a musical service at which Miss Jessie Masters of Washington, D. C., a noted Contralto, will give a "Song-cycle" entitled "Mary." It is very appropriate for the Lenten season. She will be accompanied by Mr. Albert W. Harnerd, organist of the Church of the Ascension. Washington. Short addresses will be given by the Rector on the force and meaning of the words of the song. As this talent comes from Washington for this purpose, there will be considerable expenses involved which it is hoped will be covered by the silver offering which will be asked on the occasion.

On Tuesday in Holy Week at 8 P. M. "The Crucifixion" will be sung by our Choir, largely augmented as last year. The offering then will be for the choir fund.

Confirmation. Twelve persons were presented to the Bishop at the annual Confirmation on Feb. 28th at the 4 P. M. service. The Rector had confidently expected some six or seven others, but they failed to attend the necessary preparatory Instructions. No effort was made to present any very young children. Only one was Confirmed who was under fourteen years of age.

The Parish Visitor. We have been most unfortunate in regard to our Parish Visitor. In September Deaconess Walker was engaged, but after working most effectively for two months she fell sick and was obliged to go to the hospital where she remained for seven weeks. She is now about again but unable to resume work. In her place Miss Drinker was engage January first, but after working nearly a month, she too fell sick and went to a hospital and felt obliged to resign her position. The Rector, however, has now secured as Visitor, Miss Augusta H. Murphy, a graduate of the Deaconess House, and an experienced worker. She began work Feb. 19th, and we trust will soon get things in shape, though of course all these changes have been very disadvantageous and some results we had hoped for have not been accomplished.

Brotherhood of St. Andrew. A very handsome dinner was tendered the members of the Brotherhood on Feb. 16th, the date of their regular meeting, by Mr. R. Hinckman Young at his residence. Nine sat down at the table. Two others were invited but were unable to come. Such an occasion adds a very pleasant social element to the meetings of the Brotherhood.

The Men's Club meeting this month will be on the evening of Thursday, March 19th. The agent of the Legal Aid Society will give an account of its work, which is something very well for everyone to know about. We shall also have a visit from the Hautboy Club of the Knights of Pythias.

Social. On the evening of Shrove Tuesday there was a joint social meeting of the members of S. John's Senior Guild and the Girls' Friendly Society, the expense being divided between the two societies, the music being furnished by one Guild and the entertainment by the other. Dancing was kept up until near midnight, there being some couples on the floor.

Easter parties. The children of the Sunday School will be given a party similar to the one they had last year, some evening during Easter week.

The Easter Festival of the Industrial School will take place on Saturday morning, April 10th.

The Ladies' Aid is working during Lent for the Emergency Fund. Work is given out on Wednesdays after Morning Prayer or from 3 to 5 P. M.

The Girls' Friendly Society is sewing during Lent on Tuesday evenings for the Church Home for children at Angora.

Gift. The Church has received the gift of a small very old copy of the Madonna of the Rabbit, so called from the head of a rabbit appearing in one corner. It has been hung over the credence table of S. Saviour's Altar.

✠

THE SPIRIT OF MISSIONS.

The Missionary Magazine of the Church records the greatest enterprise in the world, the advance of Christ's Kingdom among Nations Every Church family should subscribe for it. Issued monthly, $1.00 a year. Published by the Board of Missions, 281 Fourth Avenue, New York.

✠

LENTEN MISSIONARY MEETING.

The Lenten Missionary Meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary will be held in the Church of the Holy Trinity on Wednesday, March 24th, from 2.30 to 4.30 P. M.

✠

SINS OF OMISSION.

It isn't the thing you do, dear,
  It isn't the thing you leave undone,
That gives you a bit of heartache
  At the setting of the sun.
The tender word forgotten,
  The letter you did not write,
The flower you did not send, dear,
  Are your haunting ghosts at night.

The stone you might have lifted
  Out of a brother's way;
The bit of a heartsome counsel
  You were hurried too much to say;
The loving touch of the hand, dear,
  The gentle winning tone,
Which you had no time nor thought for,
  With troubles enough of your own.

Those little acts of kindness,
  So easily out of mind,
Those chances to be angels
  Which we poor mortals find;
They come in night and silence,
  Each sad, reproachful wraith,
When hope is faint and flagging,
  And a chill has fallen on faith.

For life is all too short, dear,
  And sorrow is all too great,
To suffer our slow compassion,
  That tarries until too late;
And it isn't the thing you do, dear,
  It's the thing you leave undone,
Which gives you a bit of heartache
  At the setting of the sun.

—*Selected.*

✠

There is greater spiritual satisfaction in self-denial, than there is temporal satisfaction in self-indulgence.

Our very sins may be the stepping-stones to higher things, and produce, if not humility, at least watchfulness. There, out of that fetid jungle, we have been able to bring the sweet flower of gentleness.

The Christ-like life (unconscious of its power) draws men to the Cross.

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since the last issue.

Mr. and Mrs. Cope Miss Casey
Miss Dickerson Miss Chamberlaine
Miss Alice Rousseau

The Ascension News

VOL. XXVIII. PHILADELPHIA, APRIL, 1915. No. 4

Church of the Ascension

Broad Street, Below South — All Seats Free

Services

Holy Communion

EVERY SUNDAY.....7.30 and 11.00 A. M.
HOLY DAYS.....7.00 and 10.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer

SUNDAYS.....10.30 A. M.
Daily.....10.00 A. M

Evensong

SUNDAYS (with Instruction).....4.00 P. M.
DAILY.....5 00 P. M.
WEDNESDAYS (with Instruction)...8.00 P. M.
SUNDAY SCHOOL.....3 00 P. M.

All the Seats are Free at all Services *God's House is open to all its Children*

The Church is always open for private prayer, and the Rector can be seen after any service, and at 8 P. M. on the Saturday before the first Sunday of the month.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent ---------- The Rector

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Men ---------- 2.45 P. M.
Miss Hodge

For Young Ladies ---------- 3.00 P. M.
Miss Martin

"ONE DAY'S INCOME!"

The Board of Missions desires us to give the widest publicity to the following appeal.

To Each Member of the Church:

It is necessary to raise $400,000. This amount is needed in addition to the usual offerings for missions. It is made necessary because the gifts of the Church through your Board of Missions have been insufficient to meet the present needs.

How has this critical situation come about?

(1) Because of increased obligations—in part ordered by the General Convention.

(2) Because the very success of our missionaries has created new obligations which the Board has been compelled to accept.

(3) Because the Board can never know in any one year exactly what the receipts will be, and as a matter of fact only once in the last seven years has the income equalled the expenditure.

In view of these facts, your Board of Missions at its last meeting appointed a Committee to secure the help of every member of the Church in giving an Emergency Fund of $400,000.

We are encouraged to ask this by the fact that the laity of the Church have already suggested some such action. One of them writes:

"I am deeply distressed by the failure of the Church to give the apportionment. In view of present world conditions, is it enough for the Board of Missions to say: 'There ought to be

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904 Clinton Street

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KALENDAR.

April 1. Maundy Thursday. Fast.
2. Good Friday. Fast.
3. Easter Even. Fast.
4. Easter Day.
5. Monday in Easter Week.
6. Tuesday in Easter Week.
9. Friday. Fast.
11. Low Sunday.
16. Friday. Fast.
18. Second Sunday after Easter.
23. Friday. Fast.
25. S. Mark, Evangelist.
30. Friday. Fast.

✠

RECORD FOR MARCH.

BAPTISMS, Mary Louise Amies.
Gertrude Elizabeth Diflo.
Emilie Smith Busch. 3

COMMUNICANTS received new.
John Williams Patten,
Rachael Madeline Jane Scott 2

By transfer from Church of the Holy Trinity, West Chester, Pa
Samuel Wagner,
Mrs. Anna Leonard Wagner,
Emily Obrie Wagner.
Samuel Wagner, Jr. 4

Transferred to Church of the Epiphany, Sherwood,
John Ware.

To S. Matthew's Church.
William Gordan McCann,
Mrs. Bella Ore McCann,
Mrs. Annie Young. 4

DIED, Mrs. Mary White. 1

COMMUNION OF THE SICK. 1

BURIAL, Mrs. Mary White. 1

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$319.17
" the Poor	66.42
" Diocesan Assessments	44.16
" General Missions	8.35
" Parochial Activities	.30
" Children's Festival	5.00
" Flowers	10.63
Of the Sunday School	3.78
Total	$457.81

no retreat?' Should it not rather declare 'There must be an immediate and determined advance?' Does the Board ask enough of us Churchmen? Are we not able to provide all that is needed?"

This layman offers not simply to give one day's income, but the income of one day for each of twelve months, in addition to his usual missionary offerings.

Will you enlist in this campaign? If so,

1. Will you join us in prayer that we may have vision and faith, and may learn the joy and blessing of sacrifice? Deeper far than the need for money is the need for devout prayer in the Name of Our Lord.

2. Will you, in addition to your usual missionary offerings, give not later than June 1st, 1915, at least ONE DAY'S INCOME?

3. If this is impracticable will you make an equivalent self-denial offering?

Of course many can do much more than this.

(1) The members and officers of the Board are taking the lead in contributing, and have already given over $10,000.

(2) The employees at the Church Missions House have voluntarily pledged one day's income.

(3) The missionaries on furlough are planning to do the same.

(4) Wherever the idea has been suggested it has met with a unanimous and cordial response.

Will you join in this?

All gifts for the Emergency Fund will count upon the apportionment of your parish and diocese unless you request otherwise.

Your offering may be sent through your rector, or directly to THE BOARD OF MISSIONS, 281 Fourth Avenue, New York.

For all your loyal help in the past, by prayers and gifts, your Board of Missions thanks you most heartily. We are facing a new world of opportunity, of danger and of duty. Upon your Board of Missions has been placed responsibility of leading the Church forward.

Will you follow?

DANIEL S. TUTTLE,
Presiding Bishop.

ARTHUR S. LLOYD,
President Board of Missions.

EDWIN S. LINES,
Chairman Emergency Committee.

LENT, 1915.

THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

For the fiscal year ending August 31, there is needed to meet all the expenses of the missions at home and abroad,	$1,696,935
At the present rate of giving the income for the year will not exceed,	1,290,704
Possible shortage on August 31st,	$406,231

PARISH NOTES.

Gifts. A porcelain head of Christ by Solney Pex, an oil painting in gilt frame by Rothemel of the two Spies; an old painting in gilt frame of the heads of Dante and Savonarola; a portrait after Van Dyke in gilt frame; a small water color drawing in frame; a load of earth, half a bushel of bone dust and two quarts of clover seed for the grounds of the church.

Easter Day there will be the usual extra Celebrations of the Holy Communion at 6·30 and 8.30 as well as at 7.30 A. M., and in the middle of the day.

Easter offering. Again we urge all the members of the congregation and every one interested in maintaining this free church in its central position in the city—from which so many churches of other Denominations have removed, to give as large an Easter offering as they can. Although our expenses have been somewhat reduced by our not having had a regular Curate since September the first, it has not made a great deal of difference as we have been paying a Parish Visitor and for some clerical assistance the Rector has been obliged to have. In addition we have been carrying a debt of $500 from the previous year. This has to be made up, and we hope it may be so by the voluntary offerings on Easter day. Will not all who are behind hand in their payments on their envelopes see that they are paid at the same time? If all the money which has been pledged had been promptly paid, we should not now be in our present condition of owing money and being in arrears for salaries.

Diocesan assessments. So far only some ninety dollars have been contributed to meet the $341 36 we are required to pay before May 1st for the different Diocesan purposes for which this parish is assessed, and we are even requested to give *more* than that. Will not every one using the envelopes put a contribution each week in the side marked "for others", so that this sum absolutely required may be made up. They will be helping to meet our current expenses by doing so, as unless the amount required for these assessments is contributed, it will have to be taken out of the receipts for current expenses.

Cantata. The two musical services rendered last month were most successful. The night "Mary" was sung was unfortunately stormy, which together with the fact that this cantata was not known here affected the size of the congregation. But all who were present expressed themselves most pleased with it. Miss Masters has a beautiful voice and sang with great expression. The conception of the Song Cycle was a novel one and most pleasing and devotional. We only regret that the financial return to the performers was very small.

The night the "Crucifixion" was rendered was fine and not only every seat in the church, but over a hundred extra chairs were filled. The choir numbered nearly eighty voices and sang with wonderful precision and effect, as did the soloists. Many present said they had never heard the "Crucifixion" better sung.

The Men's Club meeting on March 19th was attended by about the usual number, together with over a dozen members of the Mystic Lodge of the Knights of Pythias constituting the Zobo Band, which contributed musical selections throughout the evening. Mr. Louis W. Robie, the legal agent of the Legal Aid Society, gave a most interesting account of the aims and methods of the society and told of the good it accomplished.

A dramatic entertainment by some members of S. John's Senior Guild will be given on the evening of April 29th. The tickets will be twenty-five cents, the proceeds to be partly for the benefit of the Guild and part for the current expenses of the Church.

A number of the Guild went down, one evening last month, to the Seamen's Mission on south Front St. and gave an entertainment for the benefit of the sailors, which was much appreciated.

Parish Worker. Miss Murphy having resigned the position of Parish Worker after having been with us for a month not finding the work just what she anticipated, the Rector has appointed in her place Miss Marie E. Bowen. She has been working during the winter in connection with the Emergency Aid, has had experience in Church work and has been very successful with children.

This is the fourth person who has been engaged as Church Worker in this Parish during the winter, the two previous workers having been obliged to give up on account of illness. But we trust now we are permanently settled and that Miss Bowen will prove what an advantage such a worker can be to the Church.

St. John's Church, Jersey City Heights, was burned on Saturday, October 4th. The following morning the rector, the Rev. George D. Hadley, announced a canvass of the parish to obtain immediate funds. In this canvass the missionary appeal was put first; the parish needs second, and the gifts for the new church last. The results were pledges for $33,000, the gifts for missions and current expenses being in each instance much larger than those of the preceding year.

✠

PARISH OPPORTUNITIES.

The opportunities for good in every parish are splendid. If every communicant in the parish were an earnest Church worker, who can calculate the result? If every communicant were a helper, a sympathizer, in every means employed to build up the Kingdom of Christ in our midst, and to pull down the kingdom of Satan, who could hinder or impede the Christian influence of the parish, placed here to represent the truth and the work of God? If every communicant were a fellow-worker with the Rector in the service of Christ, who can estimate the "fruits of their labor?"

'Tis the neglected opportunities by the many in the parish, that produce weakness, worldliness, dissatisfaction and failure in its life.

Would that we could arouse every dormant member of the Church to a realization of the splendid work the parish can do, if only it can secure the consecrated energies of all God's people.

Who would hinder this usefulness?

✠

RITUAL.

When to Thy Beloved on Patmos,
Through the open door of Heaven,
Visions of the perfect worship,
Saviour! by Thy Love were given:
Surely *there* was truth and spirit,
Surely *there* a pattern shown,
How Thy Church should do her service,
When she came before the Throne.

O the censer-bearing Elders,
Crowned with gold, and robed in white;
O the living Creatures' anthem
Never resting day nor night!
And the thousand choirs of Angels,
With their voices like the Sea,
Singing praise to God the Father,
And, O Vic im Lamb, to Thee!

Lord, bring home the glorious lesson
To their hearts, who strangely deem
That an unmajestic worship
Doth Thy Majesty beseem;
Show them more of Thy dear Presence,
Let them, let them come to know,
That our King is throned among us,
And His Church is Heaven below.

—Rev. W. Bright, D. D.

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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The following were received since the last issue.

Miss Carpenter
Mrs. Carmen
Miss Alice Young

The Ascension News

VOL. XXVIII. PHILADELPHIA, MAY, 1915. No. 5

Church of the Ascension

Broad Street, Below South — All Seats Free

Services

Holy Communion

EVERY SUNDAY ..... 7.30 and 11.00 A. M.
HOLY DAYS ..... 7.00 and 10.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer

SUNDAYS ..... 10.30 A. M.
DAILY ..... 10.00 A. M

Evensong

SUNDAYS (with Instruction) ..... 4.00 P. M.
DAILY ..... 5 00 P. M.
SUNDAY SCHOOL ..... 3.00 P. M.

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The Ascension News

The Church of the Ascension

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HENRY L. T. ULLRICH.

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WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild ..... 8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society ..... 8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew ... 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild ..... 8.00 P. M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild ..... 7.45 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent ..... The Rector

BIBLE CLASSES

For Young Men ..... 2.45 P. M.
Miss Hodge

For Young Ladies ..... 3.00 P. M.
Miss Martin

THE CHURCH AND SOCIAL QUESTIONS.

A great deal of interest is being manifested now by churches of all Denominations in regard to social matters. The Christian conscience seems to be awakening to a realization of the responsibility of the Church to interest itself in, and do what it can, towards improving the material condition of the world. Religion is looked upon no longer as simply a means to secure one's welfare in the future life, but to make the present world a better place to live in.

Of course the primary duty of the Church is to teach religion, to make individual men and women true and godly. And if the Church can succeed in doing that, it will be doing the best thing that can be done to improve the conditions of human society. If the persons who compose a community are upright and God-fearing, you will have a perfect, ideal society. So in proportion as the Church fulfils this her primary obligation she will be doing the very best and most needful thing to benefit social conditions.

But beyond this, the Church should be deeply interested in, manifest her sympathy with, and actively and directly exert all the influences she can to do away with, all the sufferings and needs and sorrows by which men are afflicted.

Our Blessed Lord who came to earth chiefly to save men from sin, yet spent a large part of His active ministry in healing the sick, cleansing the lepers, etc. His Apostles did the same. Some

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITOR
THE RECTOR

TREASURER
MR. RICHARD GILPIN
904 Clinton Street

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KALENDAR.

May 1. SS. Philip and James.
2. Fourth Sunday after Easter.
7. Friday—Fast.
9. Rogation Sunday.
10. Rogation Monday. Fast.
11. Rogation Tuesday. Fast.
12. Rogation Wednesday. Fast.
13. Ascension.
14. Friday. Fast.
16. Expectation Snnday.
21. Friday. Fast.
23. Whitsunday.
25. Whitsun Monday.
25. Whitsun Tuesday.
26. Ember Day.
28. Ember Day.
29 Ember Day.
30. Trinity Sunday.

✠

RECORD FOR APRIL.

BAPTISMS, Andrew Smith.
Elizabeth Gardner Coates.
Virginia Dorthier Sturdevant.
Richard John Anstad McGill. 4
CONFIRMED (in S Mark's Church)
Aiken Irving Reichner. 1
COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED new.
James Doherty Hill.
John Owen.
George Edward Kohlhund.
William Henry Rodgers.
Frederick Zahn.
Robert Zahn.
Aiken Irving Reichner.
Fanny Hillyard Kohlhund.
Hilda Binberbach.
From the Chapel of the Mediator,
William Thomas Kelsh.
From the Roman Catholic Church,
Mrs. Margaret Mary Kelsh.
From Trinity Church, Princeton, N. J.
Mrs. Cephise Hyacinthe Reichner. 12
DIED, Mary Stokes Smith. 1
COMMUNIONS OF THE SICK, 2
BURIALS, Mrs. Ann Nancy Carrigan.
Mrs. Sarah K. Davis.
Mary Stokes Smith.
Richard Anstad McGill. 4

✠

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses, (including Easter offering)	$1,525.15
" the Poor	32.50
" Flowers	28.41
" Diocesan Assessments	31.50
" General Missions	.80
" Do. (Emergency Fund)	10.00
" Parochial Activities	.06
Through the Woman's Auxiliary—	
For Domestic Missions	62.00
" Foreign "	12.60
" Indian "	13.10
" Colored "	11.15
" Diocesan "	18.60
" Prayer Book Society	8.00
" Tract Society	6.00
" United offering	.65
Of the Sunday School	2.88
Do. for Missions	14.06
Do. for Missions	12 20
Total	$1,854.01

of the first disciples, we are told, made clothes for the poor, and collections were made among the Gentiles for such as were in Jerusalem. And wherever the Church has been planted, from the earliest time, we find the performance of the corporal acts of mercy regarded as an essential of Christian conduct. Great charitable Institutions have sprung up, and multitudes of lives have been devoted to ministering to the wants of the sick and afflicted. For centuries the great Christian Monasteries and Convents were almost the only asylums and hospitals or benevolent institutions in the world.

Now the Christian spirit has spread, and been assimilated by so many who are not actually members of the Church, that there are numbers of charitable Institutions and Societies which have no connection with it, which are doing splendid social work. Still the Church, as a body, should show its interest in, and sympathy with all kinds of suffering or need, and be itself an active agent in doing all it can to alleviate such conditions. Its many corporate organizations gives it special power and opportunity to do this.

So, connected with every parish there ought to be agencies for ministering to the material needs of its members and its neighborhood. Nearly all our churches now have parish buildings connected with them which can be used for these purposes most effectively.

And the parochial organization of the Church, which implies that a definite district is placed under the care of a clergyman who should know, personally, if possible, all living within its bounds, affords a most potent means for advancing the welfare of all. The Rector of a parish, with the assistance he should have at his command, ought to be able to banish all dens of vice, demoralizing saloons, and places of amusement, and whatever else is injurious to the morals of the community, and to secure all needed reforms, and all appliances requisite for the good of the community.

And then the Church alone is able to supply the spiritual element which is so essential in all benevolent work. Without it, the dispensing of charity is apt to degenerate into hard, mechanical officialism, often doing more harm than it does good.

Let us see to it, then, that our parish is alive to its responsibilities, and does all that it can to discharge its duty to the community, ministering to the material as well as the spiritual wants of its members and all whom it can reach. The offerings which are given during two quarters of the year, for the poor and for parochial activities, are used for this purpose.

✠

PARISH NOTES.

Holy Week and Easter. Through the assistance of the Rev. Mr. Cook, the Rector was able to keep up the routine of services during Holy Week as in former years. The attendance was fair, though not what it used to be. The attendance on Easter day was greatly affected by the blizzard which occurred on Easter Even, which made the streets almost impassable that evening, and the walking very bad on Easter-day. This, with the usual exodus to Atlantic City on that day, reduced the number of communions made. Additional communions, however, were made on Low Sunday. The music was very good and the church looked very beautiful. The offerings for the day were larger than on any Easter-day for many years, being some $1,200. This included a donation of $500 from one parishioner, which paid off the deficit we have been carrying from previous years. This ought to inspire us to meet this year's expenses without a deficit, and to resolve in the future that each year we will meet the full amount required to pay our expenses for that year, and not allow accumulations to be rolled up year after year until they become

so large that we cannot pay them without resorting to entertainments or other devices inconsistent with proper methods of supporting a church.

So we ask everyone to make an *additional* contribution now to meet the deficit we still have in spite of our large Easter offering.

Summer Expenses. There is another problem connected with the support of the church which we should be very glad to find a solution for, and that is the meeting the necessary expenses of the church during the summer months when our receipts are very small. Each year the Vestry authorizes the Warden to borrow a thousand dollars for this purpose. But apart from the objection to borrowing at all, the question is how to borrow it. The Warden can only give the note of the church, and no financial institution will lend money without some security for its payment.

Are there any individuals in the congregation who would be willing to trust the church to this extent? A better way of meeting this difficulty would be to have a reserved fund, which could be used during the summer, the amount taken out of it being returned during the following winter. Another would be for all connected with the church to make their payments on their envelopes during this month or in June, six months *in advance.*

If anyone can suggest any other method of overcoming this difficulty we shall be very glad to hear of it.

The Sunday School missionary offering during Lent this year amounted to $14.06.

The children were each presented with a flowering plant on Easter Sunday afternoon through the kindness of Mr. D. L. Witmer, who collected the money for the purpose On Easter Monday evening there was a children's party; various games were played after which refreshments were served and each child was given an Easter egg.

We are glad to welcome Miss M. E. Hofmann as a new teacher in the Sunday School. She takes the class Mrs. Cobb has found it necessary to give up. Miss Hofmann has had experience in teaching and we are sure will be a great addition to our staff.

The Industrial School this year was much better attended than for some years past. This was due to the fact that a number of teachers were secured who were faithful and regular in their attendance, thus ensuring the interest of the children. The annual festival for the school was given on the Saturday after Easter when an unusual number of prizes were distributed There was also "a fish pond", out of which each child drew a prize, and ice cream, cake and Easter eggs for all.

Ascension Day will be kept as formerly as our special Parochial Festival. The full choir will be present at the mid-day service and in the evening when the Rector preaches the anniversary sermon. We hope all will take enough interest in their parish church to come and hear the statistics telling of its work during the past year and showing the progress made.

The annual Guild service will take place this year on the Sunday afternoon after the Ascension, as we do not have a regular night service now. We hope all the members of the parish Guilds will turn out and join in the procession round the church. This is our annual demonstration of our Guild work.

All the offerings on Ascension day, unless otherwise designated, will be as usual for the Endowment fund of the Parish. This is the most essential thing for the stability of the church. No parish in the older part of the city is safe unless endowed. And we have a smaller fund for this purpose than any other church in the old city. As one lady who does not belong to the parish made a donation of $200 to this fund during this past winter, are there not those belonging to the congregation who would make a regular annual donation for this purpose, in addition to remembering it in their wills.

Easter election. At the annual election for Vestrymen on Easter Monday, those whose terms then expired were re-elected, there being no vacancies.

The Parish Tea will take place on the evening of May 19th. Tickets twenty-five cents. Every member of the parish is asked to come and have a social evening. A good entertainment will be provided.

Gifts. A most acceptable gift was made to the church of 25½ yards of linen for cottas, and 23⅜ yards of serge for cassocks for the choir, as new ones were much needed to supply the wear and tear which is constantly going on.

A friend has also given a large quantity of hollyhocks and pivot sprigs for a hedge round the church grounds.

Girls' Friendly Society. During April the Lenten work for the Church Home for children has been finished, consisting of seventeen petticoats and five aprons.

One evening they visited the Women's Hospital where they were taught many useful things, and entertained very hospitably by the nurses. They attended the annual service on the 28th at Holy Trinity where there were about 1500 girls.

A Rummage Sale will be held on Saturday, May 22nd, in the Parish House at 3 p. m. All contributions for it will be thankfully received before then.

S. John's Guild gave a very successful Dramatic Entertainment on the evening of April 29th. The Parish hall was well filled. The receipts were in the neighborhood of $40. part of which will go towards our deficit.

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TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since the last issue.

Miss Hare	Mrs. Kohlhund
Mrs. Roberts	Miss Perry
Miss Holbrook	Mrs. Wylie
Miss Rhein	Mrs. Waterall
Mrs. Pfander	

The Ascension News

Vol. XXVIII. Philadelphia, June, 1915. No. 6

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Every Sunday.....7.30 and 11.00 A. M.
Holy Days.....7.00 and 10.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer

Sundays.....10.30 A. M.
Daily.....10.00 A. M

Evensong

Sundays (with Instruction).....4:00 P. M.
Daily.....5 00 P. M.
Sunday School.....3.00 P. M.

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SEXTON
WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent ---------- The Rector

BIBLE CLASS

For Young Ladies ---------- 3.00 P. M.
Miss Martin

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THE RECTOR

TREASURER
MR RICHARD GILPIN
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PARISH ANNIVERSARY.

As usual Ascension day was observed as our special Parish Festival, being the thirty-fifth occasion during the present Rectorship.

In the anniversary sermon on the evening of Ascension day, the Rector began by expressing his gratitude for the good health he had enjoyed throughout the year, having officiated on every Sunday without an exception, and having been absent only on one or two weekdays, except during July and August when he took his holiday.

He read the annual report of the Parish, commenting on it. There were fewer baptisms of adults than during the previous year, owing to the fact that there was no need of conditional Baptism of any of those who were Confirmed. There were three infants less Baptised, but there were more than that number in the parish awaiting Baptism. There were three more males and nine women less Confirmed, in all six less than last year, the smallest Confirmation class in thirty-five years. But this was counter-balanced by there having been more added to the Communicant list, seven less by Confirmation, but eleven more by transfer from other Parishes.

Six Communicants have died during the year. They were Mrs. Emma M. Jordan, long a regular attendant of the Church, but for some time an inmate of Christ Church Hospital, where she died. Mrs Margaret Martha Washington Wilson, a member of the last Confirmation class, who died suddenly in the summer. Elizabeth Gibbons

KALENDAR.

June 4. Friday—Fast.
6. First Sunday after Trinity.
11. S. Barnabas—Fast.
13. Second Sunday after Trinity.
18. Friday—Fast.
20. Third Sunday after Trinity.
24. Nativity of S. John the Baptist.
25. Friday—Fast.
27. Fourth Sunday after Trinity.
29. S. Peter.

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RECORD FOR MAY.

BAPTISMS, Richard Allen Pickett.
Elizabeth Toal.
William Rippert McLaughlin.
Irwin Thoma Moore.
Edward Moore.
William Sunday Wilson. 5

COMMUNICANTS ADDED new.
Mrs. Edna Grace Reeves. 1

BY TRANSFER from S. Peter's Church,
Raymond Hickman Young.
TRANSFERRED to the Church of the Good Samaritan, Paoli,
Caroline Biddle.
To S. Paul's Church, Camden, N. J.,
William Charles Fest. 3

COMMUNION OF THE SICK. 1

BURIAL, Edward Moore. 1

✠

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses, (including deficit)	$848.17
" the Poor	56.81
" Parochial Activities	13.50
" Endowment Fund	44.85
" Diocesan Assessments	20.10
" " Missions	5.00
" General "	5.00
" the Emergency Fund	40.50
Of the Sunday School	3.13
Total	$1,037.06

Lloyd, many years ago much interested in the Church, and a zealous worker among the poor, but for a number of years confined to her room by paralysis, so that her death was a merciful release. Mrs. Kate Storey, for many years a member of the parish and regular attendant when she lived near the church, and even when removed to a distance always coming to make her Communions here on the great Festivals. Mrs. Mary White, also one who kept up her connection with the church after removing from its neighborhood. Mary Stokes Smith, a former member of the Sunday School and Girls' Guild. She died still young through a rapid decline. May these rest in peace.

There were two more marriages and four burials less than last year.

In the Sunday School there have been about the same number of children as last year, though the attendance of the boys has been much larger than that of the girls, owing doubtless to the loss of some of the former faithful female teachers and the difficulty the Rector has experienced in securing any to take their place. The Rector has himself acted as Superintendent. In the Industrial School there were ten more scholars than the previous year, and three more teachers who were very regular and faithful in their attendance.

The Parish Guilds have held their own very well, with the exception of S. Agnes' Guild for little girls, which for a time was demoralized by constant changes in its Superiors, but under the present one is regaining its numbers and interest. S. John's Junior Guild has been organized as a Boy Scout Band and bids fair to be very successful. S. John's Senior had a number of basketball matches and sociables, and gave a dramatic entertainment by which they made over

forty dollars, part of which they contributed to the church The Girls' Friendly Society has been actively maintained, and beside entertainments and lectures it has worked for the Red Cross and Emergency funds. Their total receipts were some $70, of which they gave $55 to various charities. The Men's Club held three smokers which were well attended and interesting.

Full accounts of the work of the various chapters of the Women's Guild will be published in the annual Year Book.

The financial report for the year shows the total receipts were some $500 more than last year, almost all being offerings, only $207.10 being received from sales, etc., against $700 from such sources last year. This is most encouraging. The amount contributed for Parochial charities was $400 more and for Diocesan Missions $50 more; for extra Diocesan purposes it was almost exactly the same as last year.

Though the services of a regular Curate had been dispensed with for eight months of the year, the total expenditures were only some $40 less than the year before.

At the close of the financial year, May 1st, the Warden's books still showed a deficit of $550, but since that date, through the generosity of a member of the Vestry who remitted a loan to the church of $300, and by some extra contributions of others and the payment of some envelope pledges which had been in arrears, the entire indebtedness has been removed, so that the Parish has no outstanding obligations of any kind. This is a very happy condition of things which we have not experienced for some years, and we trust that by economy on the part of the Vestry and by liberal offerings on the part of the congregation we shall be able to keep out of debt in the future.

The general review of the year is encouraging. Through the aid of the Rev. Mr. Cook, much of whose services have been voluntary, nearly the same number of services have been kept up, and by the aid of a Parish Visitor, in spite of no less than four changes having been made, a great deal more parish work has been done than formerly.

We cannot disguise the fact, however, that the parish is losing more and more of its members by constant removals to greater distances from the church.

What the ultimate character of the neighborhood will be cannot yet be determined, but the Rector closed his sermon by urging the necessity of increasing the endowment fund of the Parish, as the only way of securing its future usefulness in spite of the changes taking place in the character of the population in its neighborhood. Each of the Episcopal Churches in the older part of the city has an endowment of over $100,000; ours ought to have the same. We add a little to the fund each year, but we need large gifts or legacies to make up that amount.

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REPORT.

The following is the report of the Parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop;

Baptisms.—Adults, 1; Infants, 12; total, 13.

Confirmed.—Males, 8; females, 5; total, 13.

Communicants added.—New, 11; by transfer, 16; total, 27; died, 6; removed by revision of list, 12; by transfer, 26; total, 44; present number, 466.

Marriages.—6

Burials.—14.

Public Services.—Sunday, 158; on the other days, 652; total, 810.

Celebrations of Holy Communion.—254.

Children Catechised.—Times, 80.

Sunday School.—Officers and teachers. 19; scholars, 97.

Other Parish Agencies.—Officers and workers and members, 100; Industrial School. Teachers, 7; scholars, 40; Mothers' Meeting, members, 20.

Money Receipts.—Offerings for Parish support, $4,833.54; offerings for purposes outside the Parish, $1,361.56; investments, $629.34; other sources, eutertainments, etc , $209.10; Sunday Schools and Guilds, $403.92; the poor, $476.56; Women's Auxiliary and Girls' Friendly, $63 88; for Endowment Fund, $252.65; Altar Chapter, $145.44; total, $8,575.99.

Expenditures.—Parochial current expenses (including salaries of clergy, music, fuel and lighting, care of church buildings and grounds and ordinary repairs of same), $5,017.35; support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools and Guilds, $275.10; for the Poor, $500.44; added to Endowment Fund, $252.65; miscellaneous, $1,006.36; total, $7,247.18.

Diocesan.—Episcopal and Convention Fund, $185.74; Diocesan Missions, $149.17; Episcopal Hospital, $56.64; Church extension, $6 00; Bishop's Fund, $15.50; total, $413.05.

General Missions.—Sunday School, $14.06; through Woman's Auxiliary, $164.66; Collections, $641.73; Clergy Relief, $16.61; Prayer Book and Tract Societies, $13.00; United offering, $69.55; other objects, $50.00; total, $986.46; Red Cross and Emergency funds, $18.75. Total, $988.36. Total for all objects, $8,648.59.

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PARISH NOTES.

Ascension day was kept by two celebrations of the Holy Communion, the second being fully choral, and by a shortened Choral Evensong and the anniversary sermon by the Rector at 8 P. M. The music rendered by the choir was excellent; the anniversary sermon, giving the statistics for the past year, should have been interesting. We regret that so few in the parish appreciated sufficiently the meaning of this great Festival, or had enough interest in their parish to attend these services.

The Annual Guild service on Sunday afternoon was also poorly attended. Many of the young men and even the girls apparently thought it was more interesting to stand on the street and watch the "Jitneys" go by, than to be present at this beautiful service and manifest their loyalty to their Guilds by joining in the procession.

The Parish Tea on Wednesday evening, May 19th, was an unusually successful and pleasant occasion. Nearly 150 persons were present. A very good musical program was rendered, Miss Hare playing selections from Gounod and Chopin, and acting also as accompanist; Mrs. Owen and Miss Herter recited; Mrs. Francis H. Gilpin played on the violin, and Mr. Ullrich, our choirmaster, and Mr. George Morgan sang. The Rector made an address, and all seemed pleased with the bountiful supply of ice cream, strawberries, cake and coffee provided. Two tables were prettily decorated with silver, candlesticks and flowers,

The choir boys and members of S. John's Junior Guild were given a supper after their exercises on Monday evening, May 17th.

The Rummage sale on Saturday, May 22nd, netted some $12 for the benefit of the Girls' Friendly Society.

English Class. Our energetic Parish worker has started a class one evening in the week to teach adult Italians to read and write English We think this will be very useful, and the means of drawing some of this nationality, who are living in our neighborhood, into our church, as many of them no longer attend the Roman Church.

Summer services. The Sunday afternoon service will be suspended after the second Sunday in June until the third Sunday in September as there are no sessions of the Sunday School during that period, and its members are the chief attendants at that service.

The Communion at 7 30 A. M. and the service and Celebration at 10.30 A M. will be kept up all summer. The Rector expects to be present each Sunday at the midday service He will also be present on week days during June and September at the 10 A. M. Prayers, except on Saturdays. There will be Celebrations on all Holy days during the summer at 10 A. M., and prayers will be said every Wednesday and Friday at 10 A. M., and generally on other days at 10 A. M. and 5 P. M.

The church will be kept open always as usual and the Rector can be communicated with at any time through the Verger, Mr. Morgan.

Acknowledgments. The hospitals for which the members of the mother's meeting worked during the winter, have sent grateful acknowldgements of the work done for them, also the Emergency Aid for the work done for it by the Ladies' Aid during Lent.

Gifts. A large hardwood bureau for the ladies' work room. Twenty gymnasium shoes for Boys' Guild.

The Spring sports' meeting of S. John's Jr. Guild was held on the evening of May 24th. Sixteen boys were on the floor in uniform and a good audience was in attendance. Prizes were presented to the successful contestants. Mr. Spencer Ervin and Mr. Raymond Reeves acted as judges.

The annual picnic of the parish will take place on Saturday, June 19th. It will be held as formerly on Bushington Island Free transportation will be provided for all the members of the Sunday School and of the Mothers' Meeting from the church to the Island and return. Entertainments will be given the children on the Island, but each person is expected to bring his or her lunch. Members of the parish can join the picnic by paying their own expenses All will assemble in the Parish building by 7 A. M.

Should June 19th prove stormy the picnic will take place the following Saturday

A moonlight excursion has been arranged by S. John's Senior Guild for Friday, June 25th. Boat leaves Arch St. wharf at 8 15 P. M. Tickets 35 cts. from Verger.

There will be no issue of this paper during July, August and September.

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since the last issue.

Mrs. Gilpin
Mrs. Connelly (2)
Miss Hofmann
Miss Leaming
Mr. Offley
Mr. Sears (2)
Mr. Patten (2)
Mrs. Barrett

The Ascension News

Vol. XXVIII. Philadelphia, October, 1915. No. 7

Church of the Ascension

Broad Street, Below South — All Seats Free

Services

Holy Communion

Every Sunday.....7.30 and 11.00 A. M.
Holy Days.....7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer

Sundays.....10.30 A. M.
Daily.....10.00 A. M

Evensong

Sundays (Choral).....4.00 P. M.
Daily.....5.00 P. M.
Sunday School and Bible Class..3.00 P. M.

All the Seats are Free at all Services God's House is open to all its Children
The Church is always open for private prayer, and the Clergy can be seen after any service or by appointment.

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The Church of the Ascension

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334 South Thirteenth Street

CURATE
REV. RICHARD J. MORRIS
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PARISH WORKER
MISS MARIE E. BOWEN

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2022 St. Albans Street

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SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent ---------- The Curate

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

For Adults, Male and Female ---------- 3.00 P. M.
Taught by The Rector

NEW ASSISTANT MINISTER.

We are glad to be able to announce that arrangements have been made by which the parish will again have the services of a regular Curate.

The Rev. Richard J. Morris, at one time Curate of St. Peter's Church, and for the last eleven years Rector of the of the Church of the Epiphany, Pelham Road, Germantown, having been appointed one of the Secretaries of the Bishop, has agreed to give us his Sundays and the time on week days, not required by his position.

Mr. Morris is a man of experience and ability and and we are confident that he will be acceptable to all in the parish.

In addition to assisting in the services, he will have entire charge of the Sunday Schools, of the Young Peoples' Guilds, and of the Wednesday night service and the mothers' meeting. This will be a great relief to the Rector.

We bespeak him a hearty welcome from every one in the parish.

✠

ADULT BIBLE CLASS.

For many years we have had a Bible Class for young men and another for young women. It is proposed now to unite these classes and have one Bible Class for adults composed of both sexes and of all ages from sixteen years up. The Rector proposes to teach it himself. He will be glad to have any one join who will be really interested in study.

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITOR
THE RECTOR

TREASURER
MR. R. HICKMAN YOUNG
1529 South 4th Street

TERMS;

Single Copies, by Mail, 50 Cents a Year

KALENDAR

Oct. 1. Friday—Fast.
3. Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.
8. Friday—Fast.
10. Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.
15. Friday—Fast.
17. Twentieth Sunday after Trinity
18. St. Luke Evangelist.
22. Friday—Fast.
24. Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity.
28. SS. Simon and Jude.
29. Friday—Fast.

✠

RECORD

JUNE, JULY, AUGUST & SEPTEMBER.

BAPTISMS, Arthur Mason Skibbie.
Katherine Florence Hill.
William Charles M'Closkey.
Robert Moore.
Annie Elizabeth Moffitt.
Andrew Logan Hogg. 6

MARRIAGE, William Francis Aimes and Alemeda Louise Simonson. 1

COMMUNICANTS, added by transfer from the Church of the Epiphany, Pelham, Philadelphia,
Mrs. Mary Morris.
Mildred Morris.
Elizabeth Hobart Monis.
Adilene L. Aucott. 5
From the Church of the Atonement,
Mrs. Sadie Rutherford S ewart.

DIED, Richard William Gilpin.
Mrs. Bertha Henderson Coffey.
Mrs. Sadie Ruthnrford Stewart. 3

COMMUNIONS OF THR SICK, 4

BURIALS, Irwin Thomas Moore.
Richard William Gilpin.
Elizabeth W. Bryson.
William Rogers.
Mrs. Sadie Rutherford Stewart. 5

✠

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses,	$450.00
" Endowment Fund	5.50
" Parochial Expenses	67.30
" the Poor	75.60
" General Misrions	600.53
" Diocesan Missions	50.00
" Diocesan Assessments	1.65
" Outing Fund	52.00
Of the Sunday School	1.90
Total	$1,315.00

It will be not only for the study of the Bible, but of Church Doctrine, Church History, Liturgics, Church discipline, customs, etc. A question box will be kept on the table in which questions in regard to any matters about which the members of the class want information may be put, and they will be answered and discussed.

A class of this kind for free and familiar conversation on important topics ought to be very interesting, and we trust it will be well attended.

It will meet every Sunday afternoon at 3 p. m., beginning with the first Sunday in this month.

✠

THE AFTERNOON SERVICE.

This winter we will return to the custom we followed many years ago of having a full choral Even-song on Sunday afternoons without any sermon. There will be an anthem after the Third Collect and an effort will be made to make the service attractive musically. The children of the Sunday School will be expected to attend this service and we hope it will lead them to appreciate and love the worship of the church. As they are instructed in the Sunday School they do not need another Instruction immediately afterwards in the church. And the adults who attend the Rector's Bible Class at 3 p. m., will not want another Sermon the same afternoon.

We hope very much, that having simply the regular evening service of the church beautifully rendered without anything else, will add very much to the attendance of both adults and children.

✠

RICHARD WILLIAM GILPIN.

The parish sustained a great loss in the death in June of Richard William Gilpin a member of the church since 1890 and a vestryman since 1902.

A man of singularly sweet and patient disposition in spite of great physical disability, he endeared himself to all who knew him. Successful and constantly occupied in his profession as an electrical engineer he yet was interested in, and found time to devote himself to, political, social and religious matters. He was not only a Vestryman and chairman of the Committee on Buildings of this parish, but was also a member for many years of our Brotherhood of St. Andrew, particularly enjoying the spring meetings which usually take place in some suburban parish. He took much interest also in the meetings of our Men's Club.

All who knew him in the parish will greatly miss him. Our deepest sympathy is extended to his afflicted family thus called upon to lose another member so soon after the death of his brother our former Curate, the Rev. William Bernard Gilpin.

We pray that they both may rest in peace and that light perpetual may shine upon them

✠

MRS. JOHN S. MEWBOLD.

The parish has also sustained a great loss during the summer in the death of Mrs. Newbold, the mother of our Vestryman, Mr. John S. Newbold. Though registered as a communicant in a country parish where she passed her summers, she has been a regular attendant in this church during the winter for a number of years. She was much interested in it, and contributed largely to its support. She was a lady of singularly sweet and attractive disposition, a most intelligent Churchwoman, regular in the performance of her religious duties and taking an active part in many charities We sorrow that we shall see her face no more.

✠

PARISH NOTES.

The Summer Services were continued as announced, the Sunday afternoon service being discontinued from the third Sunday in June to the third in September, when the Sunday School re-opened. The Rector was present each Sunday at the mid-day service, the Rev. John W. Cook taking the early Communions until the Rev. Mr. Morris began his work as Curate September 1st. Mr. Cook also said prayers during the week to that date. This service was entirely gratuitous on his part.

The Sunday School closed its sessions June 20th, at which time the following prizes were awarded, First, for not having been absent a single Sunday from the opening of the school in September, and for good conduct and attention to lessons to Frederick Zahn, an Ingersoll watch. Second, for having been absent only once and for good lessons, Ellen Zahn, a handsome Bible and a stick pin. Third, for regular attendance and good behavior and lessons, George McLoughlin, a Boy Scout hatchet. Fourth, for only being absent once and for regularity in church, John Ball, a Boy Scout rope and cup. Fifth, for regular attendance and good lessons, Harry Barr, Boy Scout rope and cup.

The following girls received gold stick pins for regular attendance in church and good conduct, Lottie Bierberback, Margaret Mull, Florence Whitehurst, Clara Ritsert, Caroline Ritsert and Catharine Rocap.

The following received silver badges for not having been absent not more than five times, George Mull, Watson Mull, Edward Ramonette, George Kolhlund (since he began) and William Bender. The following received gold badges for good conduct, Robert Zahn, William Righter, Charles Ritsert, William Rogers and John Berry.

The little girls of the infant class who had been good, and regular in attendance received silver cross badges hung on blue or pink ribbons.

The Annual Parish Picnic took place on Saturday, June 26th. About seventy persons, adults and children meet at the church and were taken by trolley cars to Front and Chestnut street and from thence by boat to Burlington Park, N. J. The Rev. Mr. Cook, Mr. William Morgan and Mr. Raymond Reeves were in charge. Mr. R. Hickman Young acted as paymaster.

The day proved delightful, amusements and ice cream were provided for all, and no accident or mishap of any kind occurred, the whole party returned to the city the same way they went having a beautiful sail down the river.

Summer Outings were provided for some individuals in the Parish and the choir boys were all taken down to Brandywine Park near Wilmington, Delaware early in September.

Legacy to the Church The widow of the Rev. Dr. H. G. Batterson, who died early in June, has remembered our parish among the many charitable benefactions of her very remarkable will, leaving $1,000 for the benefit of the poor of the parish Though living in New York during the later part of their lives both Dr. and Mrs. Batterson always attended the Ascension when they came to this city, which they did for some time each year. They were both ardent advocates of free churches.

Hour of Service on Holy Days. We will return this winter to the former rule of having the early Communion on all Holy Days on the same hour as on Sundays, 7.30 a m., instead of 7 a. m., as was the rule for some time. It is believed this will be more convenient for those who will be likely to attend those services.

Improvements. Our very competent Verger has employed his leisure time during the summer in thoroughly repairing and re-oiling all the chairs in the parish building. He has also repainted the walls and ceilings of the Guild room, which our Choir Master uses as his studio, the walls and ceiling of the vestibule of the Parish building and all the exterior wood work. This has greatly improved the appearance of things and was needed as well to preserve the wood from decay. He has also taken great pride in cutting the grass and cultivating flowers in the plot of ground south of the church buildings. This is a great addition to the beauty of the property.

Guilds. All the parish Guilds resume their meetings and work this month and we hope our ladies will not forget the annual meeting of the general Women's Guild, including all its committees, which occurs on October 28th, SS Simon and Jude's Day immediately after the Monday service in he church at 10 a. m.

The reports of the last year's work are then read and work arranged for the coming winter. Let every woman in the parish come to this meeting and learn what the needs of the parish are and how each one can be of service.

Boy Scouts. Troop 63, instead of taking a vacation this summer have been very busy with a ball team which did not lose a game, 3 overnight hikes and the work of organizing patrols, etc.

The Mongoose Patrol, with Scout Eisinger as leader and Scout McLaughlin as assistant, is leading in the "efficiency" point contest The Woodpigeon Patrol with Norman Hayes as its leader and Scout Bender assistant have won one game of base ball from the Mongoose in a series to decide the championship of the troop.

They are all trying hard for that "Seventh Heaven" of Scouting, i. e. becoming a FIRST CLASS Scout. Many of the teams are second class now and several have the coveted goal within their grasp.

A committee composed of Scout Scribe Marsh, Scouts Bender and McLaughlin have been appointed to arrange a program for Monday evening, Oct. 25, when Scout Brown will be honored for the rescue of a comrade from drowning, who needless to say did not belong to "63". The parents and friends are invited and admission will be free.

Any fellow over twelve years old who would like to join the Scouts just see one of them or the Rector.

Advertisements. We have lately lost three of our adveatisements. As we depend largely on advertisements to pay for the publication of this paper, we should be very glad if some of our members or friends could give, or procure for us, some new ones to take the place of those we have lost.

Gifts. A Morris chair and cushions, twenty-five Prayer Books and Hymnals, twenty-five altar candles.

✠

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The following were received since the last issue.

Mrs. Tutwiler
Mrs. Wireman (2)
Mr. Pugh (2)
Mr. H. L. Kelly
Mr. S. Milliken

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Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew .. 8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, St. John,s Guild ---------- 8 00 P. M.
Saturdays, St Agnes' Guild ---------- 2.00 P. M.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid ---------- 3.00 P. M.
Wednesdays, Mothers' Meeting ---------- 8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class ---------- 10 30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society ---------- 10.30 A. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent ---------- The Curate

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

For Adults, Male and Female ---------- 3.00 P. M
Taught by The Rector

THE PREACHING MISSION IN ADVENT

Part of the Bishop's Foreword

The last General Convention appointed a Joint Commission to arrange, in the near future, for a "Preaching Mission" of "nation-wide" extent; to be held, as far as practicable, in every diocese and parish in the Church, and at the same time in every place, that the greatest possible momentum and the most far-reaching effect might be secured. Behind the vote authorizing this great undertaking was a very general feeling that the time was ripe for it, and that the Episcopal Church had a definite responsibility for leading and directing the reviving interest in religion which seems to be a striking mark of these pregnant times.

The Commission, after long and careful thought and investigation, decided to put the plan into operation during this coming winter, suggesting, in its strong appeal to the Church, that the weeks between the first of Advent and the last of Lent would probably afford sufficient time in which to carry through the work. They asked for the earnest co-operation of each diocese in perfecting the arrangements and assuring the success of the proposed Mission. The desire of the Commission has met with general approval. Certainly the events of the last year point to, and should find us all prepared for, a time of great spiritual crisis. Now, if ever, the Church of Christ is challenged to a pure devotion, a clear witness, and a sacrificial love. Now, if ever, is God calling her

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KALENDAR.

Nov. 1. All Saints'.
2. All Souls'.
5. Friday.
7. Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity.
12. Friday. Fast.
14. Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity.
19. Friday. Fast.
21. Sunday next before Advent.
25. Thanksgiving.
26. Intercession for Mission, 8 P. M.
28. Advent Sunday.
(Thirty-fifth anniversary of the Rector, and Corporate Communion of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew.)
30. S. Andrew.

✠

RECORD FOR OCTOBER.

BAPTISMS, Geoffery Stengel.
John Philip Berry.
Joseph Randolph Pechin.
William Henry Harris.
Jennie May Harris.
COMMUNICANTS ADDED, new,
Jennie Elizabeth Cannon.
By transfer from Christ Church, Milford, Delaware.
Mrs. Mary Fisher Watson.
Transferred to S. Paul's Memorial Church,
Mrs. Beatrice Headley.
To S. Elizabeth's Church,
Mrs. Righter,
Helen Agnes Righter,
Susan Rebecca Righter.
To the Church of the Resurrection,
Lillie May Gill.
Elizabeth Bella Gill.
DIED, Thomas Craig.
COMMUNIONS OF THE SICK, 2
UNCTION OF THE SICK, 1
BURIALS, Lawrence Rittenhouse Ettla.
Thomas Craig.

✠

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$316 53
" Parochial Activities	48 95
" the Poor	36 57
" Diocesan Assessments	1 20
" the Endowment Fund	10.10
" Clergy Relief Fund	18.51
Of the Sunday School	3.18
Total	$435.04

and sending her afresh into the field of missionary effort, to the work of winning new souls for Christ, and of strengthening His faithful people.

At the end of June, a meeting was called of the clergy of this diocese to consider the question of co-operation. It was voted, with practical unanimity, that we take part, and that the Mission be held in this diocese in Advent. The Bishop was asked to appoint a committee of clergy to have general charge and oversight. These subsequently met, organized and were divided into various sub-committees. A letter was prepared and sent to all the clergy, telling of the appointment of the committee, explaining the general plan, as far as outlined, and enclosing prayers for the Mission for regular public and private use.

Without preparation the work of such a Mission is apt to be purely superficial, if not positively harmful. The fixing of attention; the rousing of interest and expectation; the house-to-house visiting with news of the Mission, and personal invitation to the services; the enlisting and instructing of recruits for personal work in connection with the Mission; above all, sustained, definite, united prayer, shared in by the communicants, guiding and inspiring every step taken and every approach made—these are the ways in which alone the soil can be made ready for the seed, and a real harvest of abiding spiritual fruit secured The time is very short, but we must make the best of it. Probably it will be found wise in many places to plan, not for a fully developed Mission, with Bible Classes and services and instructions for particular groups at various hours during each day, but to concentrate attention and effort on the preaching service of each evening, with equal emphasis on the daily celebration of the Holy Communion, for the strengthening and refreshing of communicants. In this way the work of preparation will be simplified and lessened, and what is done may be done effectively.

As to the conditions of success. Prayer must come first. God's blessing will follow our preaching and our pleading in proportion as we pray. That is quite certain. The Mission is a purely spiritual work. Prayer is therefore its chief instrument. Without prayer we shall not only be inviting failure. We shall be bringing down judgement on ourselves, We shall be taking God's Name in vain, that is, without meaning it. Our prayers should cover the whole range and every detail of the Mission. As nothing is too great for God's power, so nothing is too little for His love. We should pray for those outside, that He may bring them in; for those inside, that He may build them up; for the preachers, that they may have power to convict, wisdom to enlighten, love to persuade; for the services and sacraments, that they may be worthily rendered and administered and faithfully received; for all workers and helpers in the Mission, that they may be kept from sin and error, and made true instruments and agents of the Kingdom. We should pray for people and for objects definitely, and by name; regularly and perseveringly; in groups, with our families, by ourselves; at set times and at odd times; in season, out of seasou From now on, to and through the Mission, and while the fruits are being reaped, we should strive, with concentrated and unflagging purpose, to lead a life of prayer.

Next to the need of prayer, comes the duty and necessity of genuine and generous sympathy and love for all who are working and praying with us in the Missions, for all who are our fellow-members in the Spirit-bearing Body of the Lord. The work before us is more than a series of unrelated efforts in different parishes. It is a stirring and energizing of the whole Church. It calls and claims us all for common work. And while we are working together for the Kingdom, each in his place, and with his part, we shall feel, perhaps for the first time, the bands of our brotherhood, the stimulus of our common life. Not the least of the blessings of the Mission will have been secured if we shall learn once and for all not out of books, but in our personal experience, that God is best made manifest to men by the manifested oneness of His people.

In so far as each one of us comes to the Mission, works in it, lives through

it, and gives thanks for it when it is done, in prayer to God for men, and in love of Christians for Christ's sake, just in so far shall we do the work to which God sends us for the greater glory of His name.

PHILIP M. RHINELANDER,
Bishop of Pennsylvania.

✠

The Mission in this Diocese will be held during the first and second week in Advent, In this Parish it will commence on ~~Sunday~~, ~~Dec. 5~~, and end ~~Sunday~~, Dec. ~~12~~. Preliminary services of intercession will be held each evening in the week, beginning Nov. 22, in the churches of the group to which this church belongs, viz., the Holy Apostles, the Ascension, the Holy Comforter, the Prince of Peace, and the Chapel of the Holy Communion. The service in this church will be on Friday evening, Nov. 26th, at 8 P. M. Addresses will be made by the Rev. Dr. ~~Toop~~, Rector of the Church of the Holy Apostles, and the Rev. Mr. ~~Mons~~, a cousin of our Curate, Vicar of the Chapel of the Prince of Peace. The members of all the parishes will be invited, and we trust our own people will turn out in full force to show their interest in this movement and to prepare themselves to take an active part in it.

The Mission itself in our parish will be conducted by the Rev. Father Bull, one of the English Order of Cowley Fathers. He has been stationed in Boston, Mass., for some years where he has earned a reputation as a most forceful preacher and experienced Missioner. We are most fortunate in having him assigned to us, as requests for his services were made by a number of parishes. He will preach every evening during the week, and may conduct other services of which notice will be given.

We trust this effort may result in bringing new people to our church, and arousing many of our own members who have become lukewarm and negligent in their religious duties, to new life and activity.

✠

PARISH NOTES.

Parish Guilds. The winter work of all our Parochial Guilds has now begun. Each of the five young people's guilds began their regular meetings last month, and the Mothers' Meeting, the Saturday Industrial School, Ladies' Aid, and the Embroidery Class begin this month.

The first meeting of the Men's Club will be held Thursday evening, Nov. 18th. Notices of which will be sent out in due time.

S. John's Senior Guild have already arranged a series of basketball matches with other guilds.

A Hallowe'en party was given on the evening of Oct. 30th to the members of S. Agnes' Guild and some of the boys of the Sunday School. The usual ducking for apples, etc., took place, together with the apparition of a ghost, etc.

The Girls' Friendly Society hold their devotional meeting each second Tuesday evening of each month to be followed by a talk from a representative of one of the hospitals in regard to hospital work, care of the sick, etc.

Rector's Anniversary. On the ~~last~~ third Sunday morniug of this month the Rector will preach a sermon on the thirty-fifth anniversary of his entrance on the Rectorship of this Parish. There is now only one other Rector in the Diocese who has held his position for a longer period. We trust there will be a large congiegation present that day to hear the Rector's sermon on the occasion.

Rector's Bible Class. One hundred postal cards were sent to members of the Parish informing them of the beginning of this class on the first Sunday in October. *Five* persons only were present that day. Some few others have joined since. We trust more will avail themselves of this opportunity of study of the most wonderful and important book in the world. The Rector has been constantly studying it for the last forty years, and he believes that he can make its study interesting and profitable to any who will attend this class every Sunday at 5 P. M. in the Parish Building.

Sunday Afternoon Service. We are making an effort to render the Sunday Choral Evensong at 4 P. M. very attractive this winter. As the Rector gives an instruction for adults at 3 P. M., and the Curate instructs the Sunday School at the same time, there seems to be no need of another Instruction in the church immediately afterwards, so there is no sermon at the 4 o'clock service. The full Evening Service of the Church is musically rendered with anthem Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, and special anthem after the third Collect.

The choir now is in excellent training and render a really beautiful service. Come and attend it yourself, and tell your friends about it. It is a great pity that such a service should not be enjoyed by a great many more people than have been coming to it as yet. Our parish ought to gain a reputation for the good music we have, if for nothing else.

Confessions. The Rector is in the church every Saturday after Morning Prayer, and every Saturday both before and after Evening Prayer to hear confessions, and the Curate on the Saturday before the first Sunday in each month at 8 P. M., for the same purpose.

The Boy Scouts. Troop 63 defeated Troop 19 (of St. Elizabeth) in the opening basketball game of the season. Score 21–8

In the only other game played the Mongoose went down under the rain of field goals by the Woodpigeons. They were weakened, however, by the absence of McDermott who was under suspension. Score 18–10.

On Oct. 25 we celebrated Brown's night, giving him his "life-saving" certificate and a beautiful pair of cuff links. Exhibitions in Signaling, First Aid, knot-tying, etc , resulted in a tie for first place by Scouts Bender and Marsh, Woodpigeons; second place, G. McLaughlin, Mongoose; third, tie between H. Barr, Mongoose, and Biebubach, Woodpigeon. The staff was sworn in, and Scout McDermott took his "Oath" as a Second Class Scout.

Dr. Coates, Major Dunne, Scout Hammis of "22", and the Scoutmaster acted as judges.

We are completing arrangements for two first-aid lectures, football games, basketball games, a party, and a bunch of other activities which will keep us busy all winter.

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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The following were received since the last issue.

Capt. Edward Carpenter (2)
Mrs. M. H Young
Mr. R. H. Young
Mr. Seyfert

The Ascension News

VOL. XXVIII PHILADELPHIA, DECEMBER, 1915. No. 9

THE REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE, D. D.
RECTOR OF THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION SINCE 1880

Services

Holy Communion

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HOLY DAYS.....7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer

SUNDAYS.....10.30 A. M.
DAILY.....10.00 A. M

Evensong

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The Church of the Ascension

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Superintendent ---------- The Curate

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

For Adults, Male and Female ---------- 3.00 P. M
Taught by The Rector

THE RECTOR'S THIRTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY.

On the morning of November 21st the Rector preached a sermon commemorative of the completion of the thirty-fifth year of his Rectorship of this parish.

He briefly reviewed the history of the parish since its inception in 1833 when a number of persons associated themselves together to build a new church in the "south western portion of the city," a lot on Lombard St. above Eleventh St. being selected for the purpose.

The church, a plain two-story brick building, was erected on this site and carried on successfully for some years. Later, owing to the building of other churches both to the north and south of it, the congregation began to fall off, and finally it was so reduced as to become a Mission Chapel of S. Luke's Church. Uuder the charge, however, of the Rev. Mr. Hare, who afterwards became Bishop of South Dakota, it again became independent and did a good work. After his resignation it again declined until by 1880 only thirty-two names remained as registered Communicants.

It was on the last Sunday in November of that year that the present Rector took charge of the parish. A number of the former parishioners of Christ Church Chapel, of which he had previously had charge, followed him here, and by May, 1881, one hundred and forty persons were enrolled as Communicants and nearly $3,000 had been contributed to improve the

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A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITOR
THE RECTOR

TREASURER
MR. R. HICKMAN YOUNG
1529 South 4th Street

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Kalendar.

Dec. 5. Second Sunday in Advent
10. Friday.
12. Third Sunday in Advent.
15. Ember day.
17. Ember day.
18. Ember day.
19. Fourth Sunday in Advent.
21. S. Thomas, Apostle.
25. Christmas day.
26. S. Stephen, Martyr.
27. S. John, Evangelist.
28. Holy Innocents.

✠

RECORD FOR NOVEMBER.

BAPTISM, Margaret Emma Vallette.	1
COMMUNICANTS transferred to the Church of the Resurrection, Charles Harry Mumford. To Grace Church, Bath, Maine, Mrs. Almenia Grace Plummer. Mrs. Grace Hall Cobb.	3
DIED, Mrs. Margaret Spence.	1
COMMUNION OF SHE SICK,	1
BURIALS, Thomas E Shelton. Mrs. Margaret Spence.	2

✠

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$473.21
" the Poor	22 47
" the Mothers' Meeting	10.00
" General Missions	39.84
" Parochial Activities	4.54
" Diocesan Assessments	.24
" the Sunday and Industrial School	2.00
" expenses of the Missions	6.48
" the Deaf Mute Mission	2.50
" the Episcopal Hospital	59.45
Of the Sunday School	3.93
	$624.66

church building and carry on the services. This progress continued until 1885 when, owing to the neighborhood of the church becoming almost entirely colored, it was thought best to sell the church to a colored congregation and remove to the present site at Broad and South Sts. where a lot was secured. The present Parish building was first erected and for a year used as a place of worship. The nave and aisles of the church were then erected, and some years later the chancel and organ chamber were added, and the organ installed.

Here the congregations, and the revenue of the parish, increased, and finally all the indebtedness incurred in the purchase of the new site and the erection of the building was paid off and a small endowment fund accumulated.

Without reviewing the whole history of the parish, the following incidents occuring during the past five years were referred to, the paying off an indebtedness of $2,100 for current expenses by the free will offerings of the parishioners, and later, last spring, of a similar debt of $700 by some generous subscriptions, two stained glass windows were placed in the chancel, and one in the clerestory as memorials, the carved statues on St. Saviour's altar, the heavy brass gates to the chancel, a tablet in memory of the Rev. Mr. Gilpin, a large Processional Cross, the bronze reproduction of the Last Supper, a small picture of the Madonna, a porcelain Head of Christ, a large cabinet organ, a water heater in the cellar, and several pieces of furniture for the Parish building. The church grounds to the south of the church have also been very much improved and the church buildings kept in admirable repair.

Efforts were made during this period to draw people to the night services by sermons on popular subjects and the holding of after-meetings For one winter a Socialistic forum was held in the parish building after the Sunday night service. The Men's Club was maintained, a Boy Scout band formed and various other agencies for the social, as well as spiritual, betterment of members of the congregation.

In 1912 the Duplex envelope system was introduced which has resulted in producing a regular income for charitable and missionary purposes.

Two of the Vestrymen of the parish, Mr. Gibson McCall and Mr. Richard Gilpin have been lost through death, as well as a number of other prominent members of the congregation.

Of late years the size of the congregation has diminished owing to the rapid deterioration of the district south and west of the church, but while the Rector believes this will be only temporary, he urged the necessity of increasing the endowment fund as the only way of ensuring the future of the parish against all possible contingencies.

He closed by expressing his gratitude for the unbroken health and many blessings he had enjoyed, and for the harmony which had always reigned in the parish. And we trusted that the principles of a free and always open church, and the carrying out of the full provisions of the Prayer Book for weekly and holy day Eucharists, and daily prayers, with a dignified, beautiful rendering of the services, without excess of ritual, and the reasonable, tolerant teaching which had always distinguished the church during his rectorship, would be continued and produce their effect in the future, as they had in the past, and that the work of the parish might be extended and perfected in the years to come.

✠

PARISH NOTES.

Rector's Anniversary. The day was observed not only by the historical sermon preached by the Rector, but by the rendering of special music arranged by the choirmaster, Mr. Ullrich. Two of our former soloists, Mr. Chester Myers and Mr. Messerschmidt, volunteered to sing on the occasion, and Mr. Arlington Moore, a florist, of 1639 North Broad St., one of our old choir boys, sent—as he did on a similar occasion five years ago—a number of large palms to decorate the church. The Rector was also the recipient of some beautiful flowers. A number of our old parishioners were present on the occasion.

The Mission is only beginning as we go to press, but every effort has been made to render it a success. A letter from the Missioner, Father Bull, setting forth the purpose of the Mission, and urging all to attend it for their own good, and to try to bring others, too, who have been living without God, was mailed to each member of the congregation. This was followed by a card giving the hours of the services, left by hand where it was possible, one of our members using an automobile for this purpose in reaching those living at a distance. Posters were also placed on the outside of the church and in some large establishments in the neighborhood. The ser-

vice cards were distributed from house to house in the neighborhood. A preparatory intercessory service was also held on Friday evening, Nov. 26th. The choir was present to lead in the singing of hymns, and addresses were made by the Rev. Dr. Toop, Rector of the Church of the Holy Apostles, and the Rev. Mr. Morris, Vicar of the Chapel of the Prince of Peace.

We earnestly pray that this preaching mission throughout our country will produce great results in arousing the negligent to a realization of the obligations and blessings of religion, and of bringing many to its profession who have never done so before

Thanksgiving day was observed as usual by the same services we have on Sunday. The chancel was decorated with fruits and grain. A lavish turkey and cranberry dinner was provided on the evening before to the members of the Mothers' meeting. Some twenty-five were seated at the tables.

Vestryman elected. At the regular meeting of the vestry held in November, Mr. R. Hickman Young was elected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of the late Mr. Gilpin.

Christmas. There will be as formerly Celebrations on Christmas day at 6.30 and 8.30 A. M., as well as the usual ones at 7.30 and 11.00 A. M. We hope every communicant of the parish will make his or her communion at one of these Celebrations.

At the mid-day service, and on the two succeeding Sundays, the S. Cecilia Mass will be sung, the Vestry having made a special money appropriation for the purpose.

The Children's Christmas Festival will be held on the evening of Holy Innocents' Day, December 28th.

As usual we ask for special Christmas offerings to meet the current expenses of the church for the year. During the summer months our offerings are very small and we always have to borrow money to tide over this part of the year, and this sum we have to pay back by extra offerings at Christmas. We trust every one will feel the obligation to make a special offering at this time, and as large a one as possible. We shall want special gifts to provide the children's Christmas festival and Christmas dinners for the poor.

The Poor fund, which comes from the benevolent envelopes in the quarter of the year from May 1st to August 1st, is now exhausted by the demands made on it through the last six months. And the Rector has still some eight dollars a week to pay out for the work of the Mothers' Meeting, which is a great aid to its members who are in straightened circumstances, and also regular pensions to two or three of our poor people, so he needs a considerable sum to replenish this fund, for which he asks donations.

An Armenian School. The Rector has given permission for the use of a room in the Parish building two afternoons in each week for a couple of hours for a school for twenty or more Armenian children, who are happily in this country, not in their own, at this time, These people have no church or parish building of their own, so some of ours have been lent to them for the purpose of giving their children religious instruction. One school has been started in West Philadelphia, another in one of our churches in Kensington, and this one is intended for children in the southern part of the city. We hope it may be the means of bringing some of these children to our Sunday School and church.

CHRISTMAS NIGHT.

Drowsy shepherds in the field
Sleeping flocks are tending:
In their sight,
An angel bright,
Robed in splendour stands revealed.
Night's thick shadows rending:—
"Wake, ye shepherds! Lo, I bring
"Tidings of your Promised King!"

"Unto you this night is born,
"Here in David's city,
"David,s Son,
"Th' Anointed One!
"He shall comfort all that mourn,
"Through God's tender pity,—
"Unto whom, in Mary's Child,
"Man shall now be reconciled!"

—REV. H. OGDEN DU BOIS.

Gifts. Three dozen new hymnals, blotter, writing pads, pens, rubber bands, envelopes, postage stamps for the Vestry. A number of signs for the Mission were painted by one of our young men. The printing of the letter of the Missioner and cards of services and invitations to the Men's Club meeting were donated.

Reading Matter. A great deal of good reading matter will be found in the rack in the vestibule of the church, Copies of the Spirit of Missions, of the Survey, the Diocesan News, etc. Persons attending the church are welcomed to take these papers to read them and pass them on to others.

A Hallowe'en party was the "big" feature of the month for troop 63. The "old gym" certainly did look queer with ghosts, tramps, colored men, German girls, bathing girls, clowns, Chinamen, and some very brazen "ladies" (Scouts Bender and Marsh) whose faces were obviously painted, strutting and strolling around. There were some "heavy eats" on the program, too.

On Saturday, Nov. 20, we were presented with a large American flag for use in parades, etc., by the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Another big time was the glorious victory in the cage over Troop 99, our old rivals from Holy Apostles. Harry Barr, the sturdy little guard, was out under suspension which makes the feat more wonderful. Excitement ran high and in the middle of the second half the referee, Mr. Alex. Boggs, had to disqualify two fellows for slugging. Even after that with two stars out we kept on scoring. We have been playing "grey stock" for 3 or 4 years, and this is our first victory. Score 38–9.

The Men's Club meeting in November was unusually attractive. A very interesting lecture, illustrated by lantern slides, was given by Mr. A. A. Hodge, a cousin of our Rector, who has devoted his time for many years to studying social conditions in our city. This lecture was on the foreign population and was very illuminating. There was also a friendly boxing match between two young fellows, a heavy and a lightweight. And new features were introduced in the line of refreshments which were enjoyed. Forty-five men were present.

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TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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The following were received since the last issue.

Miss Whitehouse
Miss Carpenter
Miss Walsh (2)
Miss Schell
Miss L. Smith
Dr. Neilson

The Ascension News

VOL. XXIX. PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY, 1916. No. 1

Church of the Ascension

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HOLY DAYS ..... 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer

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Taught by The Rector

NEGLECT OF CHURCH ATTENDANCE.

There is no more alarming feature of the times than the increasing neglect of Church attendance, which is noticed among all Demoninations of Christians, except, perhaps, the Roman Catholics.

It is due to many causes, chiefly we believe to the multiplied modes of amusement and self-indulgence which are offered to all classes now on the Lord's day. Formerly few persons could leave the city on Sunday, nor was there anything more attractive in the reach of most persons than going to Church. Now by trolleys and automobiles and jitneys anyone can go miles into the country any day, and Sunday is the one day people have leisure to do so. And most persons have friends living in the country or suburbs who are always glad to see them. There are, too, in the city, Parks and Libraries, Art galleries, and Club rooms open on Sunday, which draw people from Church. Then there is the growing self-indulgence among young people especially, that of lying in bed till midday, or later, on Sundays. These causes, with deeper ones in regard to changes in human thought about religious matters, tend to this neglect of Church going.

But it is to the serious detriment of those who indulge in it. High religious character cannot be maintained unless religious exercises are regularly and systematically engaged in. Men may say that religion is a matter of the spirit and does not depend on outword assistance, that a man can be

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EDITOR
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Kalendar.

Jan. 1. Circumcision.
2. Second Sunday after Christmas.
6. The Epiphany.
7. Friday--Fast.
9. First Sunday after the Epiphany.
14. Friday—Fast.
16. Second Sunday after the Epiphauy.
21, Friday—Fast.
22. Third Sunday after the Epiphany.
25. Conversion of S. Paul.
28. Friday—Fast.
30. Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany.

✠

RECORD FOR DECEMBER.

BAPTISM, Joseph Walter Clewell. 1

CONFIRMED, Anson Angus Merrick. 1

MARRIAGES, Thomas Russell Gilbert and Lovina Clara Smythe.
John Noble Jr., and Edith May Anderson.

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED new 2
Anson Angus Merrick.
From the Roman Catholic Church,
Anna Coccia. 2
Transferred to S. Mary s Church, West Philadelphia,
Jane Kater.
To the Epiphany, Sherwood,
George Thompson Tait.
To the Atonement,
Mrs. Marguerite Murphy. 5
To the Mediator.
Reynolds William Henry Clark,
Mrs. Louise Mitchell Clark

BURIALS, Martin Hiller,
Edward Fox Pugh. 2

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses (including the Christmas offering)	$692.20
" the Poor	43.28
" Christmas Festival	40.85
" Parochial Activities	4.45
" General Missions	38.84
" Diocesan "	1.00
" the Episcopal Hospital (additional)	3.50
" expenses of the Mission "	18 69
" the Society of S. John Evangelist	50.00
" the Mothers' Meeting	2.00
" the Endowment Fund	.40
At discretion of the Rector	5.00
Of the Sunday School	4.63
	$904.84

good und upright and live a moral life without Church-going or sacraments. But experience proves that when these things are neglected the spiritual character deteriorates. It stands to reason that it must be so. Men are not naturally all they should be. They have evil tendencies, passions and appetites. To restrain, and contend against these, and follow only what is good and high and noble, constant efforts must be made; education, reproof, exhortation, inspiration are necessary. The existence and character of God must be recognized and realized, and that cannot be effectually done unless deliberately and regularly one puts himself in an attitude of reverence and devotion. And if a man is really interested in and anxious to cultivate his spiritual nature it will be a necessity and a pleasure for him to do so. He will feel a want and a spiritual thirst if he omits it. Even the Quaker, who looks upon religion as altogether a spiritual thing, feels the need of his weekly meeting for worship, although it may be a silent one. Men of all times and of all races have instinctively recognised that religion is a matter of prime importance, and that it can only be kept alive by means of organization, by temples, by worship, by a priesthood.

Like everything else in this world, if it is to be of any value, time and thought and effort must be given to it. As a man goes every day in the week to attend to his business, so with the same regularity and attention, he should go every Sunday to Church. He will lose the benefits of religion if he fails to do so as infallibly as he will fail in his business if he neglects it. He need not give the whole of Sunday to it, for it is a day for rest as well as for the cultivation of religion, but he should regard attendance at Church at least once on the Lord's day as a moral obligation, preferably taking part in the celebration of the distinctive act of Christian worship, the Lord's Supper.

✠

EDWARD F. PUGH.

This parish, and the whole Diocese, has met with a great loss in the sudden death of Mr. Edward F. Pugh, which occurred last month.

Mr. Pugh has been attendant of this church and a Vestryman since 1908. He was a most devout and intelligent Churchman. He never missed being at church on Sunday, and came often during the week in Lent. Frequently, also, on Sunday afternoons or evenings.

He was most interested in church matters. He was not only a Vestryman of this Parish but also of S. Mary's Church, Wayne, where he spent his summers. He represented that Church in the Diocesan Convention of which he was a very influential member. He was a trustee of the Diocese and chairman of the Committee on Trusts, the most important position in that body. He was a member of the Executive Council and Treasurer of the Free Church Association, and a member of the Board of Managers of the Society for the Advancement of Christianity in Pennsylvania.

In all those positions he was most valued for the interest he took in them and for the soundness of his judgment. Being a lawyer by profession he was able to serve the Church most effectively in these different Boards.

We shall miss his presence and his valuable counsel in our Vestry.

His funeral took place at the church on December 15th, the Bishop of the Diocese, and the Rev. Mr. Armstrong, Rector of S. Mary's Church, being present in addition to the Rector.

The Vestrymen of the two churches with which he was connected acted as Honorary Pallbearers. The interment was in the churchyard of S. David's, Radnor.

May he rest in peace.

✠

PARISH NOTES.

Christmas was celebrated with our usual ceremonies. There were three early Celebrations and the Choral S. Cecilia Mass in the middle of the day. The latter was most beautifully rendered by an augmented choir, as also on the Sunday following. It was prominently advertised, and circulars giving the hours of the services and details of the music were printed and disseminated, some of them by mail. Our Organist deserves much credit for

his labor and enterprise in the matter.

The number of Communicants was, we are glad to say, larger than on Christmas a year ago, but it did not include, by any means, all who ought to have made their Communion at this great Festival. The offerings were about up to the average at Christmas. They were enough to pay all our salaries, Etc., up to date, but not enough to pay back all of the money we had to borrow during the summer.

✠

The Children's Festival took place on the evening of Holy Innocents' day. The children assembled first in the Guild room and sang the hymn "Once in David's royal City',, before the dimly lighted creche, consisting of a small representation of a stable, with figures of S. Joseph, the Blessed Virgin Mary and Babe, with cattle standing round. Then in the large school room there was a Christmas tree lighted by electricity and decorated, with gifts and a box of candy for each child, piled beside it. After singing, a short address by the Rector, the recitation of Christmas stories by Miss Carmen, and other recitations by some of the children, and the playing of the violin by Miss Dorothy Hodge, a granddaughter of the Rector's, Kriss Krinkle suddenly appeared through a window and after talking to the children distributed the gifts and candies.

He was personated by Mr. Barton Huntington who kindly came from the country for the purpose.

All seemed to enjoy the occasion.

Gifts. Some twenty-two baskets of provisions, each containing a chicken or two, according to the size of the family, cranberries and other vegetables and fruit, a mince pie, sugar, etc., were sent to the members of the Mothers' Meeting and one or two other families.

Nine and a half tons of coal were also distrubuted to the most needy in the parish.

The Church received a half dozen good towels for use in the Vestry room.

Confirmation. The Bishop of the Diocese has appointed the evening of Wednesday, March 29th, for administering Confirmation in this Parish. Preparatory Instructions will be given beginning in February, of which there will be due notice. The Clergy affectionately urge all connected with the Church who are of sufficient age and have not yet been Confirmed to avail themselves of this privilege at this time. It only comes once a year.

The Men's Club Smoker will be given on Thursday evening, January 20th. We hope to have a gentleman present who will give an occount of his experience in the French trenches. We look for a large attendance of our men.

The benevolent side of the envelopes for the present quarter is for General Missions, and it will be noticed that the amount asked from this parish this year is over $1,000. Nothing like that amount has been contributed as yet and there is only this month remaining for offerings for this purpose. We trust all using the envelopes—and every one attending the church should use them—will bear this in mind. These offerings are for the carrying on of all the missions of the Church at home and abroad.

The Mission held in our parish we trust will produce effect. Father Bull is a very spiritual preacher, and many who heard him were much edified. We regret the attendance was not larger.

In addition to defraying the expenses of the Mission, we were glad to be able to make a donation of $50 to the Society of S. John the Evangelist, to which Father Bull belongs.

✠

The Thursday Celebration, at 9 a. m. will be by request, continued regularly until Easter every week at that hour, unless a Festival occurs on that day when the Celebration is always at 10 A. M.

✠

A Sociable. S. John's Senior Guild gave a very attractive social entertainment on the evening of December ninth. The members of the Girl's Friendly Society and others both within and outside the parish were invited. Instrumental music accompanied the dancing and a bountiful colation was provided.

✠

The Girl's Friendly Society are practicing for a play to be given in the Parish building some time in March.

✠

The Boy Scouts. Our Basket Ballers kept their record clean, defeating Lyndhurst by default and evening home by 46-12. The regulars were all in the game.

Our business meetings have been attended by the Rev. Mr. Morris who spoke briefly on the Scout Law defining "Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful and Friendly.

On New Year's Day the Scouts in Philadelphia had a rally in the "First Regiment Armory." There were Patriotic songs, lariot throwing, making fire without matches, movies, music, etc. It was *great.*

We have been very fortunate in procuring the services of Mr. Alex Boggs for Asst. Scoutmaster. Mr. Boggs who has been working with the "Seniors" for a long time is a good fellow and should make a popular and efficient leader.

Miss Gilpin Asst. Scout Master Boggs and the Scout Master are making plans for a Spring "Sports." Contests in Scouting and Athleties will be held and prizes given to the winners.

Hikes, Basket Ball, Gymnasium, Scouting, Shuffle-board, Instruction in First Aid, etc , by experts, special lectures are some of the coming events.

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NOTICE.

There will be a general Missionary meeting of the Women's Auxiliary on January the 27th in S. Stephen's Church, 10th St. above Chestnut. There will be sessions both in the morning and afternoon. Addresses by prominent speakers.

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the News is due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since the last issue.

Mr. Barton Miss Ashbridge

The Ascension News

Vol. XXIX. Philadelphia, February, 1916. No. 2

Church of the Ascension

Broad Street, Below South

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Services

Holy Communion

Every Sunday ..... 7.30 and 11.00 A. M.
Holy Days ..... 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer

Sundays ..... 10.30 A. M.
Daily ..... 10.00 A. M.

Evensong

Sundays (Choral) ..... 4.00 P. M.
Daily ..... 5.00 P. M.
Sunday School and Bible Class 3.00 P. M.

All the Seats are Free at all Services God's House is open to all its Children
The Church is always open for private prayer, and the Clergy can be seen after any service or by appointment.

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The Ascension News

The Church of the Ascension

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Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	8.00 P. M.
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Thursdays, St. John,s Guild	8.00 P. M.
Saturdays, St Agnes' Guild	7.00 P. M.

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Wednesdays, Mothers' Meeting	8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class	10.30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society	10.30 A. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent ..... The Curate

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

For Adults, Male and Female ..... 3.00 P. M
Taught by The Rector

AN ANNOUNCEMENT.

We suppose most of our readers have seen in the papers that a legacy of $100,000 was left by the late Mrs. H. W. Watson for the erection of a church in the section of the City of Philadelphia lying south of Market Street, between the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers, to be called "St. Mary's Protestant Episcopal Church," in memory of her mother. This legacy was left to the Trustees of the Diocese and was accepted by them at their quarterly meeting last October.

The Trustees then appointed a committee to consult with the Bishop and other ecclesiastical authorities of the Diocese as to the best place in which to erect this church. The Bishop subsequently consulted the Convocation of South Philadelphia, whose territory covers this section of the city, and the Convocation appointed a committee to consider the question and report at a subsequent meeting. Both these committees held joint sessions, together with the Bishop. A Committee of the Architectural Commission of the Diocese also considered the matter.

The Bishop, with the Rev. Dr. Tomkins, Dean of the Convocation, and Congressman Watson, Mrs. Watson's husband, and executor, whose approval of any plans for the erection of the church is required by the will, together with a real estate expert, visited in an automobile all the built up southern sections of the city to consider where such a church could be placed.

Their conclusion was that there was

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A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITOR
THE RECTOR

TREASURER
MR. R. HICKMAN YOUNG
1529 South 4th Street

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KALENDAR.

Feb. 2. Purification B. V. M.
4. Friday—Fast.
6. Fifth Sunday after Epiphany.
11. Friday—Fast.
13. Sixth Sunday after Epiphany.
18. Friday—Fast.
20. Septuagesima.
24. S. Matthias.
25. Friday—Fast.
27. Sexagesima.

✠

RECORD

MARRIAGE, Joseph Wah and Margaret May McElpenny. 1

COMMUNICANT transferred to the Church of S. John the Evangelist, Mrs Emma Rebecca Burk. 1

✠

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$332.30
" General Missions	185.15
" the Poor	26 23
" Parochial Activities	1 58
Of the Sunday School	4.62
	$549.88

no part of the present built up portion of the city where it would be wise to erect a church of this magnitude, without any provision for its support. So they, with the committees of the Trustees and of the Convocation, agreed that it would be wiser to take the site of some existing church, if one could be found which would be willing to change its name and merge its property with this legacy, transferring it to the Diocese to form a Diocesan Church.

The Vestry of our parish having been approached on the subject has agreed to do this, and the position of our church on the one great avenue we have and within a few blocks of the center of the city, makes it preeminently a fitting location for such a church.

The committees both of the Trustees and of the Convocation, having each reported to their respective bodies in favor of the project, their reports were in each instance accepted, and the Committee of the Trustees was instructed to carry it out. There seems, therefore, that nothing remains but to complete the necessary legal and ecclesiastical steps required.

The constitution of a Diocesan Church would mean the formation of a body of which the Bishop would be the head, and which would probably be governed by a board composed of the Bishop, and a number of clergymen and laymen representing both the Diocese and the congregation. This would secure the carrying on of the same trusts under which the property of the parish is now held, but it would greatly enlarge its scope and add to its prominence. Various Diocesan agencies would probably be grouped about it.

To carry the project out, will involve the purchase of additional property adjoining the church and its enlargement and enrichment. It will also require the accumulation of an endowment fund. But this, it is believed, can be more readily secured for a Diocesan Institution than for a mere parochial one.

As members of this parish we ought to be very happy over this prospect of securing its permanence and prosperity under such favorable auspices.

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PARISH NOTES.

Gifts to the Church. The Parish has received the very handsome gift of three large religious pictures, one representing the Nativity, one the visit of the infant Baptist and his mother to the infant Christ, one a Holy family. These pictures were purchased nearly a hundred years ago by the late Mr. John Hare Powel, and hung for many years in his residence on Rittenhouse Square. At his death they passed to his son, Robert Hare Powel, and were hung in his house on Sprue St. above 15th St. until now, when that house being broken up, they are presented by his daughter, Miss Amy Ida Powel, to the church, as memorials to members of her family.

The two larger pictures have been hung, under the supervision of our Committee on Buildings, on the north wall of the church; the somewhat smaller one in the chancel over the stalls on the west wall.

They add immensely to the enrichment and decoration of the church.

The Vestry passed a special minute thanking Miss Powel for her generous and handsome gift.

Confirmation instructions will be given on Saturday afternoons at 4 o'clock by the Rector, and on Wednesday evenings, after the 8 o'clock service, by the Curate, beginning with the first Wednesday and Saturday of this month.

We trust that all who are of sufficient age and have not yet been Confirmed will attend one of these courses of instruction, that they may be prepared for presentation to the Bishop at his annual visitation of the parish which will take place on the evening of Wednesday, March 29th.

The envelope offerings for purposes "outside" of the parish for the quarter we enter this month, are for "Diocesan Assessments." The amount asked for this purpose from this parish is greatly increased this year, owing to the adoption at the last Convention of what is known as the "Budget." That includes a number of purposes to which this parish has not formerly contributed, such as work among the Colored, Italian, and other foreign population of the Diocese, the Gallilee Mission, State College, etc. To meet these assessments largely increased offerings must be made over what we have received in other years. The total sum required from the Parish is $445.39.

The ladies of the Woman's Auxiliary make their collections for the general Missions of the Church this month.

The Smoker of the Men's Club last month was made very interesting by the illustrated lecture given by Dr. Walter E. Lee on his experlences as a surgeon connected with the American Hospital in Paris during the present war. He talked for nearly two hours and showed a large number of pictures and some exhibits, shells, etc., he had brought back with him. This, with a short friendly boxing match and the usual refreshments, filled up the entire evening.

Girls' Friendly Society. On February 15th and 22nd there will be very interesting talks on health and hygiene by the Supt. of the Women's West Philadelphia Hospital. All the women in the congregation will be welcome.

Troop 63, Boy Scouts. On Jan. 24, Dr. Hubley S. Owen, Chief Police Surgeon, addressed the Scouts on "First Aid". This subject is interesting to all good scouts, so we invited our neighboring troops. There were about 150 boys and men present.

During January, Scouts Bender, Bieberback, Hayes, Eisinger, and H. Barr passed one or more "tests" each, which gives us a few more "near" first class scouts. Watson, Mull and Geo. Dennis are preparing for their tenderfoot "exams".

Any good fellow over "12" can join us. Just see one of the scouts or come around on Monday night.

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NOTICES.

The Rector has been requested by the agent of the Traveler's Aid Society to furnish the names of any families in his congregation who would be glad to take as boarders, or to furnish rooms for, one or more respectable girls coming as strangers to the city to obtain work. Any seeing this notice who would like to do so, can communicate with the Rector.

Addresses. The Bishop of the Diocese will make the following series of addresses during the weeks immediately before Lent:

I. The Incarnation
Thursday, February 17, 4 P. M.
St. Mary's Church, West Phila., Locust St. above Thirty-ninth St.

II. The Church
Thursday, February 24, 4 P. M.
Calvary Church, Germantown
Manheim St. and Pulaski Ave.

III. The Sacraments
Thursday, March 2, 8.15 P. M.
St. Simeon's Church, Phila.
Lehigh Avenue and Ninth St.

IV. The Ministry
Monday, March 6, 11.30 A. M.
St. James's Church, Phila.
Walnut and Twenty-Second Sts.

The Sixty-sixth Local Assembly of the Daughters of the King, Diocese of Pennsylvania, Tuesday, February 8th, 1916, in St. Barnabas' Church, 3rd and Dauphin Streets. Program for the Day: Afternoon session, 4 30; speaker, Mrs. Ralph H. North, Treasurer of the United Offering of the Woman's Auxiliary; Supper, 6.30 P. M., 25 cents; Evening Service, 8.00. The Clergy and all who are interested in devotional work among women are cordially invited. Mrs. Caroline S. Berger, Acting President, Jane M. Welte, Secretary.

Song Recital. A Song Recital will be given by our Organist and Choir-Master, Mr. Henry L, T. Ullrich, on Wednesday evening, Feb. 23, 1916, at Griffith Hall, 1420 Chestnut Street.

Mr. Ullrich's baritone voice is familiar to the members of the congregation through the number of times he has sung during the Morning Services on Sundays, and particularly on the performance of Stainer's Sacred Cantata, "The Crucifixion", which has been a regular part of the Holy Week Services during Mr. Ullrich's period of service as our Organist and Choir-Master.

The programme arranged is a most comprehensive one, and we can promise those attending a most enjoyable Recital.

Sptrit of Missions. This year the annual Lenten Offering Number of The Spirit of Missions will be issued in March. It promises to be very popular. The advance orders have been most encouraging. In one week requests for more than thirty-two thousand copies were received. The usual arrangement is being made with Sunday-school scholars, through the rectors or superintendents, whereby copies may be ordered in any quantity. These are billed at five cents each, and sold for ten cents apiece by the children. Five cents goes to pay for the magazine and five cents goes toward the Sunday-schhol Lenten Offering. Last year the children sold about ninety-eight thousand copies. This year it is hoped to exceed a hundred thousand. It is not required that those selling this number be members of a Sunday-school, so long as it is understood that the special rate is given for the sole purpose of helping to advance the Lenten Offering. The Managing Editor, the Rev. C. E. Betticher, Jr., will be glad to hear from any who are willing to sell copies with this end in view. Full particulars will be cheerfully and promptly given, and correspondence is solicited from any who wish more information in the matter. Address inquiries and orders to the Managing Editor, 281 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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The following were received since the last issue.

Mr. Newnam	Mrs. T. L. Smith
Miss Casey	Mrs. Busch
Miss Wurts (2)	Miss Johnson (2)
Miss McKnight	Miss Goodman

The Ascension News

VOL. XXIX. PHILADELPHIA, MARCH, 1916. No. 3

Church of the Ascension

Broad Street, Below South — All Seats Free

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Morning Prayer

SUNDAYS.....10.30 A. M.
Daily.....10.00 A. M

Evensong

SUNDAYS (Choral).....4.00 P. M.
DAILY.....5 00 P. M.
SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE CLASS.3.00 P. M.

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The Ascension News

The Church of the Ascension

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SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent ---------- The Curate

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

For Adults, Male and Female ---------- 3.00 P. M
Taught by The Rector

A SERIOUS WORD ABOUT LENT.

At the beginning of every Lent the Clergy set forth lists of special services, sermons, etc., with directions how Lent should be observed. But very many persons pay no attention to these things at all. Lent is not different to them from any other part of the year except perhaps there are no large balls given.

But it is a season which has been appointed to be observed universally by the Church from the very earliest times. It is intended to answer a very special purpose. It is a very emphatic reminder to all Christians that they need constantly to repent of sins they have been committing, and to make a distinct effort to amend their lives and to strive after higher things than those which usually occupy their time and attention. To do this effectively they need to put themselves under discipline, and for a time at least practice some sort of austerity, and to give special attention to spiritual things by acts and exercises of devotion and performance of charitable works.

The Churches of the Anglican Communion do not lay down specific rules how their members should fast. They leave each to decide that for himself. What is fasting for one, is not for another. But in general it may be laid down that all should abstain from amusements and dissipation of any kind, and follow some rule of fasting from indulgences in food and drink. They ought also to be more frequent in prayer and attendance on Divine worship.

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A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITOR
THE RECTOR

TREASURER
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Kalendar.

March 3. Friday—Fast.
5. Quinquagesima.
8. Ash Wednesday.
12. First Sunday in Lent.
15. Ember day.
17. Ember day.
18. Ember day.
19. Second Sunday in Lent.
25. Annunciation B. V. M.
26. Third Sunday in Lent.
All days in Lent are Fasts.

✠

RECORD FOR FEBRUARY.

BAPTISM, Florence Adelaide Smith.	1
MARRIAGES, William Hopkins and Mrs. Melvina Helm Knecht. Lurman Sweetland Allen and Annye Williams Moore.	2
COMMUNICANTS transferred to the Chusch of the Holy Apostles, Robert Curry McMeeken. To the Chapel of the Prince of Peace, Francis Airy. To Trinity Church, Vineland, N. J., Mrs. Elsie Davenport Reynolds.	3
DIED. Mrs. Mary Ann McCann.	1
BURIALS, Charles Ross Newbold, Harry Ware. Mrs. Mary Ann McCann.	3

✠

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$280.34
" Diocesan Assessments	36.25
" General Missions	9.96
" Parochial Activities	.09
" the Poor	27.49
Of the Sunday School	2.67
	$356.80

Of late years the custom has obtained here of having short noonday services with addresses from distinguished preachers at two or three of the business centers of the city under the auspices of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. These are intended primarily for business people who can only get off from their work for a few minutes at noon. But many of our Church people who have time frequent these services as well. And doubtless they profit by the addresses they hear. But the amount of devotion they can get from the few collects which are said and the couple of hymns sung is very little.

Therefore the Clergy of this Parish very seriously call upon their people to give more attention this coming Lent to the matter of devotion. Will they not be more rigorous in attending on Sundays a Celebration of the Holy Communion, which is the highest, most perfect devotion we can engage in, and if possible in addition the 9 A. M. Celebration on Thursdays?

And can they not arrange to attend more or less regularly the daily prayers at 10 A. M. or 5 P. M., or the Wednesday service and lecture at 8 P. M. On Fridays, at 5 P. M., as formerly, the boys of the choir will be present and a special devotional service will be held.

The Rector proposes this year to have special devotions each Friday for the following objects: March 10th, The peace of the world; March 17th, Harmony in our own Church; March 23rd, Union among all Christians; March 30th, The extension of the Christian religion throughout the world; April 7th, The building up of the Church in our own Country; April 14th, The work and prosperity of our own parish.

We beg our people especially to attend those services, not only for the good they may be to them, but that by their prayers they may assist these great needs of the Church and the world.

And let all determine to really observe Lent in some way for the spiritual blessings they may gain thereby.

On Ash Wednesday there will be Holy Communion at 7.30 A. M. Morning Prayer, Litany, Penitential Service, and Holy Communion, with sermon, at 11 A. M. Evening Prayer at 5 P. M. Penitential Service and Sermon at 8 P. M.

✠

PARISH NOTES.

Confirmation. The annual visit of the Bishop to this parish when he will administer Confirmation on the evening of Wednesday, March 29th, is drawing very near.

Preparatory Instructions are being given every Saturday afternoon by the Rector at 4 P. M. in the Parish building, and by the Curate every Wednesday after the 8 P. M. service. If there are any who desire to be Confirmed and cannot attend on either of these days, the Rector will meet them on Sunday afternoons after the 4 o'clock Evensong. Let no adult attending the church who is not confirmed permit this opportunity to pass without receiving this blessing.

Lenten Services. As we have regularly so many services both on Sundays and on week days in this parish there is no need of additional ones during Lent. But there is great need of those we have being better attended. We hope many more will come during the week days especially, than do so usually. The only change is having the choir boys sing on Fridays at 5 o'clock, when as we have said in our editorial, there will be special devotions for certain specific present needs of the Church and the world. We trust there will be a good attendance especially at this service.

The Ladies' Aid as usual invites any of the ladies attending the Church, or their friends, to join them on Wednesday afternoons during Lent to sew for a charitable purpose. The object will be decided by the ladies when they meet. If there are those who prefer to do so, they can come and get their work and do it at home. Donations of money or material for this work can be sent to the church to the care of Mrs. Barrett who is in charge of it.

Gifts. The Church has received a very acceptable donation of 50 new Prayer Books and 50 new Hymnals from the Bishop White Prayer Book Society, for which we return our thanks. Also a wire letter box for the Vestry room and a number of magazines and some articles of clothing for the poor.

New Chancel Window. We are glad to announce that an order has been given by one of our parishioners to fill with painted glass the one remaining plain glass window in our Chancel. The subject of this window, in harmony with the others, will be, Christ in the garden of Gethsemane.

As it will be made in England by the same firm which has put in all the

other windows it will take some time before it is received here.

This leaves only the remaining small Clerestory windows to be filled, as the church now stands. When it is enlarged there will be probably some more large windows to be put in. The Clerestory windows can be filled either singly or in groups of three or more at a time. The Rector has designs for two more on hand.

Entertainments. There will be another Men's Smoker on the evening of Thursday, March 16th, when we expect to have an illustrated lecture called "A Trip to Porto Rico" by Bishop Van Buren, who was with us as a guest at the last smoker. He has a large number of very beautiful slides he has kindly offered to show us.

On Monday, March 6th, there will be a children's party for the Sunday School, and on Shrove Tuesday there will be a Social given by the Girls' Friendly Society, which will consist of an entertainment and saurkraut supper. The tickets of admission, .25 cents.

S. John's Guild. Having been unsuccessful in Basket Ball due to the lack of attendance, the St. John's guild decided to change the program of entertainment on Thursday evenings to dancing instructions. Up to date this scheme has worked out to perfection owing to the co-operation of members and their friends with the committee.

At the January meeting the following officers of the club were elected for the year of 1916. Mr. Alex Boggs, President, Mr. James Boggs, Treasurer, Mr. Samuel Neill, Secretary. This Committee is very anxious to increase the membership of the guild this year and would be greatly indebted to anyone who can in any way help them to procure members.

Boy Scouts. Scouts G. Mull, Bender, and Ramonett all passed 2nd class tests during February. Our Basketball team has had particularly "hard luck" in visiting teams failing to appear, being disappointed on four different times in the month. The Bear Hunt on the 22nd, the shuffleboard tournament with Scouts W. Mull and H. Barr showing unexpected strength, are leading factors in the Feb. activities.

During March we will elect new patrol leaders to succeed Scout Norman Hayes, (Woodpigeon), and Scout Eisinger, (Mongoose), who have done very well during the past year. To the Woodpigeon, however, goes most of the laurels, including championships in scouting, and baseball, and a lead in the basketball series. The Mongoose are starting the New Year by leading in shuffleboard and are determined to regain the other championships during 1916.

✠

WILLS.

What a Philadelphia lawyer says about making a will.

People should make their wills while they are in good health, and before they are stricken down with their last illness.

It has never caused any one regret upon his deathbed to know that he has put his affairs in order, and has left his estate so as to cause his widow and children as little trouble as possible.

People naturally desire to have their property, upon their death, go in accordance with their wishes.

It is dangerous to delay making a will. This is especially true in regard to gifts to charity. According to the Act of 1855, no gift can be made for any charitable purpose, except by deed or will, executed one month before the death of the grantor or testator, and with two subscribing witnesses.

It, therefore, frequently happens that because a person did not make his will until within a few days of his death, all the charitable bequests made by him fail, and the property goes to people to whom he does not intend it shall go.

✠

REMEMBER.

1. That the object of keeping Lent is not only to conform to an ancient custom, but also to obtain a spiritual good.

2. That the testimony of Christians whose testimony is worth having is that there is much profit in a well kept Lent.

3. That the benefits of Lent are for those who seek them, and they can not be expected to come unsought.

4. That the purpose of fasting is not to propitiate God by making ourselves miserable, but to gain control over our worldly desires.

5. That whenever money is saved by denying ourselves some luxury, the cost of it should be added to our Easter offering, otherwise the discipline of self-denial is not complete.

6. That all our self-examinations should be unbiased, our object being not to find what can be approved, but what must be corrected.

7. That our Lent will profit us just in the proportion in which it brings us nearer to Christ, and makes us more like Him.

✠

Send out Thy Light, the way is dark before me,
The path Thy Love has moulded out for me;
Send out Thy Light, that I may see Thy Footsteps
Calming the waters of life's restless sea.

Send out Thy Light, the clouds are dark above me,
Gathering in tempest from the angry sea;
Send out Thy Light, that I may see the storm-drops
Which fell from the dear Hand, once pierced for me.

Send out Thy Light, and lead me, Father, lead me,
Beyond this darkness, sorrow, and unrest;
Send out Thy Light, and guide me, worn and weary,
To the calm Shelter of my Saviour's Breast.

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since the last issue.

Mrs Roe (2)	Misses Epprecht
Dr. Coates (2)	Mr. Carroll Hodge

The Ascension News

Vol. XXIX. Philadelphia, April, 1916. No. 4

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Broad Street, Below South — All Seats Free

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The Church of the Ascension

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WM. J. MORGAN

2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild	8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, St. John,s Guild	8.00 P. M.
Saturdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.00 P. M.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid	3.00 P. M.
Wednesdays, Mothers' Meeting	8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class	10 30 A. M.
First Friday, Missionary Society	10.30 A. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent ---------- The Curate

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

For Adults, Male and Female ---------- 3.00 P. M
Taught by The Rector

THE DIOCESAN CHURCH.

The members of the congregation will be naturally interested to know what steps are being taken to change our parish into a "Diocesan Church", as it was announced was the intention.

At a meeting of the Vestry last month certain amendments to the charter were adopted for the purpose of carrying this out. The first amendment changes the name of the church from that of "the Ascension" to "St. Mary's Protestant Episcopal Diocesan Church." The second sets forth the purposes of the Church, first to maintain Divine worship, and as this is to be the Bishop'Church, the standard of worship will be naturally that which the Bishop would like to see in all the churches of his Diocese. The other purposes of the Church will be to promote educational, missionary, and social activities, under the immediate direction of the Bishop and the Diocesan Convention, the latter consisting of all the clergy and three representatives of each parish in the Diocese.

These four purposes of a Diocesan, or Bishop's Church, appear in all the statutes or constitutions, in different words in all the Cathedral Churches of England, and in this country. The plan is to carry them out here by transferring the City Mission from its present position on Third St. below Walnut to this location, and centering here as well other activities of the Diocese.

The third amendment to the Charter provides for the substitution of the present Vestry by a Board of Trus-

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EDITOR
THE RECTOR

TREASURER
MR. R. HICKMAN YOUNG
1529 South 4th Street

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KALENDAR.

April 2. Fourth Sunday in Lent.
9. Passion Sunday.
16. Palm Sunday.
17. Monday before Easter.
18. Tuesday before Easter.
19. Wednesday before Easter.
20. Maundy Thursday.
21. Good Friday.
22. Easter Even.
23. Easter Day.
24. Easter Monday.
25. Easter Tuesday.
28. Friday—Fast.
30. Low Sunday.

✠

RECORD FOR MARCH.

BAPTISMS, Adults, Mrs. Lydia Berry.
William Dougherty Hill. 2

MARRIAGE, Philip Bird Winn and Alicia Alberta Selwin. 1

CONFIRMED, Richard Allen Pickett.
William Dougherty Hill.
Joseph William Caywood.
Bayard Harry Caywood.
Earl Closson Caywood.
Henry Clay Irvin.
Walter Sydney Norris.
Henry Mortimer Sellers.
Floyd Macgee Worthington.
Cavalier Worthington.
Mrs. Lydia Berry.
Helen Grace Worthington.
Pauline Alice Worthington.
Clara Bessie Ritsert. 14

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$235.26
" Diocesan Assessments	40.44
" the Poor	39.51
" General Missions	2.87
" the Mothers' Meeting	5.00
" Parochial Activities	1.0
" Female Prayer Book Society	8.00
" Bishop's Purse	6.30
Of the Sunday School	3.05
	$334.80

tees, to be composed of the Bishop of the Diocese, three clergymen and four laymen to be elected annually by the Diocesan Convention, two clergymen to be appointed by the Bishop, and four laymen to be nominated by him and elected by the other members of the Board. Among these there will be naturally some representatives of the congregation of the Church.

These amendments to our charter will be submitted to the Standing Committee of the Diocese at its regular meeting this month, and if approved by them, and by the Bishop, they will then go to the Committee on Charters of the Diocesan Convention, who will report on them to the Convention which meets the second week in May. And if the Convention approves of them they will then go to the court to get legal sanction. This may be accomplished in June before the courts adjourn for the summer, or, it may have to go over until the autumn.

In the meantime plans are being perfected for the enlargement and beautification of the Church. We are glad to announce that the two houses immediately south of the Church property on Broad St., having a frontage on that street of thirty-six feet, have been purchased for the Church. Also the store north of the Church has been bought. This will enable the

Church to be extended to South St. where a front will be erected, and a tower built on the corner of Broad and South Sts.

The chancel end of the Church may also be taken out and the Church extended in that direction. No plans have as yet been drawn.

It will be some time before the plans can be perfected and the additional building completed.

In the meantime the services of the Church will be continued as usual, and there will be no cessation of the services even while the new building is going on.

✠

PARISH NOTES.

Holy Week The services during Holy Week will be, as formerly, daily Celebrations of the Holy Communion at 7.30 A. M., and after Morning Prayer at 10 A. M., except on Good Friday. Daily Evening Prayer at 5 P. M., and at 8 P. M. the Stations of the Cross will be observed, except on the evening of Tuesday when the Cantata of the Crucifixion will be sung, as in the last two years, by a largely augmented choir. On Saturday evening instead of the Stations there will be a short service commemorative of the blessed dead.

On Good Friday the Stations will also be observed at 9.30 A. M., for the Children of the Parish. The Mid-Day Services will begin at 11 A. M., with Morning Prayer and the Litany, followed by the singing of the Reproaches and the Preaching of the Cross from 12 to 3 P. M. The preacher this year will be the Rev. Mr. Hatherway, Rector of S. John's Church, Norristown, who was at one time a choir boy in this parish.

On Palm Sunday there will be the usual procession of palms before the Mid-Day Celebration at 11.00 A. M.

Easter Day. There will be Celebrations at 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 and 11.00 A. M. Morning Prayer at 10.30 A. M., Choral Evensong with Procession at 4 P. M.

Easter Offering. We shall need fully $1,200 at Easter to meet our current expenses up to May 1st, as we began our financial year last May entirely free from debt, and as we have reduced our current expenses to the lowest possible figure, we trust that every one in the congregation will make as large an offering as possible, that this sum may be secured, and we may have the satisfastion of entering another year free from any liabilities.

If there are any who would prefer to make their Easter offering for a Missionary or benevolent object rather than for our current expenses, they can designate their offering for General or Diocesan Missions, for neither of which purposes has the parish made up the sums asked from it.

Confirmation. The Bishop of the Diocese visited the parish on the evening of March 29th and Confirmed a class of fourteen persons. We were much disappointed that a number of others who should have been Confirmed this year did not present themselves.

The Men's Club. Owing to illness Bishop VanBuren was unable to give the illustrated lecture on Porto Rico, as had been announced. But we were fortunate in securing in his place a representative of the Young Men's Christian Association, who spoke most interestingly and effectively on the

educational facilities now offered in Philadelphia, also on the great advantages to be gained by every one through availing himself of the educational opportunities he may have.

This lecture, with some music, filled up the evening.

The children's party last month was a success in spite of its occurring on a very bad night.

The Girls' Friendly play and supper was a great success, some eighty persons being present.

During Lent the members are sewing for S. Michael and All Angel's Home in West Philadelphia. The Corporate Communion of the Friendly will be held on Sunday, April 2nd, at the 7.30 A. M. Celebration.

The Mothers' Meeting. The Rector is in much need of funds for the payment of the work given out every Wednesday evening to the members of this meeting. It amounts to eight or nine dollars a week, and the Poor Fund from wnich the money is derived is now exhausted, in fact largely overdrawn. The Rector will be most thankful for special contributions for this purpose; it is an admirable way of assisting families who find it very difficult to get along especially during the winter months.

St. John's Guild gave, on February 24th, a Dance and Sociable which met with a great success. The grand march was led by our esteemed directress, Miss M. Gilpin, and the President of the Guild, Mr. A. Boggs.

This affair made a great impression on those present and the Guild is going to try to repeat it sometime in the near future.

Boy Scouts. Our new year has started off with a "whoop". Of the three contests during the month we took two, a basketball game from the Wonders and a shuffleboard match from Trood 10. The other basketball game with Greystock was bitterly fought and our team feel as if they could have won had they resorted to mean tactics, but during the chat between halves the team, with the score tied, decided to stick to the square, clean game, win or lose. Score 20–14.

At the meeting on March 27, Scout Mull was appointed Senior Patrol Leader, heading the Mongoose, while Bender will be Patrol Leader of the Woodpigeon. McDermott is the new "scribe." Scout Marsh was elected Honorary member. W. Mull and G. Dennis took their oath as "tenderfeet." We are busy drilling and practicing for Spring Sports. The Scoutmaster being ably assisted meanwhile by Asst. Scoutmaster Boggs and Mr. Seyfert of the Troop Committee.

✠

MUSIC.

Easter Day, 10.30 A. M.

Procession—Hymn 112
Anthem:
"Christ our Passover"—Wiegand
Te Deum—Dudley Buck
Jubilate—Williams
Hymn 109
Kyrie—Strang
Gloria Tibi, Creed—Horatio Parker
Offertory—Soprano Aria from "The Messiah"— Handel
"I know that my Redeemer liveth"
Sanctus—St. Cecilia Mass—Gonoud
Benedictus, Agnus Dei, Gloria in Excelsis—Horatio Parker
During Ablutions—Hymn 243
Recessional Hymn, 121
Postlude—Hosanna! Paul Wachs

4.00 P. M.

Processional Hymn, 114
Psalm 57
Magnificat, Nunc Dimittis—Berthold Tours
Anthem:
"Break forth into joy"— Barnby
Procession—Hymn 112
Offertory—Hymn 110
Recessional Hymn, 121
Postlude—
"Jubilate Deo", Alfred J. Silver

✠

"THE CRUCIFIXION."

As in the two past years, the rendition of the Sacred Lenten Cantata, "The Crucifixion", by Sir John Stainer will be a regular part of the Holy Week Services of the Church.

The date this year is Tuesday evening, April 18, at eight o'clock.

As formerly, our Choir will be especially augmented, with some 75 extra voices.

Mr. Edward Shippen VanLeer has been engaged to sing the important tenor solos of the Cantata. Many will remember Mr. VanLeer as a boy soprano in our Choir, having attended our Sunday School and grown up in the work here, and was at one time our tenor soloist. It may be said that Mr. VanLeer sings the Crucifixion markedly well, and his singing in this rendition will have a singular significance.

Our present Organist and Choir-Master, Mr. Henry L. T. Ullrich, will sing the baritone part, and the bass solos will be intrusted to Mr. Henry J. Ebrey, who was formerly a member of St. Mark's Choir, and is a singer of considerable prominence in Philadelphia.

Mr. Walter St. Clare Knodle, who all know was at one time our Organist and Choir-Master, and is now in charge of the music at St. Paul's Church, Chestnut Hill, is kindly assisting by bringing his Choir, and in addition will preside at the Organ on that evening.

While it is extremely pleasant to see so many strangers in the Church on these occasions, the Cantata is given primarily for the members of the Ascension, and it is hoped all will hear this Service, particularly since the Crucifixion is not given on such a splendid scale anywhere else in Philadelphia.

✠

NOTICE.

The Bishop of the Diocese will hold a service for Vestrymen and others at the Church of S. Luke and the Epiphany on Good Friday at 4 P. M.

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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The following were received since the last issue.

Mrs. Machen	Miss Dickerson
Miss O'Harra	Miss Rhein
Mr. W. H. Cope	Mr. Sam'l Milliken
Mrs. W. H. Cope	Mrs. H. H. Read
Mr. S. D. McLaughlin	
Miss Barrington	Dr. Neilson

The Ascension News

Vol. XXIX. Philadelphia, May, 1916. No. 5

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SEXTON

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2022 St. Albans Street

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Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew -- 8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild ---------- 8.00 P. M.
Saturdays, St Agnes' Guild ---------- 7.00 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent ---------- The Curate

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

For Adults, Male and Female ---------- 3.00 P. M
Taught by The Rector

THE CHURCH'S SOCIAL MISSION AND FREE CHURCHES.

There is nothing more noticeable lately than the general awakening of the Church to a realization of her social mission. Religion was long regarded as a means chiefly of securing ones welfare in the future life. Of course it does this, but it secures as well the living of the best life in this world. He whose heart and mind are in accord with God, and governed by His laws will live the happiest life and be of most service to the world. The laws of God are the laws of nature, and so far as men live in accordance with them the highest welfare of the community will be secured.

The Church has a mission to society. It is its duty to teach men how to live aright, and to employ any means she can to promote human welfare.

So we find our churches everywhere doing all they can to better social conditions. All our Churches now have parish buildings in which all sorts of agencies are employed for the education and amusement of young and old, to bring them under the influence of the Church and to keep them away from other associations which would be harmful. Nearly all our Dioceses have Social Service Commissions, to study social conditions and to devise means for their betterment.

And the Church itself, in its constitutions and teachings, is the most powerful instrument for inculcating and promoting the highest human interests. It was the first to proclaim the universal brotherhood of men. Its mission is to set up the kingdom of God upon earth. All men of all races and conditions are entitled to her

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EDITOR
THE RECTOR

TREASURER
MR. R. HICKMAN YOUNG
1529 South 4th Street

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KALENDAR.

May 1. SS. Philip and James.
5. Friday—Fast.
7. Second Sunday after Easter.
12. Friday—Fast.
14. Third Sunday after Easter.
19. Friday—Fast.
21. Fourth Sunday after Easter.
26. Friday—Fast.
28. Rogation Sunday.
29. Rogation day—Fast.
30. Rogation day—Fast.
31. Rogation day—Fast.

✠

RECORD FOR APRIL.

BAPTISMS, Frederick Schumter.
Mildred Gladys Challman.
Raymond Bachelor Reeves Jr. 3
MARRIAGES, Thomas John Broome and Grace Mae Jones.
William Edward Lockwood and Helen Harriet Hodge. 2
COMMUNICANTS ADDED new,
Frank Consolvi,
William Dougherty Hill
Joseph William Caywood,
Bayard Henry Caywood.
Earl Blossom Caywood,
Henry Clay Irvin,
Walter Sydney Norris.
Henry Mortimer Sellers.
Floyd McGee Worthington,
Cavalier Victor Worthington,
Mrs. Lydia Berry,
Helen Grace Worthington,
Pauline Alice Worthington,
Clara Bessie Ritsert. 14
From the Church of Rome,
Mrs. Lucy Coccia,
Augustus Coccia. 3
TRANSFERRED to Christ Church, Reading, Pa.,
Mrs. Fannie W. Eckert. 1
COMMUNION OF THE SICK, 1
DIED, Mrs. Esther Neill. 1
BURIALS, Albert Henry Holly,
Marguerite Anne Davis,
Mrs. Esther Neill,
Ray Black. 4

✠

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses (including Easter offering)	$999.83
" the Poor	22.41
" the Mothers' Meeting	21.30
" Diocesan Assessments	36.86
" General Missions	1.25
" Parochial Activities	.20
" Flowers	50.94
" Altar Guild for year	110.00
" Domestic Miss. (Woman's Auxiliary	35.50
" Foreign Missions " "	15.75
" Indian " " "	25.50
" Colored " " "	14.25
" Diocesan " " "	15.25
" Tract Society	5.00
" Ladies' Aid Society	36.00
Of the Sunday School	3.83
Do. for Missions (Mite chests)	25.17
Total	$1,419.04

membership, and the enjoyment of all her privileges, by the same instrumentalities and without price. The millionaire and the pauper, the prince and the peasant are baptized in the same way, are communicated from the same vessels on the same level, and married and buried with the same words. It is the most Democratic Institution in the world.

Is it consistent then with this character and these teachings that seats should be sold or rented or reserved in our churches, that people should feel that there is no place or welcome for them unless they are able to pay a fixed price—

and that often a very large one—for a place where they can attend the worship of the Church? Is it consistent with her teaching that people should be graded in Church according to their wealth, the richest in the best front seats, those not so well off, further back or in the side aisles, and the poor up in, or under, a gallery, if there is any place for them at all?

We believe that there is nothing connected with the church which has done more to destroy its influence in the community, to create the impression that it is only a rich man's club, that the poor, or working class people, are not wanted in it, and so interferes with its exercising an effective social influence, as the habit which has obtained of renting and selling seats in churches.

And there are just two excuses given for this system, one is, that it is the best way to secure a large and regular income for a church. But if to do that puts the church in a false light, and injures its influence in the world, surely it would be better for it to run the risk of loss of revenue, or secure it in some other way, and experience has proved this can be done.

The other excuse is, that people like to have their family pews. But that is pure selfishness which ought not to be allowed to stand in the way of the church doing the greatest amount of good it can.

The Church is not carying out the Democratic principles, or conveying the impression it should, that all have an equal right and welcome to her membership and privileges, and that she is interested in the welfare of all, if its pews are sold or rented, and social distinctions thus maintained. The pew rent system is inconsistent with, and a hindrance to, the church's carrying out her social mission.

PARISH NOTES.

Easter. We had an unusually bright and successful Easter. Though an April day it was not threatening enough in the early morning to keep people away, it cleared off beautifully in the middle of the day, and did not rain until after the four o'clock afternoon service. The church looked beautiful, as it always does on such occasions, the music was very good and the number of communions made were more than last Easter, though we must remember that last Easter was a stormy day. The offerings amounted to some $700. This is not all we needed and we trust the remaining amount may still be made up, as we do not want to carry a deficit on to the new financial year which begins with this month.

The receipts of the Sunday School children's mite chests this Lent amounted to $25.17. This was largely obtained by the children selling chocolate eggs on which they obtained a percentage. One boy brought in over $8 he made in this way.

Gifts. A very handsome piece of Filet lace of the XVII Century, which has been used for a frontal to the Festival cover of the Credence to the main altar. The brass cover of the Font, with the ball and chain supporting it, have been relacquered, and look as new as if they had just been put in.

Vestry Election. At the annual election for Vestrymen the four gentlemen whose terms expired this year were all re-elected. Mr. John W. Patten was elected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Edward F. Pugh. At the meeting of the Vestry in Easter week Mr. Millard F. Roberts was re-elected Accounting Warden, and Dr. Thomas R. Neilson re-appointed Rector's Warden.

The marriage of the Rector's eldest daughter, Miss Helen Harriet Hodge to Mr. William E. Lockwood, of Glenloch, Pa., took place in the church on April 25th. The ceremony was performed by the Rector, assisted by the Rev. Jules Prevost, Rector of Glenloch, the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Pittsburgh, pronouncing the benediction.

Improvement of the Church. A meeting was held at the church last month of a Committee of the Architectural Commission of the Diocese and the architectural firms, to whom the additions and improvements to the church will be intrusted, to consult as to what changes should be made and as to their character. The general conclusion was reached that the church should remain substantially as it is, except that the chancel should be extended, if there is sufficient funds to do so. When possession is obtained of the corner property, the store now standing on it will be torn down and the church extended in that direction to South St. This will give the church the front it has always needed, and allow of a tower being built at the corner of the two streets which will add immensely to its beauty and prominence, and of course afford space for a belfry which we have always wanted to have.

As the corner lot extends further west than the church it will also permit the formation of a chapel at that end of the building to which the Altar now standing in the west aisle can be removed. This will increase the seating capacity of the church and provide a real side chapel.

There are other improvements which it is hoped will follow, such as the erection of a really handsome Altar and Reredos in the Chancel, making the floor fireproof, putting a better flooring under the pews, introducing electric lighting, filling all the vacant windows with handsome glass, etc. Our Parish Building and the Vestry room ought also to be enlarged. These things, we trust, will all come in time. And they will be certain to come if the change in the relations of the church results in bringing to it a greatly enlarged congregation as we trust it will.

The formation of the Diocesan Church may be somewhat delayed, as the Bishop wants to consider more carefully its Constitution. But we are authorized to say that when it is constituted our present Rector's connection with it will continue. He will be on the Clerical Staff and act as Pastor of the congregation. This will answer many questions which have been asked as to whether or no he was to remain with the Church.

Entertainments. The children of the Industrial School were given their Annual Easter Festival on the morning of Saturday, April 29th. Prizes were given to the scholars who had done the best work during the winter and been most regular in their attendance. Easter eggs for all, with ice cream and cake, and "a fish pond", were also provided.

The members of S. Agnes' Guild of little girls are rehearsing for "the Pageant of the Church" to be given on Wednesday evening, May 3rd.

The Girls' Friendly Society have been working during Lent for S. Michael and All Angels' Home for Crippled Children. The devotional meeting this month will be on Tuesday morning, May 16th. Their other meetings will continue as usual throughout the month.

The Ladies' Aid Society during Lent made up a box of clothing for S. Christopher's Hospital for Children, valued at $35.

Death of Miss Hewson. The older members of the Church will regret to hear of the death of Miss Jane B. Hewson, in the ninetieth year of her age. Miss Hewson was long one of the most devoted friends of this Parish and did most for it. She formed our Saturday Industrial School some thirty years ago, devised the work for the children to do, and the system of prizes and Festival with "Fish pond, etc.," which has been kept up ever since. At one time there were one hundred and fifty children in it, and though Miss Hewson was herself not larger than some of the smallest girls, she managed to keep perfect order both among the boys and girls. She founded, also, the Ladies' Aid Society, and St. Mary's Guild for young women, which has been merged into the Girls' Friendly Society. She was a regular attendant at the Church services, never missing the early Sunday Celebration as long as she was able to come to the church. When she could no longer do so, she returned to Christ Church Chapel which was directly opposite her house, and in which she had previously been interested. For the last year or two she has not been able to leave her house. She was ever a liberal contributor to the Church, constantly devising nice things for it or for its clergy.

We are sure that she has now entered into rest, and we pray that she may be richly rewarded for all her labors for God and for His Church.

The Juniors of St. John's Guild will give a grand exhibit of their Annual Sports, in the Parish House, May 28th, at 8 P. M. There will be contests in jumping, running and drills by members of Troop 63 Boy Scouts. Admission 10cts. Music and prizes. Don't fail to come and see what the boys of the Ascension can do!

Come one, come all.

Boy Scouts. The Scoutmaster has appointed the staff for the coming year. Senior Patrol Leader, G. Mull; Patrol Leader (Woodpigeon), Wm. Bender; Scribe, C, McDermott. Work under the new leaders is going with a "vim." A basketball game was played, in which the Woodpigeons tied up the series with the Mongoose for the troop championship.

Our hike to Seven Springs was a great success, the Mongoose having a full patrol. Many of the boys passed tests during April, bringing us all nearer to first class.

Four or five new fellows are preparing for their tenderfoot test.

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NOTICE.

The Society of Little Gardens

The Society of Little Gardens will hold a meeting in our Parish Building of all the Associate Members and Associate Branches on Saturday afternoon, May 6th, from 2 until 6 o'clock. Admission by ticket only.

There will be a sale of Plants and Seeds, and the pupils of the School of Horticulture will give demonstrations.

At 4 o'clock a Lecture on Gardening will be given by Mr. Maurice Fuld, followed by afternoon tea.

All active Members are invited to attend the meeting, which will be the first of its kind held since the Society was organized.

Anyone who will contribute Plants or Seedlings or who is willing to assist in any way, is requested to notify Mrs. Benjamin Coates, Chairman of the Comuittee on Exchange, The Lincoln.

✠

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A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since the last issue.

Mrs. Wylie	Mr. Wirgman
Miss Hare	Miss Holbrook

The Ascension News

VOL. XXIX. PHILADELPHIA, JUNE, 1916. No. 6

Church of the Ascension

Broad Street, Below South — All Seats Free

Services

Holy Communion

EVERY SUNDAY.....7.30 and 11.00 A. M.
HOLY DAYS.....7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer

SUNDAYS.....10.30 A. M.
Daily.....10.00 A. M.

Evensong

SUNDAYS (Choral).....4.00 P. M.
DAILY.....5.00 P. M.
SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE CLASS.3.00 P. M.

All the Seats are Free at all Services God's House is open to all its Children
The Church is always open for private prayer, and the Clergy can be seen after any service or by appointment.

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The Church of the Ascension

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Superintendent ---------- The Curate

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

For Adults, Male and Female ---------- 3.00 P. M
Taught by The Rector

(Discontinued from Trfnity Sunday to Sunday, Sept. 17th.)

PARISH ANNIVERSARY.

As usual Ascension day will be observed as our special Parish Festival, being the thirty-sixth occasion during the present Rectorship.

In the anniversary sermon on the evening of Ascension day, the Rector will read the annual report of the Parish, commenting on it. There have been double the number of Baptisms over the previous year, 26 against 13. Two more Confirmed. There have been three more Marriages and four more Burials. Six more Communicants have been added new and one by transfer. One more lost by death, and six less by transfer and removal. But the total number of communicants is ten less than last year. This is due to the continued removal of families from this part of the city to the suburbs.

Those who have died during the year were Richard William Gilpin, one of our Vestrymen for fourteen years, and a member of the parish for twenty-five years, a member of S. Andrew's Brotherhood, and one deeply interested in the welfare of the Church. He was a brother of our former Curate, the Rev. William Bernard Gilpin. In the same month died Mrs. Sadie Rutherford Stewart. She was brought up in our Sunday School and Confirmed here. Subsequently she married and removed to a distance, but when a long illness overtook her, by request, the Rector ministered to her and officiated at her burial. Mr. Thomas Craig, a Scotchman by birth, and reared as a Presbyterian. He was Confirmed in this parish a few years ago and was as regular in his attendance as

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITOR
THE RECTOR

TREASURER
MR. R. HICKMAN YOUNG
1529 South 4th Street

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RECORD FOR MAY.

BAPTISMS, Marie Alowysius Pickett.
George Moore. 2
MARRIAGE, Charles Joseph Miller, Jr., and Ethel Gwendolyn Westerman. 1
COMMUNICANTS transferred to the Church of the Saviour, Jenkintown, Pa.
Mrs. Helen Borie.
Charles Lewis Borie, 3rd.
William Joyce Sewell Borie.
To S. Paul's, Glenlock.
Mrs. Helen Harriet Lockwood.
To S. Stephen's, Camden, N. J.
Mrs. Elizabeth Thorn.
Mrs. Mary Grant.
Mrs. Anna Marie Moffit. 7
DIED, Mrs. Sadie Kelley. 1
BURIAL, Mrs. Sadie Kelley. 1

✠

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$377.31
" the Poor	70.47
" Parochial Activities	24.25
" Diocesan Assessments	.95
" Memorial Window	250.00
Of the Sunday School	2.97
Total	$725.95

his work permitted him. He died a beautiful death, supported by the consolations of religion and with strong faith for the future. In November Mrs. Margaret Spence passed away after lying for five years a helpless paralytic. She had been Confirmed ni private by the Bishop two years before and had since then regularly received the Holy Communion at home. She was a most beantiful example of patient bearing of suffering, never complaining, always bright and cheerful. Mrs. Mary Ann McCann died in February. She attended the old Church on Lombard street, and when her son, with whom she was living, removed with his family to the northern part of the city and was transferred to a nearby Church, Mrs. McCann refused to leave the parish she had so long been connected with, so the Rector ministered to and buried her. In April, Mrs. Esther Niell died very suddenly, leaving a large family of children. She had been brought up and Confirmed in this parish, but removing to a distance, had been very irregular in her attendance of late years And last month an equally sad death, was that of Mrs. Sadie Kelly, formerly a girl in our Sunday School, and Confirmed here, who died when only twenty-two, leaving two small children.

In addition to the above the parish met with a great loss in the sudden and unexpected death of Mr. Edward Fox Pugh, for eight years a most valuable Vestryman of this parish, and for a long period a most regular attendant at its services through eight months of each year, though he was registered as a Communicant in a country parish where he lived during the summer. He was deeply interested in all Church matters, and his experience as a lawyer and his sound and judicial judgment was most helpful both to the parishes with which he was connected and to the Church at large.

May God grant light and refreshment to all these departed members of our parochial family.

The number of children in our Sunday and Saturday Industrial Schools has remained about the same as last year. The attendance at both schools would be larger and the discipline better if we could secure more teachers who would be regular in their attendance and devoted to their work. But each year it seems more difficult to find those who will give themselves up to this work. This year the Curate has acted as Superintendent of the Sunday School, and the Rector has taught an Adult Bible Class, male and female. The latter was a pleasure to him, though he regrets that while the enrollment was thirty-two, the usual attendance was seldom as much as half that number.

The Rector has been fortunate this winter in having a regular Curate again, who has not only assisted him with the Sunday services, and taken them entirely on occasions when he could not be present, but has relieved him entirely of the Sunday School, of the Wednesday night services and of all the young peoples' Guilds. This has been a great help to him and a benefit to the parish.

Our various Guilds have kept up their numbers and interest. We are especially gratified at the success and usefulness of the Boy Scout band.

Our little band of women workers have been as faithful and assiduous as ever, and accomplished an equal amount of work to that of former years. We only wish that more of the ladies of the parish could, or would, take a part in its activities.

The financial receipts for the year were somewhat less than the previous year, but that was due to some especially large gifts having been received then which we could not expect to be repeated. We did not quite make our expenses for the year, but the deficit has been very nearly made up since May 1st.

Of course the great event which has happened to the parish during the year has been the fact that the ecclesiastical authorities have determined to place here the legacy received from the late Mrs. H. W. Watson for the erection of a Church in the central portion of the city, and the securing of properties both to the north and the south of the Church lot for its extension, and the fact that it is to be made a Diocesan Church. This will secure its future in an enlarged and beautified condition and give it a prominence and importance it could not have as a merely parochial Church. It is a peculiar gratification to the Rector to feel that the work on which he has bestowed so many years of labor has this prospect of permanence and increased usefulness in the future.

The Church has also been fortunate this year in the reception of the three large religious pictures which have been hung on the walls, and in the promise of another stained glass window for the Chancel which will be put in very soon.

Altogether we have to congratulate ourselves in having maintained the work of the parish at a standard equal to that of late years, and with having had opened before us most unexpectedly a brilliant prospect for the future.

Though this may be the last parish festival held under the legal name of the Church of the Ascension, we trust a still more satisfactory report may be made another year when it shall be known as S. Mary's Diocesan Church.

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REPORT.

The following is the report of the Parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop:

Baptisms.—Adults, 2; Infants, 24; total, 26.

Confirmed.—Males, 11; females, 4; total, 15.

Communicants added.—New, 17; by transfer, 11; total, 28; died, 7; removed by revision of list, 13; by transfer, 18; total, 38; present number, 456.

Marriages.—9.

Burials.—19.

Public Services.—Sunday, 147; on the other days, 687; total, 796.

Celebrations of Holy Communion.—196.

Children Catechised.—Times, 108.

Sunday School.—Officers and teachers, 9; scholars, 100.

Other Parish Agencies.—Officers and workers and members, 100; Industrial School Teachers, 5; scholars, 42; Mothers' Meeting, members, 20.

Money Receipts.—Offerings for Parish support, $4,927.66; offerings for purposes outside the Parish, 1,387.24; investments, $637.46; other sources, entertainments, etc., $263.91; Sunday Schools, $65.70; the poor, $396.09; Women's Auxiliary, $309.25; for Endowment Fund, $60.85; Preaching Mission, $75.17; total, $7,815.09.

Expenditures.—Parochial current expenses (including salaries of clergy, music, fuel and lighting, care of church buildings and grounds and ordinary repairs of same), $4,932.61; interest on loan, $13.08; support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools and Guilds, $62.22; for the Poor, $460.21; added to Endowment Fund, $60.85; summer outings, $71.90; Preaching Missions, $75.17; miscellaneous, $731.66; total, $6,417.70.

Diocesan.—Episcopal anr Convention Fund, $177.06; Diocesan Missions, $134.88; Episcopal Hospital, $58.45; St. Christopher's Hospital, $15.00; Social work, $5.00; Bishop's Fund, $6.80; total, $422.50.

General Missions.—From the Sunday School, $25.17; Collections, $1,000.00; Clergy Relief, $18.51; Prayer Book and Tract Societies, $13.00; United offering, $86.50; Periodical Club, $10.50. Total, $1,128.50. Total for all objects, $7,968.71.

PARISH NOTES.

Our Parochial Festival comes unusually late this year owing to the late date of Easter. June 1st is Ascension day, when there will be services as on Sunday. Holy Communion at 7.30 A.M. and after Morning Prayer at 10.30 A. M. This will be Choral. At night there will be a shortened Choral Evensong and the Anniversary sermon by the Rector. On Sunday, June 4th, at 4 P. M., there will be the annual Guild service when all the Parish Guilds will enter and leave the Church in procession, and a sermon will be preached to them by the Rev. Dr. Mockbridge, Rector of S. James' Church. We trust that every member of our various Guilds will make it a point of honor to be present on this annual occasion when they are all expected to appear together.

The Parish Tea will take place on Monday evening, June 5th, when the members of the Girls' Friendly Society will give a short play. There will be also music and the usual refreshments. Tickets may be obtained from the Verger.

Summer Services. The regular Sunday Services and Sunday School and Bible Class will be continued until Trinity Sunday, after which the Sunday afternoon service will be discontinued until the third Sunday in September. On the afternoon of Trinity Sunday prizes will be distributed to those scholars who have been regular in attendance and proficient in their studies during the year.

During the four summer months the daily Morning and Evening Prayers will be discontinued. Prayers being said only on the mornings of Wednesdays and Fridays and all Holy days, the latter with Celebrations of the Holy Communion.

The Church will be always kept open as usual, and one of the Clergy can be communicated with at any time by telephone if their services are required.

The United Offering from the parish this year was $86.50, the largest amount ever raised in one year. This was due to our energetic Treasurer, Mrs. M. F. Roberts.

The annual picnic of the parish will take place on Saturday, June 24th. It. will be held as formerly on Burlington Island. Free transportation will be provided for all the members of the Sunday School and of the Mothers' Meeting from the Church to the Island and return. Entertainments will be given the children on the Island, but each person is expected to bring his or her lunch. Members of the parish can join the picnic by paying their own expenses. All will assemble in the Parish building by 7 A. M.

Should June 24th prove stormy the picnic will take place the following Saturday.

Boy Scouts. We had a big meeting to start the month, and the position of Patrol Leader of the Woodpigeons changed hands, Bender resigning and John Barr being appointed. Harry Barr and Max Bieberback are the new assistants.

The Mongoose clinched the basketball championship in the deciding game. A nature study hike was arranged for May 13th. Many specimens were gathered |including poson ivy by Scout Simons.)

In the championship contests for Philadelphia Scouts, Scout Bieberback got second in "Dressing", and Bender got seventh in "Compass pace." They are both Woodpigeons. Among the awards at the "Spring Sports" will be a "gold pin" for Mr. Seyfert as a "thank you" for his work this season.

A unique entertainment was given in the Parish Building on Wednesday evening, May 3rd, by the members of St. Agnes' Guild and some boys of the Sunday School.

There was a short act by the Boy Scouts. They were much applauded for their songs.

The 'Prophecy Pot' afforded much amusement.

The next feature was a tableau, representing "Good Friday." It was followed by the "Easter morn." The girls were dressed as angels and sang two Easter Hymns. Lemonade and cake were served at the close of the entertainment.

The Board of Managers of "St. Christopher's Hospital for Children," very gratefully acknowledge the receipt of squares, tray covers, gowns, petticoats, dresses, aprons, towels and soap sent by the Ladies' Aid of our parish, the result of their Lenten work.

Gift. The Church has received the gift of a very handsome piece of brocade for a Vestment.

Girls' Friendly Society. On Tuesday, May 16th, at the monthly devotional service, two new members were admitted, and five 'Senior' members. The Curate, Mr. Norris, gave a very helpful address, and following the service the Branch, with several friends, partook of lemonade and cake which had been made by the girls. The members will visit the University Observatory one evening in June, and meet through the summer in their "little gardens."

The Annual Spring Sports of the Junior St. John's Guild and Troop 63, Boy Scouts of America, took place on Monday, May 29. There was a large attendance Program: 1, Drill; 2, "Setting Up" Exercises; 3, Buck; 4, High Jump (Junior record 4 ft. 6 in., 1915); 5, Standing Broad Jump; 6, 3 Legged Race; 7, Pie Eating; 8, First Aid; 9, Signalling; 10, Awards.

There will be no issue of this paper during July, August and September.

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The Ascension News

The Church of the Ascension

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220 South 19th Street

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Thomas R. Neilson, M.D.
Millard F. Roberts

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

Henry L. T. Ullrich.

SEXTON

Wm. J. Morgan
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild ..... 8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, St. Agnes' Guild ..... 7.00 P. M
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society ..... 8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew ... 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild ..... 8.00 P. M.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid ..... 3 00 P. M.
Wednesdays! Mothers' Meeting ..... 8.00 P M.
Thursdays. Embroidery Class ..... 10.30 A. M.
First Friday Missionary Society ..... 10 30 A. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent ..... The Curate

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

For Young Men ..... 3.00 P. M
Taught by Miss Maria J. Gilpin

THE NEW LECTIONARY.

We begin with this month the use in this parish of the new tables of Lessons set forth by the late General Convention.

These tables form a two years' course and are founded on the Ecclesiastical instead of the Civil year.

The old tables provided the same lesson for each Sunday in every year. These new tables give series of lessons for each Sunday for two years, and then directs that in the two succeeding years the lessons that have been read in the morning, should be read in the evening during the succeeding two years. This really provides a course extending over four years and enables those attending Church regularly either morning or evening to hear all the important parts of Scripture during that time. There are many persons who are in the habit of going to Church on Sundays only in the morning or only in the evening, so under the present system they hear only the same lessons year after year. The new tables will give this greater variety and make all Church attendants more familiar with the different parts of Scripture.

These lessons being founded on the Ecclesiastical instead of the Civil year, begin with the first books of both the Old and New Testament on the first Sunday in Advent instead of as formerly on January first. And they are made to correspond, as far as possible, with the teaching of the season, instead of reading the books straight through as they come in their chronological order. This will require a good deal of skipping from book to book, but the

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EDITOR
THE RECTOR

TREASURER
MR. R. HICKMAN YOUNG
1529 South 4th Street

TERMS;

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KALENDAR.

Dec. 1. Friday—Fast.
3. First Sunday in Advent.
8. Friday—Fast,
10. Second Sunday in Advent.
15 Friday—Fast.
17, Third Sunday in Advent.
20, Ember Day—Fast.
21. S. Thomas, Apostle.
22, Ember day—Fast.
23. Ember day—Fast.
24. Fourth Sunday in Advent.
25. Christmas.
26. S. Stephen, Martyr.
27. S. John, Evangelist.
28. Holy Innocents,
29. Friday—Fast.
30. Sunday after Christmas.

✠

RECORD FOR NOVEMBER.

COMMUNICANT transferred to the Chapel of the Mediator, Harriet Bessie Means.	1
COMMUNION OF THE SICK,	1
BURIAL, William Payton Perry.	1

✠

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$273.60
" the Poor	86.31
" General Missions	18,82
" Parochial Activities	1.52
" Thanksgiving Dinners	17.60
" the Episcopal Hospital	14.62
Of the Sunday School	2.68
Total	$415.15

lessons will be much more appropriate to the season through which we are passing.

The historical lessons for Sundays are are so arranged as to carry the history of the Israelites through to their deliverance from Egypt in the first year, and on to their return from their captivity in Babylon during the second year. And the second lessons are made to correlate as far as possible to the first lessons, those selected from the Old Testament containing the prototypes of our Lord's life and work as given in the New Testament. The lessons are made also to harmonize with the Collects, Epistles and Gospels for the several Sundays.

In addition to the Historical Lessons for the Sundays an alternate lesson is given for each Sunday from either the Prophetical books or the books of Wisdom, which may be used in place of the historical lesson if preferred. This introduces another possibility of variety in the Sunday Lessons. There is also permission given for the reading of a lesson provided for any day of the same week instead of the Sunday Lesson, as they all have reference to the same subject. And when there is no Celebration of the Holy Communion on Holy days, the portions of Scripture appointed for the Epistles and Gospels may be used in place of the lessons appointed for morning or evening prayer.

All these provisions afford a great flexibility in the use of the Bible readings in our Church services and will give much more definiteness and meaning to the different seasons of the Church year.

Those who cannot attend the daily services in the Church, or even the Sunday services regularly, cannot do better than to use these tables as a guide in their private reading of the Bible, a habit all Christians should carefully maintain. The Bible is a colection of the most interesting, instructive, and inspiring books which can be found in all human literature. Every one should be familiar with them, and try constantly to imbibe more and more of their wisdom, teaching and spirit. In them God speaks to us as He does in no other way, and if there is any voice we should be attent to hear it is that of God as He speaks to us through those whom He has thus inspired to speak to men in His name from time to time.

Copies of these new tables can be obtained at Jacob's Book Store, 1628 Chestnut Street. Price 15 cents.

✠

PARISH NOTES.

Thanksgiving day was observed as usual with a service in the middle of the day as on Sunday, the office for St. Andrew's day being used in the early morning. The sanctuary was decorated with fruits, some of which were sent afterwards to three persons in the parish who are sick, and the remainder was distributed to the choir boys after the service. On the evening before the members of the Mothers' Meeting and their children were entertained at a bountiful turkey and cranberry dinner in the parish building, which was provided by the liberality of some of our members. One of our male members and four of our ladies prepared the supper and waited on the table.

The Men's Club meeting last month was attended by about the usual number. A very interesting talk on the life and habits of fishes was given by Mr. Mechan, the head of the City Aquarium in Fairmont Park.

Over one hundred and thirty invitations are sent out each time to men connected with the parish to come to these meetings, but the attendance is seldom more than thirty or forty. Those who fail to come, not only miss a very pleasant and interesting evening—for we always try to make them so—but they are losing an opportunity of becoming acquainted with other men in the parish. A Church should be not only a place to worship in but also a social center. Those who belong to the same church shoul look upon themselves as members of one family and try to cultivate the relation which should subsist among the members of the same family.

It is not well for any one to live all by himself or even to shut himself up exclusively to the society of his own family, or let himself be so taken up with his daily work as to allow no time for recreation, or to seek recreation in ways which perhape may be injurious to him. We are trying very hard to make our Churches now do social as well as strictly spiritual work, and a man will be helped in many ways who enters into the social activities which he will find now in most of our parishes.

We hope we shall see more of our men at the next meeting of the Club in January.

Changes in the Church. As many are asking what is being done in regard to the proposed changes in our parish, we can only say that the deed transfering the property of the parish to the Trustees of the Diocese to be held for the Watson Memorial has been signed, and the architects are perfecting their de-

signs for the proposed extensions to the Church. As we cannot get possession of the store north of the Church until the lease of the present tenant expires, the extention of the Church cannot take place in that direction until then. But when the plans for all the alterations of the Church are completed, we can begin the enlargement of the Chancel towards the south on the ground we already possess. No further steps have yet been taken for the constitution of the Diocesan organization which is to control the property, or for the removal of the City Mission offices to the neighborhood of the Church as was proposed.

Christmas. Our services on Christmas day will be Celebrations of the Holy Communion at 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 and after Morning Prayer at 10.30 A. M. Evening Prayer at 5 P. M. The Children's Christmas Festival will take place on the evening of Holy Innocents' day at 7.30 P. M. There will be the usual Creche and Christmas tree, with candies and presents, and we hope a play of some sort will be given by the members of the Candidates' Class of the Girls' Friendly.

The Christmas Offering must be for the deficit in our current expenses. Every summer we run behind hand in meeting our monthly obligations owing to so many persons being out of town. We can only make this up by large special offerings at Christmas and Easter. We need $1,000 on each occasion. We hope that those especially who do not use the envelopes and contribute very little regularly, will make up for it by a large offering at this time.

Donations for the Children's Christmas Festival and for Christmas baskets for our poorer members may be placed in the alms chests in the vestibule of the Church which are marked for those purposes.

The Christmas Communion. As Christmas day comes this year on Monday, some may prefer to make their Christmas Communion on Sunday, the day before. One of the Clergy will be found in the Church on Saturday, except between one and three o'clock in the afternoon, if any desire to see them in regard to it.

Christmas Music. Farmer's Communion service will be sung on Christmas day and on the following Sunday. It is one of much beauty and has never been used in the Ascension.

The Te Deum will be by Dudley Buch in C, and the Offertory Anthem, "We have seen His Star in the East and are come to worship Him," by Edwyn A. Clare. Postlude—Processional March by James H. Rogers.

Boy Scouts. Several overnight hikes during the summer partly equipped the boys for their work this fall, which has included a hike nearly every week. Our last "overnight" was a hike to Camp Morrell led by the Scoutmaster and Patrol Leader John Barr. Mr. Bushnell had his semi-annual nature study hike during November taking us through Cheltenham Ogoutz and Jenkintown.

Our indoor meetings have been made interesting by the talks of the following: Mr. Walker, U. of P., on "Football, Personal Health, etc.;" Dr. Funkey, on "Teeth", Scont Commissioner Merrill on "Veteran Scouts", and Rev. Mr. Morris on "The Scout Law."

Scout Bender has passed his tests and is now a First Class Scout. The knot-tieing class has been started with Scout McCann doing the best work.

The basketball team of the St. John's Guild, composed of Scouts, has been winning regularly under the leadership of "Dick" Mull. On Thanksgiving Day they defeated two teams, "Greystock", an old and bitter rival, and the "Owls."

Keep this in sight. Girls' Friendly Society. December, 1916. Tuesday, 5th, Service and business meeting; Tuesday, 12th, Miss Williamson and Miss Wharton in charge. Surgical dressings to be made; Tuesday, 19th, Dancing class, and all contributions of toys, fruit, etc., for children at Blockley, to be brought in; Tuesday, 26th, Crochet and fancy work classes.

S. E. Gilpin, Branch Sect.

Holy Communion on Thursdays during Advent at 9 A. M.

✠

AN ANCIENT CHRISTMAS CAROL.

"A Babe on the breast of a maiden He lies,
Yet sits with the Father on high in the skies;
Before Him their faces the Seraphim hide,
While Joseph stands waiting unscarred by His side.

"Lo! here is Immanuel, here is the Child,
The Son that was promised to Mary so mild;
Whose power and dominion shall ever increase,
The Prince that shall rule o'er a Kingdom of Peace.

"The Wonderful Counsellor, boundless in might,
The Father's Own Image, the Beam of His Light;
Behold Him now wearing the likeness of man,
Weak, helpless, and speechless, in measure a span.

"O wonder of wonders, which none can unfold,
The Ancient of Days is an hour or two old;
The Maker of all things is made of the earth,
Man is worshipped by Angels and God comes to birth.

"The Word in the bliss of the Godhead remains,
Yet in flesh comes to suffer the keenest of pains;
He is that He was and forever shall be,
But becomes that He was not, for you and for me.

"Then let us adore Him, and praise His Great Love,
For to save us poor creatures, He came from above."

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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The following were received since the last issue.

Misses Epprecht
Mrs. T. L. Smith
Mrs. H. P. Busch
Miss Dickerson
Mrs. Tutwiler
Mrs. Tait
Mrs. Christian
Miss Means
Mr. R. W. H. Young (2)
Mrs. M. W. H. Young (2)
Mr. H. B. French (2)

The Ascension News

Vol. XXX. Philadelphia, October 1916. No. 1

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Holy Days ..... 7.30 and 10.30 A. M

Morning Prayer

Sundays ..... 10.30 A. M.

Daily ..... 10.00 A.

Evensong

Sundays (Choral) ..... 4.00 P. M.

Daily ..... 5.00 P. M.

Sunday School and Bible Class 3.00 P. M

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The Church is always open for private prayer, and the Clergy can be seen after any service or by appointment.

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220 South 19th Street

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Millard F. Roberts

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

Henry L. T. Ullrich.

SEXTON

Wm. J. Morgan
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild ---------- 8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, St. Agnes' Guild ---------- 7.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew --- 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild ---------- 8.00 P. M.
Fridays, Girls' Friendly Society ---------- 8.00 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent ---------- The Curate

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

For Young Men ---------- 3.00 P. M
Taught by Miss Maria J. Gilpin

CHANGES IN THE CHURCH.

The proposed changes in our parish both as to enlarging the Church, and constituting the parish as a Diocesan Church have been delayed through various causes.

As to the first, though the property on the corner of Broad and South Sts. was purchased last April, the deed for it had to be sent first to England and then to France to be signed by the owners, one of whom is in London and the other in Paris, and it was not returned until the end of July. Then it was found defective in form, and another deed had to be drawn and sent as before to England and to France, and it has not yet been returned. And no steps could be taken in the meantime to obtain possession of the property.

However, the architects have been making their drawings which are now complete and ready to be put in the hands of the builders when they have been submitted to the proper authorities and approved.

They provide for the tearing down of the store now on the corner of South Street and erecting in its place an extension of the nave of the Church with a very handsome tower on the corner of Broad Street on the one side and a side Chapel on the other side of the nave. The Altar now at the head of the west aisle of the Church will be removed to this Chapel, and it will afford a much more appropriate and convenient place for week day and early Sunday services than the present arrangement.

The principal entrance to the Church will be through the tower, but there will

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KALENDAR

Oct. 1 Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity.
6 Friday—Fast.
8 Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity.
13 Friday—Fast.
15 Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity.
20 Friday—Fast.
22 Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.
27 Friday—Fast.
28 Saturday, SS. Simon and Jude.
29 Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

✠

RECORD FOR JUNE, JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER.

BAPTISMS, Florence Opal Wistina Bell.
Harriet Ware Birket. 2

MARRIAGE, Roderic Crawford St. Leyer and Cora Irene Gass. 1

COMMUNICANTS added new
George Ware. 1

transferred to Grace Church, West Philadelphia.
Marie Ella Krewson. 1

received by transfer from Christ Pro-Cathedral, Trenton, N. J.
Evelyn Olivia Tames. 1

DIED, Mrs. Edna Grace Reeves.
George Ware. 2

BURIALS, Mrs. Edna Grace Reeves.
George Ware 2

COMMUNION of the sick 1

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$571.50
" the Poor	80.31
" Parochial Activities	42.44
" Endowment Fund	44.05
" General Missions	500.00
" Diocesan "	5.71
" the Parish Tea	5.50
" the Outing Fund	45.00
Of the Sunday School	1.73
Total	$1,296.24

be also a door to South Street at the west end of the nave, and above it will be three large lancet windows, which Mr. Watson proposes to fill with handsome stained glass as a memorial to his wife, who was the donor of the money for the erection of the building. Other additions and improvements will be made to the Church.

There has also been delay in changing the Church from a Parochial to a Diocesan organization, owing to the Bishop's feeling that it would be wise to take time in forming the new constitution. He called a meeting early in June of a number of laymen whom he wanted to consult in the matter, and propounded to them a number of questions in regard to which he asked their opinion, intending to have another meeting at which these questions would be considered. But by this time it was so late in the season, that this did not seem practicable until the Autumn. And he and some of those he wanted to consult will be absent at the General Convention until the end of October, so nothing further can be done until he returns. And we imagine some time will be consumed after that before a final agreement can be reached and the plan consummated.

In the meantime the parish will go on

as usual, and we must possess our souls in patience until we see these bright anticipations for its future enrichment and expansion realized.

✠

PARISH VISITING.

As we do not expect to have a regular Parish Worker this Winter, and as the Curate's time during the week is largely occupied by his duties as one of the Secretaries of the Bishop, all the parish visiting will devolve on the Rector, and as our people are so scattered, so many living at a great distance from the Church, it is impossible for him to call on each family more than once in the year, except in cases of sickness or other emergency. But a great deal more visiting should be done, especially in connection with the Sunday and Industrial Schools and the Mothers' Meeting, and in hunting up delinquents. Are there not in the parish some persons who would volunteer to assist in this work?

In many Churches now it is a regular habit for the laity to do this work. It is often regularly organized, a band of men or women will undertake sometimes on a particular day to call on every person in the parish, enjoining regular Church attendance, etc. And in many cases congregations have been greatly enlarged in this way.

The Rector would be very glad if he could have some help of this kind. Might not a parishioner in West Philadelphia undertake to visit the members of the parish residing on that side of the river. Or one living, say south of Washington Ave., call on those in the southern section of the city. Another perhaps might visit all the members of the Sunday School, another those of the Mothers' Meeting.

The Rector will be glad to furnish names and addresses to any who would be willing to do this most valuable work.

✠

PARISH NOTES.

The summer passed off uneventfully in the parish. The Sunday School closed on the afternoon of Trinity Sunday, June 18th. Prizes were awarded to the following members of the school for regularity in attendance or for good behaviour: Henry Barr, Edward Ramonette, Watson Mull, Cavalier Worthington, Frederick Zahn, Charles Ritsert, John Berry, William Rogers, Augusta Cocia, Anna Cocia, Bertha Franks, Pauline Worthington, Reba McDermott, Catherine Bierberback, Clara Ritsert, Barbara Ritsert.

The children of the Infant Class were each presented with a small silver cross on a blue or pink ribbon to hang round their necks.

The Annual Parish Picnic took place on the following Saturday, under the charge of the Rev. Mr. Morris. The day was fine, and all enjoyed the sail up the Delaware to Burlington Park and back, and the day spent there. No accidents of any kind occurred.

We have to regret the usual small attendance at the Church services during the summer months. Of course many were out of town, especially on Sunday. But of those who were in the city many stayed away, giving as an excuse that it was "too hot" to go to Church. We did not find, however, that the many beautiful, pleasant Sundays we had made any difference in their attendance.

The Boy Scouts held their annual camp at Florence Heights, N. J., on ground kindly loaned for the purpose by

Mrs. Thomas Neilson. In honor of the Rector they called it "Camp Hodge."

The week beginning July 17th was a busy week for the Troop, preparing for the opening of "Camp" on Saturday, July 22nd. It was all very new to most of us and without Mr. Morgan's help, it would have been a sorry camp.

The equipment was sent to Florence early in the week, and on Friday, Mr. Morgan with John Barr, Kohlhund and myself, established camp, Mr. Morgan and myself returning in the evening, leaving Barr and Kohlhund in charge.

Saturday morning, although a dismal, rainy morning, found us all at the Church in high spirits and after assuring fond parents there was no danger of sharks, we left for the boat. There were, Jones, McDermott, G. Mull, W. Mull, H. Barr, F. Kohlhund, Dennis, Ramonette, Biles, Collison, Steubyen, not forgetting "Aunt" Katy, the cook, and her assistant, Phoebe.

We arrived at camp about three o'clock and after placing things in order, it was supper time. What appetites! I saw at once my work as provisioner was to be "some" job.

After supper Scout McLoughlin arrived to spend Sunday, and soon thereafter we all went to bed, but not to sleep.

On Sunday it cleared off splendidly. In the afternoon, a former choir boy, Charlie McCann, came with his parents to visit us. He had such a good time, he came back on Monday to stay until Thursday.

But with our "Pop" Reeves away, we all felt there was something very much lacking and when he arrived Sunday evening, unexpectedly, we were more than glad.

The days were spent for the greater part in the water, and those on detail to bring wood and carry water, hated to give up even that much time.

Tuesday and Wedenesday brought visitors to the Kohlhunds and the Mulls and with them lots of good "eats". Thursday brought Mr. Roberts and Mr. Ullrich whom we persuaded to stay for the watermelon party that night.

The boys from St. Elizabeth's Church pitched their camp next to ours and in the evenings we would visit each other's camp fires, and argue as to which was the better.

On Tuesday evening, they invited us to a corn party which we returned by a watermelon party on Thursday. Jonsey and Micky were the star entertainers of the evening. Friday evening, both camps gathered around our fire and had some more eats, but all were rather quiet because of the breaking camp on the morrow.

We broke camp after lunch and in a short time had the equipment packed, and were on our way home.

The camp was a great success, and we all want to thank the Rector and other good friends who helped make it possible for us to have it.

R. B. Seyfert, Scout Aide.

Winter work. With this month all our young people's guilds recommence. The only changes made will be that the Girls' Friendly Society will meet on Friday evenings instead of Tuesday as heretofore, and the little girls' Guild will be in charge of Miss Ely, who is connected with the New Century Club, and has lately come to the Parish. They will meet on Tuesdays instead of Saturdays as they have so long done.

Our ladies will remember the annual meeting of their Guild on SS. Simon and Jude's day, the 28th, at 10 A. M.

The new Chancel window promised in the spring, arrived from England during the summer and was put in place by the first Sunday in September. It is an unusually brilliant piece of glass, though it represents a night scene, that of the betrayal in the Garden of Gethsemene. In the upper part of the window, our Lord is represented surrounded by the soldiers, with their torches and weapons, and Judas is in the act of kissing Him. In the lower part S. Peter is about to cut the right ear of the servant of the High Priest with his sword. The window is a memorial to Mr. John W. Patten and his wife.

This now completes the windows in the Chancel and is a great improvement over the solitary plain glass window which was there. We wish all the remaining clerestory windows could now be filled with handsome glass.

Our Parish Worker, Miss Bowen, has felt obliged to give up her work, in order that she may take a position which will occupy her whole time. We regret very much to part with her as she has been most faithful and zealous, and has been of great service in the Sunday School, the Mothers' Meeting, and the little girls' Guild and in parish visiting.

The Rector will have again to depend on volunteers to occupy these different positions, as he has not the funds to pay the necessry salary for a Church worker. When the Vestry withdrew the salary for a Curate, they appropriated a smaller sum for a Parish Visitor. But when a year later another Curate was engaged that sum had to go towards his salary, and the Rector had to take the salary of the Parish Visitor out of the fund for Parochial Activities. But this fund for the past year was not only exhausted but the income for the present year anticipated. So that the Rector finds himself absolutely without funds either for these purposes or for the relief of the poor of the Parish, as that fund also was overdrawn. He begs, therefore, those who have not as yet returned their contributions made during the summer months for these funds to do so at once, and to make them as large as possible, that he may be able to carry on the work during the coming winter.

The Sunday School should have reopened on the third Sunday in September, but owing to the prevailing epidemic, and the prohibition by the city authorities of children under sixteen attending any schools, it was necessarily postponed until the first Sunday in this month. Though we lose Miss Bowen as one of the teachers we have the prospect of having two new female teachers, each of whom have come into the parish during the summer months. They will be most heartily welcomed.

We hope also that Miss Young will take charge again of the Infant Class.

Bible Classes. Miss Maria Gilpin has offered to take up again the Young Men's Bible Class this winter. We hope all the old members will come back to it, and there are a number of the older boys of the Sunday School who will be promoted to it.

A Bible and Prayer Book Instruction will be given in the Church on Sunday afternoons by the Rector. A half hour will be given to the study of some portion of the Bible, and a half hour to the Prayer Book. It is thought that the older members of the congregation, all who are too old for the Sunday School, will find these Instructions both profitable and interesting.

As last year there will be no Sermon or Instruction at the four o'clock Evensong, as this Instruction at three o'clock will take its place.

Death of Mrs. Reeves. The sympathy of all in the congregation will go out to our Boy Scout Master, Mr. Raymond Reeves, in his great affliction, in the loss of his young wife, leaving him with a small infant.

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Mrs. Pfander (2) Miss Leaming
Mrs. Ellis

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Morning Prayer

Sundays ---------- 10.30 A. M.
Daily ---------- 10.00 A. M.

Evensong

Sundays (Choral) ---------- 4.00 P. M.
Daily ---------- 5.00 P. M.
Instructions in Bible and Prayer Book, in the Church, by the Rector, Sundays ---------- 3.00 P. M.
Sunday School and Bible Class 3.00 P. M.

All the Seats are Free at all Services *God's House is open to all its Children*
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The Ascension News

The Church of the Ascension

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH
'Phone, Dickerson 5446

RECTOR

Rev. G. Woolsey Hodge, D.D.
334 South Thirteenth Street

CURATE

Rev. Richard J. Morris
220 South 19th Street

WARDENS

Thomas R. Neilson, M.D.
Millard F. Roberts

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

Henry L. T. Ullrich.

SEXTON

Wm. J. Morgan
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild ---------- 8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, St. Agnes' Guild ---------- 7.00 P. M
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society ---------- 8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew --- 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild ---------- 8.00 P. M.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid ---------- 3 00 P. M.
Wednesdays! Mothers' Meeting ---------- 8.00 P M.
Thursdays. Embroidery Class ---------- 10.30 A. M.
First Friday Missionary Society ---------- 10 30 A. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent ---------- The Curate

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

For Young Men ---------- 3.00 P. M
Taught by Miss Maria J. Gilpin

THE GENERAL CONVENTION.

As the General Convention of the Church has just closed its triennial session held in St. Louis, Missouri, all Church people should be interested in knowing something of what it has done.

The General Convention is the supreme legislative body of the American Church. It is composed of two Houses, in one of which all the Bishops of the Church have seats; the other, called the House of Deputies, consists of four clergymen and four laymen from each Diocese, elected by the Diocesan Conventions. And every measure to become a law must be concurred in by the Bishops, clergy and laity voting separately. This makes it a very conservative body so that any very radical legislation rarely takes place. And all matters relating to the Constitution of the Church or changes in the Prayer Book must be proposed in one Convention and adopted at a subsequent one. This prevents any hasty changes in important matters. And its meeting only once in three years prevents constant changes taking place.

What it does adopt, therefore, may be considered as the deliberate judgment of the whole Church, acting on the principle on which the Christian Church has always acted, of representatives of its different Orders coming toegther in Council to consult as to what is best and wisest to be done. The Church has thus led the world, showing the true way in which nations should be governed.

We have not yet the full details of what this Convention has done, but we can note certain things which have been reported in the papers..

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A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITOR
THE RECTOR

TREASURER
MR. R. HICKMAN YOUNG
1529 South 4th Street

TERMS;

Single Copies, by Mail, 50 Cents a Year

KALENDAR.

Nov. 1, All Saints.
2, All Souls.
3, Friday—Fast.
4, Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.
10, Friday—Fast.
12, Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity.
17, Friday—Fast.
19, Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity.
24, Friday—Fast.
26, Sunday next before Advent.
30, S. Andrew. Thanksgiving.

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RECORD FOR OCTOBER.

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED from the Church of Canada,
Alice Olivia Young. 1
TRANSFERRED to St. Elizabeth's,
Anna Barbara Ritsert.
To St. Bartholomew's,
William Reppert McLoughlin.
Mrs. Elizabeth McLoughlin.
Mrs. Elizabeth Gilmore.
To St. Mary's Ardmore.
Mrs. Emelie Obrie Baird. 6
DIED, Mrs. Celestia Herrich Darlington. 1
BURIAL, Mrs. Celestia Herrich Darl ngton. 1

✠

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$296.51
" the Poor	58.96
" Parochial Activities	38.50
" Armenian Relief	6.80
" Clergy Relief	14.90
" Church Building	1.00
Of the Sunday School	3.96
Total	$420.63

A Committee on the subject of marriage reported a Canon—or rule—forbidding the remarriage of any persons who have been divorced for any cause whatever, the present Canon allowing the remarriage of the innocent party in the case of a Divorce for adultery. Many persons voted for this new rule, not because they did not think the innocent party entitled to remarriage, but bestand, allowing a Suffragan Bishop in a innocency in such cases. The proposition, however, failed to pass by a very slight majority.

Another proposition was made to allow the consecration of a colored Bishop to take charge of all the colored people in the United States. This also failed, leaving the existing provision to stann, allowing a Suffragan Bishop in a single Diocese to take charge of the colored people within its bounds.

The positive action of the Convention consisted in setting forth for tentative use new tables of Lessons following the Ecclesiastical, instead of the Civil, year and extending over two years. This will enable the Bible to be read much more fully and intelligently than formerly. They also set forth a new Hymnal, leaving out a number of the Hymns in the present Hymnal which are rarely if ever used, and substituting others for them.

A great deal of the time of the Convention was taken up in considering proposed alterations in the Prayer Book, in order to enrich it and adapt it more to present conditions in this country. Most of the proposals were adopted but must lie over until the following Convention three years hence, for final approval.

A great many Commissions and Committees were appointed to consider ways to promote peace in the world, to study social conditions, to visit the Missions in Liberia, to establsh a Bishopric in the Canal Zone, to send a delegation of Bishops, clergy and laity to England to consult with representatives of the Church of England in regard to war conditions, etc.

Changes were also made in the Missionary Canon of the Church, and many important Missionary meetings were held. Missionary Bishops were elected for South Dakota and Western Colorado, and various resolutions were adopted.

All who attended the Convention testify that it was one of the most amicable ever held, all parties, no matter how much they differed from each other, seemed intent only on doing what was most advisable for the advancement of the Kingdom of God on earth.

✠

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

We want to say a very serious word to our subscribers. We have not been in the habit of sending out any bills for subscriptions as they become due, simply putting a blue mark on the wrapper, and acknowledging it when paid in the following issue. But many do not notice these marks, or the difficulty of sending fifty cents by mail makes others neglect to do so. Consequently many are behind in their payments and we are in arrears. We have lost, also, some of our advertisements, which makes it additionally difficult to meet expenses. Will not every one in the Parish who can afford to, subscribe to the paper and pay it regularly each year in the same month. Otherwise we shall be compelled to send out bills, and we think many will be surprised to find out for how many years they owe.

✠

PARISH NOTES.

Woman's Guild. The annual meeting of the Guild was held on SS. Simon and Jude's day, Oct. 28th. Some seventeen ladies were present. The reports of work for the past year were read and made a very good showing compared with previous years. A number of changes were made in the different Chapters of the Guild. Mrs. Chandler Hare and Miss Hare, having moved to the country, have resigned their missionary positions, also Mrs. Lockwood, formerly Miss Helen Hodge. In their places Mrs. Coates and Mrs. Christian were appointed on the Diocesan Committee, and Miss H. A. Baugh on the Foreign Committee. Mrs. Samuel Wagner takes Miss Hare's place as Secretary of the Church Periodical Club. Miss Alice Young will take charge of the Mothers' Meeting, and Mrs. Tutwiler of the Industrial School, at least for the present.

A request having been made that we should send two delegates to the Women's Auxiliary of the South Convocation, Miss Bannington and Miss Louise Carmen consented to serve and attended a meeting of the Auxiliary in the Chapel of the Prince of Peace on Monday, Oct. 30th.

The Winter activities will recommence this month. The Wednesday service followed by the Mothers' Meeting, the Industrial School on Saturday mornings, the Embroidery Class and the Ladies' Aid on Thursdays.

The Men's Club will hold its smoker on Thursday, Nov. 16th, at 8 P. M., when we expect to have a talk from Mr. William E. Meehan, head of the City Aquarium, on "the Wonders of Fish life."

The Benevolent side of the enevlopes for this quarter is for General Missions. The amount we were asked to give for this purpose last year was $1,241.76, and we gave $863.88. This year we are asked for $952.97, let us see if we cannot give it in full and so be one of those parishes which has made up its apportionment.

Sunday School. We have been very glad to welcome Miss Ely and Miss Tames as two new teachers in the Sunday School. Miss Anna Anderson and Miss Ida Klofack have taken charge of the Infant School, and Miss Maria Gilpin has started her Young Men's Bible Class with an attendance so far of eight.

The Bible and Prayer Book Instruction in the Church on Sundays at 3 P .M. by the Rector should be more largely attended. In these days of Bible criticism and Prayer Book alterations, people ought to acquaint themselves with what is being said and done in these matters. The method adopted by the Rector of giving an informal instruction on Sunday afternoons, instead of a formal sermon, is better calculated to give this information on these subjects. And he will be very glad to answer any questions which may be asked in regard to them.

This Instruction is put before the four o'clock Evensong, instead of after, so that that service may not be made too long for the Sunday School children to attend.

Christmas Cards. The new Secretary of the Periodical Club has received a request to provide Christmas cards for the children of S. Michael's Home for Crippled Children in West Philadelphia. Any person having such cards to dispose of can send them to Mrs. Samuel Wagner, 410 South 15th Street.

Thauksgiving Day. Any donations of fruit on Thanksgiving day will be placed on the Altar during the service, and afterwards be given to the sick and the choir boys. Donations are also asked for the Thanksgigving supper for the members of the Mothers' Meeting on the Wednesday evening before. The offerings at the mid-day service will be given to the Episcopal Hospital.

Girls' Friendly Society. The meetings hereafter this Winter will be on Tuesday evenings, with a crochet and fancy work, dancing class, cooking, and entertainment meetings once a month. The Young Girls' Guild is being organized into a Candidates' Class under the care of Miss Ely, and the devotional meeting will be a united one on the first Tuesday of the month. S. E. Gilpin, Branch Sec.

✠

CAVALERIA RUSTICANA.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the initial performance of "Cavelleria Rusticana" will be celebrated by a performance of that Opera by the Behrens Opera Club in the Metropolitan Opera House, Broad and Poplar Streets, Monday evening, November 27th.

The outstanding feature of this performance will be the fact that Mr. Gustav Hinrichs, who conducted the initial performance of this Opera twenty-five years ago, will also conduct this performance.

It will undoubtedly be of interest to the Congregation to know that our Choir will participate in the coming performance, singing the "Easter Music" after the procession to the Church.

A very capable cast has been selected, and we feel certain in predicting a splendid performance of the Opera.

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A COMPARISON.

The collections or offerings in all the nine hundred churches of Philadelphia on a recent Sunday did not equal the $137,000 paid to see the Harvard-Yale football game, although the congregations numbered ten times as many as the football spectators.

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CHURCH PAGEANT.

One of the most interesting side lines of the General Convention in St. Louis, was the Church Pageant which was given on the evening of Wednesday, October 18. The committee having this matter in charge has gone to great pains to insure the carrying out of the minutest details. Two thousand persons took part, and the Coliseum in which the pageant was given holds about seven thousand spectators. Beginning with the scene in the upper room on the day of Pentecost, the history of the Church was portrayed down to the present time, emphasizing the continuity of the Church, and the prevailing idea of the responsibility for spreading the Kingdom of God among the heathen. The great missionary enterprises and marks of development were pictured in the different groups. It was a wonderful production, in twenty-nine tableaux and episodes, illustrating the history of the Church from the Day of Pentecost to the Episcopate of Bishop Tuttle. The great building, which recently witnessed the renomination of Woodrow Wilson, was crowded to the utmost. This admirable presentation was made by groups connected with the different parishes of St. Louis and vicinity. It was a great feature of a great Convention.

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TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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The following were received since the last issue.

Mr. Kelly (2)
Mr. Watson
Mr. Young
Miss Carpenter
Miss Hamilton
Miss O'Harra
Mr. Sears (2)

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VOL. XXX. PHILADELPHIA DECEMBER, 1916. NO. 9

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HOLY DAYS.....7.30 and 10.30 A. M

Morning Prayer

SUNDAYS .....10.30 A. .M

Daily.....10,00 A M.

Evensong

SUNDAYS (Choral).....4.00 P. M.

DAILY.....5 00 P. M

INSTRUCTIONS in Bible and Prayer Book, in the Church, by the Rector, Sundays.....3.00 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE CLASS.3.00 P. M.

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THE NEW LECTIONARY.

We begin with this month the use in this parish of the new tables of Lessons set forth by the late General Convention.

These tables form a two years' course and are founded on the Ecclesiastical instead of the Civil year.

The old tables provided the same lesson for each Sunday in every year. These new tables give series of lessons for each Sunday for two years, and then directs that in the two succeeding years the lessons that have been read in the morning, should be read in the evening during the succeeding two years. This really provides a course extending over four years and enables those attending Church regularly either morning or evening to hear all the important parts of Scripture during that time. There are many persons who are in the habit of going to Church on Sundays only in the morning or only in the evening, so under the present system they hear only the same lessons year after year. The new tables will give this greater variety and make all Church attendants more familiar with the different parts of Scripture.

These lessons being founded on the Ecclesiastical instead of the Civil year, begin with the first books of both the Old and New Testament on the first Sunday in Advent instead of as formerly on January first. And they are made to correspond, as far as possible, with the teaching of the season, instead of reading the books straight through as they come in their chronological order. This will require a good deal of skipping from book to book, but the

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KALENDAR.

Dec. 1. Friday—Fast.
3. First Sunday in Advent.
8. Friday—Fast,
10. Second Sunday in Advent.
15 Friday—Fast.
17, Third Sunday in Advent.
20, Ember Day—Fast.
21. S. Thomas, Apostle.
22, Ember day—Fast.
23. Ember day—Fast.
24. Fourth Sunday in Advent.
25. Christmas.
26. S. Stephen, Martyr.
27. S. John, Evangelist.
28. Holy Innocents,
29. Friday—Fast.
30. Sunday after Christmas.

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RECORD FOR NOVEMBER.

COMMUNICANT transferred to the Chapel of the Mediator, Harriet Bessie Means.	1
COMMUNION OF THE SICK,	1
BURIAL, William Payton Perry.	1

✠

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$273.60
" the Poor	86.31
" General Missions	18,82
" Parochial Activities	1.52
" Thanksgiving Dinners	17.60
" the Episcopal Hospital	14.62
Of the Sunday School	2.68
Total	$415.15

lessons will be much more appropriate to the season through which we are passing.

The historical lessons for Sundays are are so arranged as to carry the history of the Israelites through to their deliverance from Egypt in the first year, and on to their return from their captivity in Babylon during the second year. And the second lessons are made to correlate as far as possible to the first lessons, those selected from the Old Testament containing the prototypes of our Lord's life and work as given in the New Testament. The lessons are made also to harmonize with the Collects, Epistles and Gospels for the several Sundays.

In addition to the Historical Lessons for the Sundays an alternate lesson is given for each Sunday from either the Prophetical books or the books of Wisdom, which may be used in place of the historical lesson if preferred. This introduces another possibility of variety in the Sunday Lessons. There is also permission given for the reading of a lesson provided for any day of the same week instead of the Sunday Lesson, as they all have reference to the same subject. And when there is no Celebration of the Holy Communion on Holy days, the portions of Scripture appointed for the Epistles and Gospels may be used in place of the lessons appointed for morning or evening prayer.

All these provisions afford a great flexibility in the use of the Bible readings in our Church services and will give much more definiteness and meaning to the different seasons of the Church year.

Those who cannot attend the daily services in the Church, or even the Sunday services regularly, cannot do better than to use these tables as a guide in their private reading of the Bible, a habit all Christians should carefully maintain. The Bible is a colection of the most interesting, instructive, and inspiring books which can be found in all human literature. Every one should be familiar with them, and try constantly to imbibe more and more of their wisdom, teaching and spirit. In them God speaks to us as He does in no other way, and if there is any voice we should be attent to hear it is that of God as He speaks to us through those whom He has thus inspired to speak to men in His name from time to time.

Copies of these new tables can be obtained at Jacob's Book Store, 1628 Chestnut Street. Price 15 cents.

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PARISH NOTES.

Thanksgiving day was observed as usual with a service in the middle of the day as on Sunday, the office for St. Andrew's day being used in the early morning. The sanctuary was decorated with fruits, some of which were sent afterwards to three persons in the parish who are sick, and the remainder was distributed to the choir boys after the service. On the evening before the members of the Mothers' Meeting and their children were entertained at a bountiful turkey and cranberry dinner in the parish building, which was provided by the liberality of some of our members. One of our male members and four of our ladies prepared the supper and waited on the table.

The Men's Club meeting last month was attended by about the usual number. A very interesting talk on the life and habits of fishes was given by Mr. Mechan, the head of the City Aquarium in Fairmont Park.

Over one hundred and thirty invitations are sent out each time to men connected with the parish to come to these meetings, but the attendance is seldom more than thirty or forty. Those who fail to come, not only miss a very pleasant and interesting evening—for we always try to make them so—but they are losing an opportunity of becoming acquainted with other men in the parish. A Church should be not only a place to worship in but also a social center. Those who belong to the same church shoul look upon themselves as members of one family and try to cultivate the relation which should subsist among the members of the same family.

It is not well for any one to live all by himself or even to shut himself up exclusively to the society of his own family, or let himself be so taken up with his daily work as to allow no time for recreation, or to seek recreation in ways which perhape may be injurious to him. We are trying very hard to make our Churches now do social as well as strictly spiritual work, and a man will be helped in many ways who enters into the social activities which he will find now in most of our parishes.

We hope we shall see more of our men at the next meeting of the Club in January.

Changes in the Church. As many are asking what is being done in regard to the proposed changes in our parish, we can only say that the deed transfering the property of the parish to the Trustees of the Diocese to be held for the Watson Memorial has been signed, and the architects are perfecting their de-

signs for the proposed extensions to the Church. As we cannot get possession of the store north of the Church until the lease of the present tenant expires, the extention of the Church cannot take place in that direction until then. But when the plans for all the alterations of the Church are completed, we can begin the enlargement of the Chancel towards the south on the ground we already possess. No further steps have yet been taken for the constitution of the Diocesan organization which is to control the property, or for the removal of the City Mission offices to the neighborhood of the Church as was proposed.

Christmas. Our services on Christmas day will be Celebrations of the Holy Communion at 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 and after Morning Prayer at 10.30 A. M. Evening Prayer at 5 P. M. The Children's Christmas Festival will take place on the evening of Holy Innocents' day at 7.30 P. M. There will be the usual Creche and Christmas tree, with candies and presents, and we hope a play of some sort will be given by the members of the Candidates' Class of the Girls' Friendly.

The Christmas Offering must be for the deficit in our current expenses. Every summer we run behind hand in meeting our monthly obligations owing to so many persons being out of town. We can only make this up by large special offerings at Christmas and Easter. We need $1,000 on each occasion. We hope that those especially who do not use the envelopes and contribute very little regularly, will make up for it by a large offering at this time.

Donations for the Children's Christmas Festival and for Christmas baskets for our poorer members may be placed in the alms chests in the vestibule of the Church which are marked for those purposes.

The Christmas Communion. As Christmas day comes this year on Monday, some may prefer to make their Christmas Communion on Sunday, the day before. One of the Clergy will be found in the Church on Saturday, except between one and three o'clock in the afternoon, if any desire to see them in regard to it.

Christmas Music. Farmer's Communion service will be sung on Christmas day and on the following Sunday. It is one of much beauty and has never been used in the Ascension.

The Te Deum will be by Dudley Buch in C, and the Offertory Anthem, "We have seen His Star in the East and are come to worship Him," by Edwyn A. Clare. Postlude—Processional March by James H. Rogers.

Boy Scouts. Several overnight hikes during the summer partly equipped the boys for their work this fall, which has included a hike nearly every week. Our last "overnight" was a hike to Camp Morrell led by the Scoutmaster and Patrol Leader John Barr. Mr. Bushnell had his semi-annual nature study hike during November taking us through Cheltenham Ogoutz and Jenkintown.

Our indoor meetings have been made interesting by the talks of the following: Mr. Walker, U. of P., on "Football, Personal Health, etc.;" Dr. Funkey, on "Teeth", Scont Commissioner Merrill on "Veteran Scouts", and Rev. Mr. Morris on "The Scout Law."

Scout Bender has passed his tests and is now a First Class Scout. The knot-tieing class has been started with Scout McCann doing the best work.

The basketball team of the St. John's Guild, composed of Scouts, has been winning regularly under the leadership of "Dick" Mull. On Thanksgiving Day they defeated two teams, "Greystock", an old and bitter rival, and the "Owls."

Keep this in sight. Girls' Friendly Society. December, 1916. Tuesday, 5th, Service and business meeting; Tuesday, 12th, Miss Williamson and Miss Wharton in charge. Surgical dressings to be made; Tuesday, 19th, Dancing class, and all contributions of toys, fruit, etc., for children at Blockley, to be brought in; Tuesday, 26th, Crochet and fancy work classes.

S. E. Gilpin, Branch Sect.

Holy Communion on Thursdays during Advent at 9 A. M.

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AN ANCIENT CHRISTMAS CAROL.

"A Babe on the breast of a maiden He lies,
Yet sits with the Father on high in the skies;
Before Him their faces the Seraphim hide,
While Joseph stands waiting unscarred by His side.

"Lo! here is Immanuel, here is the Child,
The Son that was promised to Mary so mild;
Whose power and dominion shall ever increase,
The Prince that shall rule o'er a Kingdom of Peace.

"The Wonderful Counsellor, boundless in might,
The Father's Own Image, the Beam of His Light;
Behold Him now wearing the likeness of man,
Weak, helpless, and speechless, in measure a span.

"O wonder of wonders, which none can unfold,
The Ancient of Days is an hour or two old;
The Maker of all things is made of the earth,
Man is worshipped by Angels and God comes to birth.

"The Word in the bliss of the Godhead remains,
Yet in flesh comes to suffer the keenest of pains;
He is that He was and forever shall be,
But becomes that He was not, for you and for me.

"Then let us adore Him, and praise His Great Love,
For to save us poor creatures, He came from above."

✠

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The following were received since the last issue.

Misses Epprecht
Mrs. T. L. Smith
Mrs. H. P. Busch
Miss Dickerson
Mrs. Tutwiler
Mrs. Tait
Mrs. Christian
Miss Means
Mr. R. W. H. Young (2)
Mrs. M. W. H. Young (2)
Mr. H. B. French (2)

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Vol. XXXI. Philadelphia January, 1917 No. 1

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The Ascension News

The Church of the Ascension

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH
'Phone, Dickerson 5446

RECTOR

Rev. G. Woolsey Hodge, D.D.
334 South Thirteenth Street

CURATE

Rev. Richard J. Morris
220 South 19th Street

WARDENS

Thomas R. Neilson, M.D.
Millard F. Roberts

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

Henry L. T. Ullrich.

SEXTON

Wm. J. Morgan
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild ..... 8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, St. Agnes' Guild ..... 7.00 P. M
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society ..... 8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew ... 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild ..... 8.00 P. M.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid ..... 3 00 P. M.
Wednesdays! Mothers' Meeting ..... 8.00 P M.
Thursdays, Embroidery Class ..... 10.30 A. M.
First Friday Missionary Society ..... 10 30 A. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent ..... The Curate

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

For Young Men ..... 3.00 P. M
Taught by Miss Maria J. Gilpin

THE HOLY COMMUNION AT BURIALS.

The Holy Communion is not only the great distinctive act of Christian worship, but it is the highest, fullest possible act of worship, and the greatest source of spiritual help. It embodies all the elements of worship, prayer, penitence, absolution, instruction, praise, thanksgiving, and combined with these the bestowal of grace.

It is on account of its superlative and preeminent character that Christians universally from the earliest times to the present,—except some Protestants,—have made it the great act by which every Sunday and Holy day, at the least, should be sanctified. And we venture to say that more souls have been sustained, helped and comforted by its use than by any other mode of worship of any religion.

And if it can thus express the feelings and satisfy our cravings, and help souls under ordinary circumstances, how wise, appropriate and valuable its use at times of special stress or trial. How wise is its use, for instance, in connection with the Burial of the dead. If there is any time that the soul needs support and comfort, it is at the solemn moment when one is parting forever in this life with one who has been the dearest object of interest and affection. When a soul is bowed in an agony of grief, what possible comfort can it have but in the assurance that all things are ordered by infinite love and goodness, and that that love has been manifested, and its ability to understand and sympathize with all human experiences expressed by the life and sacrificial death of the Divine, Incarnate Son of God. And that is what the Holy Communion sets forth and brings most vividly to human comprehension. What so appropriate, therefore, as its Celebration at a Burial?

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A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITOR
THE RECTOR

TREASURER
MR. R. HICKMAN YOUNG
1529 South 4th Street

TERMS;
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RECORD FOR DECEMBER

COMMUNICANTS, transferred to S. Martin's Church Oak Lane.
Frank Consolvi.
to Trinity Church, Southwark,
James Stuart Tait.

MARRIAGES, Sydney Hornor Coates and Emily Rawle Wadleigh,
Paul Anthony Cuomo and Margueretta May Anna Smith.

BURIALS, William Hopkins
Mrs. Melvina Helen Pilkington.

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OFFERINGS.

For current expenses (including Christmas offering)	$726.77
" the Poor	20.31
" Christmas dinners and Festival	82.80
" Thanksgiving Dinners	3.00
" General Missions	31.26
" Armenian Relief	5.00
" Domestic Missions	5.00
" Parochial Activities	1.85
Of the Sunday School	4.35
Total	$877.34

Then, too, at every Celebration we remember the departed, we give God "thanks for the good examples" of the holy dead and pray that, "with them, we may be partakers of His heavenly kingdom." And we pray as well for those who in this life are "in trouble, sorrow or adversity." It is the great service which unites the Church on earth with that in the spirit world. We join "with angels and archangels and all the company of Heaven," in adoration of the Supreme Being. It witnesses to "the Communion of saints", which joins the Church on earth with that above. When should these thoughts be so impressed upon us as at a Burial, and what can do so as fully and forcibly as the Holy Communion?

The habit of having it Celebrated at Burials has obtained from the earliest Christian times to the present day. St. Augustine, in the fifth century, speaks of offering it at the burial of his mother. All Christian liturgies provide for its use at such times. The first English Prayer Book set forth a special Collect, Epistle and Gospel for such Celebrations, and these can be used in our Churches today.

We have frequently had them in this parish, and the Clergy are always ready to do so, though they hesitate to suggest it without being asked. If persons pass their lives without its use, or real appreciation of its value, they naturally do not think of it, or feel the need of it, even at so supreme a moment as that of the burial of a loved one. But all who know and realize what is its meaning, and depend on it for the constant sustenance and strengthening of their spiritual lives, will certainly request that they may have the help and comfort it brings at the Burial of those who have been dear to them. The Burial Office without it is imperfect to the devout Christian.

PARISH NOTES.

Christmas. Our Christmas this year was an unusually bright and successful one. It was a beautiful day, the Church was more than usually trimmed with greens, the musical service in the middle of the day consisted of a Mass by Farmer, an exceedingly beautiful composition, rendered for the first time in the parish, and with great accuracy and effect. There were some twenty more Communions made than last year, and the offerings were some larger. There was a most generous response for Christmas dinners and the Children's Festival. The latter took place on the evening of Holy Innocents' day, and was much enjoyed by the children. There was the usual Creche before which a Christmas Carol was sung. Other Carols were sung, with recitations, a ventriloquist exhibition, which was very entertaining, and the distribution of presents and a box of candy to each scholar by a real live Kriss Krinkle, who,—there being no chimney in the parish building—came in through one of the windows.

Fifteen well filled baskets, each containing a fowl and other good things were given to the members of the Mothers' Meeting on Christmas morning. The Rector, the Verger, the Servers and the Church Caretaker were all recipients of substantial remembrances, and a number of Christmas cards wer exchanged.

The Christmas music was repeated on the Sunday within the octave, and will be sung again the first Sunday of this month.

Choir Christmas Party. The members of the Choir thoroughly enjoyed a Christmas Party given them on Friday evening of Christmas week, by a friend who has always been interested in the Choir and its work, and all enjoyed this further evidence of his interest.

After a short rehearsal in the Church, the Choir returned to its regular room, which in the interim had been beautifully decorated as for Christmas, and there partook of the very plentiful refreshments.

At the conclusion, after remarks by the Choir-Master and others, those boys of the Choir who are members of the Boy Scouts gave one of their yells for the donor of the feast, and then all present gave a yell, which, while rather indescribabel, was proof conclusive of a most enjoyable evening.

Confirmation. The Bishop of the Diocese has appointed the evening of Wednesday, March 14th, for the administration of Confirmation in this parish. Preparatory instructions will be given beginning about six weeks before, of which due notice will be given. We trust that none in the parish who is of sufficient age will let this opportunity pass without availing themselves of it to receive this blessed ordinance which admits them to all the privileges of the Church.

Gifts. The Rector takes much pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of some nineteen coal orders for distribution in the parish, and a number of valuable articles of clothing, especially for children. Anything of this kind is most thankfully received by those who in these days of higher cost of living have not the money to buy even the most necessary kinds of clothes. Two bottles of Sacramental wine were also presented to the Church, and 100 sticks of candy for the Christmas tree.

The Men's Club Meeting this month will be on the evening of Thursday, January 18th. The entertainment will be chiefly a musical one, and we hope all the men of the parish will make an effort to be present and thus promote the sociability which should subsist between those belonging to the same Church. As it is so hard for the Clergy to get opportunities for seeing the men who are so occupied during the day that they specially value this chance of seeing those whom they can rarely get a chance to speak to.

A sale of some very good clothes was held early in the month, the proceeds of which were divided between the Mothers' Meeting and the Girls' Friendly Society.

Missionary-box. Our ladies made up as usual before Christmas a very good missionary box of clothing, table and bed lines, etc., valued at some $80, which was sent to a clergyman and his family in the mountains of North Carolina. We print the very appreciative letter of thanks which has been received.

Dec. 13, 1916

My dear Mrs. Smith:

At five o'clock last Saturday afternoon I put the last pinch of salt in the pan of chicken salad for 150 people and the damp cloth around 95 sandwiches to be served at our bazaar that night. When the door bell rang—I did so hope it wasn't company—*and it was not,* instead a great, big "smiley" express man—with a great, big and lovely box, from your Church Auxiliary—and some things from girls—which in a way—touched our hearts very tenderly—for it shows the right beginning for this world. Rose, (our daughter), was beaming when she discovered the velvet skirt, and after that she almost had hysteria.

It would have made the girls feel well paid to have seen her—she is filled with gratitude. Everthing fitted everybody. We created a sensation when we appeared—Sunday morning—one by one. The ladies came to me, looked at my nice suit and said, "Where did you get it?" You know in this dear Southland people do not hesitate to ask personal questions.

My gratitude cannot be expressed for the contents of the wonderful box. Of course, you must know we are more than grateful. We thank you with our whole hearts and pray the Master to give you many good gifts.

Very sincerely,

(The Clergyman's wife.)

Boy Scouts' Basketball. The team playing as the Ascension easily defeated the "Alumni" on Dec. 13. Dick Mull and Aleck Boggs doing the best work for their respective sides.

In the other game in December we lost to Sherwood 23 to 18 in a well played game. "Happy" Barr and Kohlhund exceling for our bunch.

"Good turn." We have at last an opportunity for a community good turn. A squad of Scouts will be detailed to do special "survey" work for the Rector during January. Do a good turn daily is our slogan but it is seldom that we get a chance to work as a troop in this branch of Scouting.

Girls' Friendly Socitey. January.
2nd. Service and business meeting.
9th. Work for Emergency Aid.
Cooking.
16th. Party.
23rd. Crochet and fancp work class.
Cooking.
30th. To be decided later.

At the meeting before Christmas the girls brought toys, candy and fruit for the children at Blockley, valued at $6.

The 9 A. M. Thursday Communion will be continued until Easter.

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THE PENSION FUND.

A great effort is being made to complete the $5,000,000 Pension Fund for aged and infirm clergymen and the widows and orphans of deceased clergymen. $4,000,000 has now been raised, and the remaining million must be secured before March 1st in order to complete the fund.

What has so far been given has been chiefly in large subscriptions. The effort is now being made to secure the remainder by smaller gifts. A large amount of literature has been sent to this Parish for distribution, and a special Committee of the Vestry has been appointed to secure subscriptions, who may make personal appeals to the members of the parish.

Some of our members, we believe, have already subscribed to this fund, but the parish, as such, has not as yet given anything.

Offerings specially designated for it may be placed in the plates at any collection in the Church.

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NOTICES.

The Epiphany meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions of the Diocese of Pennsylvania will be held in old *Christ Church* on Second Street above Market on Thursday, January 25th, beginning at 10.30 A. M.

Addresses by a number of distinguished speakers.

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MISSIONARY MEETING.

A missionary meeting for the Girls' Friendly Society of the Diocese will be held in the Church on Sunday evening, February 4th, at 7.45 P. M. A large attendance is expected.

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KALENDAR

Jan.	1	Circumcision.
"	5	Friday—Fast.
"	6	Epiphany.
"	7	First Sunday after Epiphany.
"	12	Friday—Fast.
"	14	Second Sunday after Epiphany.
"	19	Friday—Fast.
"	21	Third Sunday after Epiphany.
"	25	Conversion of S. Paul.
"	26	Friday—Fast.
"	28	Fourth Sunday after Epiphany.

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MINSTREL SHOW.

The Junior St. John's Guild and Troop 63, Boy Scouts of America will give a Minstrel Show on Monday evening, February 12th, 1917, at 8.15 P. M., in the Parish House. Tickets 30 cents. Dancing.

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TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since the last issue.

Miss Hofmann
Mrs. Bradley (2)
Mrs. Moitz (2)
Miss Casey
Miss Williamson
Mr. Newnam
Miss Wurts (2)
Miss Moreland
Miss Rosseau

The Ascension News

VOL. XXXI. PHILADELPHIA. FEBRUARY, 1917. NO. 2

Church of the Ascension

Broad Street, Below South — All Seats Free

Services

Holy Communion

EVERY SUNDAY ..... 7.30 and 11.00 A.M.
HOLY DAYS ..... 7.30 and 10.30 A. M

Morning Prayer

SUNDAYS ..... 10.30 A. M
Daily ..... 10.00 A M.

Evensong

SUNDAYS (Choral) ..... 4.00 P. M.
DAILY ..... 5 00 P. M.
INSTRUCTIONS in Bible and Prayer Book, in the Church, by the Rector, Sundays ..... 3.00 P. M.
SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE CLASS 3.00 P. M.

All the Seats are Free at all Services. God's House is open to all its Children The Church is always open for private prayer, and the Clergy can be seen after any service or by appointment.

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APPORTIONMENTS.

A new way of obtaining money for Diocesan and benevolent purposes has lately come into use. Formerly,—with the exception of the Episcopal and Convention Fund which has always been fixed on the Parishes as a distinct tax-contributions for benevolent and Missionary purposes were always left to be obtained by voluntary contributions. An offering was taken, or envelopes issued, for a specific purpose and whatever was received in that way was forwarded to the Treasurer of the particular fund. Now the amount desired by the several Missionary and Charitable agencies is "apportioned" on the several Dioceses and by them on the various parishes. Thus each parish is told how much it is expected to contribute to a particular cause.

But how are the parishes to obtain the amounts they are asked to give? To carry the system out we suppose the consistent way would be to "apportion" on the several members of each parish the amount they should individually give to make up the total required. But that would be exceedingly difficult, for it would involve knowing just what is each individual's ability to give. And that is impossible.

The only suggestion we can make towards solving the difficulty is to ask each person in the parish, contributing through the envelopes, to give just as much for Benevolent purposes as he or she does for parochial support. Some of our members do this already. Many others give a much smaller sum in the benevolent side of the envelope than they do for Church support, and some do not give anything for outside purposes. If all gave an equal amount through both sides of their envelopes a much larger sum would be received.

The amounts "apportioned" on this parish this year come to $1,243.98. To which must be added $150 a year,

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KALENDAR.

2. Purification B. V. M. Fast.
4. Septuagesima.
9. Friday. Fast.
11. Sexagesima.
16. Friday. Fast.
18. Quinquagesima.
21. Ash Wednesday.
24. S. Matthias.
25. First Sunday in Lent.
28. Ember day.

All days in Lent are Fasts.

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RECORD FOR JANUARY.

BAPTISMS, Alberta Helen Frantz.	1
COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED	
From the Chapel of the Prince of Peace, Walter DeHaven Ullrich.	
From S. Martin's-in-the-fields, Mrs. Elizabeth Haxal Combs.	2
DIED, William C. Lloyd.	
Adeline Lucy Aucott.	2
Mrs. Margaret Hill Hunter.	3
COMMUNIONS OF THE SICK,	
BURIALS, William C. Lloyd.	
Adeline Lucy Aucotr.	2

✠

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$328.86
" the Poor	16.35
" General Missions	24.88
" Mothers' Meeting	5.00
" Parochial Activities	2.55
Of the Sunday School	3 94
Total	$381.58

should the Vestry assume the payment of its assessment to the Pension Fund of the Clergy, and $200 for the Episcopal and Convention Fund, making a total of some $1,700 for purposes outside of the parish.

If these sums are not contributed it puts the parish in the light of not discharging its obligations to the Diocese and the General Church. But how are they to be paid, unless they are specifically contributed? Will not each one in the parish do at least this, give as much through the benevolent side of their envelopes as they do through the side for the support of the parish?

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THE REV. HENRY PAGE DYER.

The many friends of the Rev. Mr. Dyer, late Curate of this parish, were terribly shocked on learning of his death, after only a week's illness, in New York on January 13th.

Mr. Dyer was Curate here from 1902 until 1914. He was a man absorbed in his profession and untiring in his devotion to those aspects of it which especially appealed to him. He instituted the daily Eucharist in 1906 and continued it until he left the parish, gathering about him a devoted small following who never failed to attend it with him at 7 A. M. each day, winter and summer. He was very fond of teaching, giving innumerable instructions to the children of the Sunday School and Guilds, and in preparing candidates for Confirmation. As a preacher he was very original and delighted in selecting striking topics which would attract attention.

He conducted for several summers a series of really remarkable services on Sunday nights, followed by after meetings in the Parish Building for discussion, often protracted to eleven o'clock.

He was an author of considerable ability, publishing series of tracts and leaflets on ecclesiastical subjects which have had a wide circulation, running up even to hundreds of thousands. He published a book on the Sacraments and an Altar Manual, both profusely illustrated.

He was particularly fond of little girls, and was the founder of, and devoted a great deal of time to, our S. Agnes' Guild for such, taking its members constantly to entertainments and joining in their play.

He had a special faculty for drawing persons to the use of private Confession, and has heard as many as eighty here in one day.

We are sure that his arduous and devoted labors have had, and we trust will continue to have, great effect on many souls which have come under his influence here and elsewhere.

For the last two years he has been a Curate in one of the Chapels of Trinity Church, New York, where he had many more persons, both children and adults, to deal with than he had here. And we do not doubt but that his zeal and assiduity in carrying out his ideals tended to shorten his life.

It seems strange that such a useful life should be so suddenly cut off, but we are no judges in such matters. We can only thank God for his life and labors and pray that he may find rest and refreshment in the spirit world into which he has passed.

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MISS ADELINE L. AUCOTT.

We have also to lament the sudden death from the same cause of Miss Aucott, one of our Sunday School teachers. She formerly attended the Church of the Epiphany, Pelham, where the Rev. Mr. Morris was Rector. When he became Curate of this parish she was transferred here, and although living at a great distance from the Church, she has been very regular in her attendance and in teaching in the Sunday School. She also assisted in the Mothers' Meeting and did some visiting.

Her being taken away is a distinct loss to the Parish.

MR. WILLIAM C. LLOYD.

A member of this Parish for twenty-six years, for eleven of which he was a Vestryman, and for six years the Accounting Warden, passed away on Jan. 19th in his eighty-fourth year. Brought up under Quaker influences, he early in life embraced the Church and was unfeignedly devoted to it. He attended its services with the utmost regularity, took the greatest interest in its welfare and tried to be of use to it in every way he could. For some years he taught a Male Bible Class in the Parish, and continued his duties of Vestryman and Accounting Warden as long as his health permitted him to do so.

For some years he has been rarely able to leave the house and so could not attend the Church, but the Rector visited him regularly and gave him the Holy Communion before his death. He was buried from the Church.

May these devoted servants of the Church now rest in peace.

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PARISH NOTES.

Confirmation. As announced, the Bishop of the Diocese has appointed the evening of Wednesday, March 14th, for the administration of Confirmation in this parish.

Instructions preparatory will be given by the Rector each Sunday afternoon in the Church at 3 P. M., beginning with Feb. 4th. This will take the place of the Instructions he has been giving on the Bible and Prayer Book.

He hopes that those who have been attending these Instructions will continue to do so. Though they have been Confirmed they will find it profitable to make this review of what is involved in Confirmation and Communion. The Instructions on the Bible and Prayer Book will be resumed after the Confirmation has taken place.

The Missionary service for the Girls' Friendly Society of the Diocese will be held on Sunday evening, Feb. 4th, at 8.00 P. M. It will consist of Prayers, the singing of Hymns and two or more Missionary addresses.

The Society of S. Charles, King and Martyr, had a special Celebration of the Holy Communion in this Church on January 30th. The Collect, Epistle and Gospel appointed in the English Prayer Book for the service for that day were used.

This Society thus commemorates that day each year by such a service in different churches. Last year it was held in S. Peter's Church.

Missionary Sunday. Feb. 18th, Quinquagesima Sunday, will be observed as Missionary Sunday in the Sunday School. The Instruction will be on Missions. Missionary hymns will be sung and the Lenten Mite boxes for Missionary collections will be given out. Each child who can read will also be given a copy of the Children's Number of the *Spirit of Missions.*

The Benevolent Offerings for this quarter are for Diocesan Missions, for which this parish is asked to give $271.32 in all. That includes the support of Missions in the Diocese, the Sustentation fund for poor Parishes, the Galilee and Seamen's Missions, the State College Chaplaincy, Mount Alto Home, Religious education and Social service.

The Men's Club Night this month was an unusually successful one. Some fifty men were present. A very forceful address on the evils of the Saloon was given by Dr. Homer W. Tope, Superintendent of the Anti Saloon League, and a great deal of good music was given by our Choirmaster, Mr. Ullrich, and by the Mandolin Glee Club.

A special meeting of the Vestry was held the same evening to consider the duty of the Parish in regard to the Clergy Pension Fund, but it decided not to take any action in the matter at present, as it would add an additional sum to our annual expenses, which we find it difficult to meet as it is.

Collections for the Pension Fnud for the clergy will be taken up in all our Churches on Quinquagesima Sunday, Feb. 18th. Special envelopes for the purpose will be provided perviously. The $4,000,000 already raised has been mostly in large subscriptions. The object of this collection is to enable every one to have a share in providing the remaining $1,000,000 needed.

Minstrel show on Monday evening, Feb. 12th, in the Parish building at 8.15 P. M. Do not forget it. Tickets 30 cents. Dancing.

Batterson legacy. The Church has received the legacy of $1,000 left by the late Mrs. Batterson for the Poor of the Parish. The Vestry have resolved to put this in the hands of the Pennsylvania Company for insurance to serve as a beginning for a permanent benevolent fund for the Parish.

Boy Scouts. Everything else has been cast aside in our endeavor to make our Minstrel Show on Feb. 12 a real success. We feel that the final stroke toward that end was accomplished when Mr. Chester Myers was obtained for Interlocutor.

Scouts J. Barr, M. Bieberback and E. Ramonette have successfully passed their second class exams. and will become second class at our next meeting. Watson Mull distinguished himself and the troop when he was chosen Captain of the Safety First Squad in his school.

Our activities during February will include hikes, good turns, tests, survey work, basketball and gymnasium, preparatory to the "Spring Sports."

Girls' Friendly. During the past month there has been the cooking class, when the girls get their supper, and a party when Mr. Hill and his friends gave some delightful music and made it a success, and we attended the reception to the Gen. President, Miss Sibley, at the Curtis building. There will be the devotional meeting on the 6th, cooking on the 13th, dancing class on the 20th, for boys and girls, and the Lenten sewing for Missions on the 27th.

Ye Olde Folkes Concert will be given in the Parish Building on Monday, Feb. 19th, for the members of S. Agnes' Guild. Tickets 10 cents. This will take the place of the usual children's party we have before Lent. Tickets will be given to all the children of the Sunday School.

The Ladies' Aid have decided to work during Lent for the Boys' School, Sewanee, Tenn.

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THE PILGRIMAGE OF PRAYER.

February 4th to 11th.

The Bishop of the Diocese has issued a letter to the Clergy and Laity calling upon them to take part in the Pilgrimage of Prayer which has been planned to last throughout the country for a year from the beginning of the Advent season. It is to be observed here during the first week of this month.

In this Parish the Rector will preach on the subject in the morning, and the members of the Woman's Auxiliary—under whose auspices the Pilgrimage has been planned—are asked to make a Corporate Communion on that day, and special intercessions will be offered at each service during the week. Our people are also asked to remember the objects of the intercessions in their private devotions.

A Program of Diocesan Meetings has been arranged, as noted below, but it is earnestly hoped that the accent may fall on the parish, and from the parish on each individual man, woman and child, that our whole body of Communicants be 60,000 pilgrims to the place of Prayer.

Program of Diocesan Services.

February 5th to 10th

Monday, 12.30 P. M., at St. Stephen's Church, under the auspices of the Woman's Auxiliary. Leader, The Rt. Rev. Dr. Philip M. Rhinelander.

Tuesday, 12.00 M., at St. James's Church, under the auspices of the Daughters of the King.

Wednesday, 12.00 M., at the Church of St. Luke and the Epiphany, under the auspices of the Junior Auxiliary. Leader, Miss Emily Warren, New York.

Thursday, 8.00 A. M. to 5.00 P. M. Quiet Day under the auspices of the Girls' Friendly Society. Conductor, Rev. George L. Richardson.

Friday, 12.00 M., at St. Peter's Church, under the auspices of the Diocesan Altar Guild.

Friday, 8.00 P. M., at Holy Trinity Church, under the auspices of the Sunday-school Teachers. Leader, Dr. Wiliam Jefferys.

Saturday, 12.00 M., at St. Mark's Church, under the auspices of the Diocesan Educational Department. Leader, Rev. Elliot White.

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TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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The following were received since the last issue.

Miss Lavinia Smith
Mrs. Gilpin
Mrs. Roberts (2)
Miss Barrington
Miss Pomeroy
Miss Ashbridge
Miss Harriet Robb
Miss Leaming
Mrs. Borie (2)
Miss McKnight
Mrs. Read
Miss Whitehouse
Mrs. Bonsack (2)

The Ascension News

VOL. XXXI. PHILADELPHIA MARCH, 1917 NO. 3

Church of the Ascension

Broad Street, Below South — All Seats Free

Services

Holy Communion

EVERY SUNDAY ..... 7.30 and 11.00 A.M.

HOLY DAYS ..... 7.30 and 10.30 A. M

Morning Prayer

SUNDAYS ..... 10.30 A. M

Daily ..... 10.00 A M.

Evensong

SUNDAYS (Choral) ..... 4.00 P. M.

DAILY ..... 5 00 P. M.

INSTRUCTIONS in Bible and Prayer Book, in the Church, by the Rector, Sundays ..... 3.00 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE CLASS 3.00 P. M.

All the Seats are Free at all Services. God's House is open to all its Children
The Church is always open for private prayer, and the Clergy can be seen after any service or by appointment.

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The Church of the Ascension

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'Phone, Dickerson 5446

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334 South Thirteenth Street

CURATE

Rev. Richard J. Morris
220 South 19th Street

WARDENS

Thomas R. Neilson, M.D.
Millard F. Roberts

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

Henry L. T. Ullrich.

SEXTON

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2022 St. Albans Street

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Wednesdays Mothers' Meeting ---------- 8 00 P M.
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First Friday Missionary Society ---------- 10 30 A. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent ---------- The Curate

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

For Young Men ---------- 3.00 P. M
Taught by Miss Maria J. Gilpin

MODES OF WORSHIP.

Public worship is essential to religion. It is necessary to preserve and give expression to religious feeling, to witness to and teach religious principles. So all peoples of all races have had religious institutions, have erected temples, maintained a priesthood and conducted worship. Even the Quakers, who profess to discard all outward rites and ceremonies, to have no regular ministry or sacraments or forms of any kind, do nevertheless have recognized preachers, erect meeting houses and hold regular weekly and semi-weekly meetings for worship. If such things were given up entirely religion could exercise but little influence, if it were not lost sight of altogether.

The forms used in religious worship vary of course with the character and teachings of the religion and with the temperament of individuals. But there are certain general characteristics which appear in almost all modes of worship. Men have almost always felt that God should be honored by the erection of the most beautiful and costly temples that man's skill or wealth could provide. And a lofty, beautiful, seemly building is best calculated to impress the worshipper with a sense of the greatness and mystery which envelopes the Divine Being. Some few have thought that plain, bare meeting houses and absence of form are better suited for true spiritual worship. But such are becoming more and more rare, and we imagine that it is their very strangeness and quaintness that makes them attractive at all.

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EDITOR
THE RECTOR

TREASURER
MR. R. HICKMAN YOUNG
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KALENDAR.

March 2. Ember day.
3. Ember day.
4. Second Sunday in Lent.
11. Third Sunday in Lent.
18. Fourth Sunday in Lent.
25. Passion Sunday.
Annunciation B. V. M.
All days in Lent are Fasts.

✠

RECORD FOR FEBRUARY.

BAPTISMS, Virginia Maria Marsh.	1
COMMUNICANT RECEIVED new, John Barton Cooley.	1
DIED, Mrs. Elizabeth Walker. John Barton Cooley.	2
COMMUNIONS OF THE SICK.	3
BURIALS, Mrs. Elizabeth Walker. John Barton Cooley,	2

✠

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$357.81
" the Poor	5.62
" Diocesan Assessments	51.27
" General Missions	19.83
" Parochial Activities	1.25
" the Pension Fund	220 00
" Pension Assessment	25.00
" Belgian relief	3.00
" Armenian relief	3.00
Of the Sunday School	3.95
Total	$690.73

These men of all religions have naturally used music, and set forms, and lights and colors and rich vestments and other such accessories as fitting accompaniments, and modes of expressing religious feelings and teaching religious truths. These have varied among different peoples and different times according to the genius of various nations, times or classes, but they have been used more or less universally. When it is objected by some that Christianity has been only copying, and importing into her systems, heathen practices and rites in using such things, it has really been because she was following a universal instinct. When God has made the world so beautiful with every form and shape and color and sound, it would be strange indeed to banish all such things from sanctuaries erected to His honor and to inculcate His characteristics.

It is true that there is always a danger of the worship of God becoming mechanical, perfunctory and mere display. But the way to guard against this is not to do away with it altogether, but to emphasize the spiritual meaning and purport of all outward acts. It is true, too, that some persons are not esthetically inclined, and forms and ceremonies repel rather than assist them to worship. For such natures due provision should be made, simpler, quiet, unconventional modes of expressing their feelings should be provided. But for the generality of men, and for giving prominence and importance to, and impressing men with a sense of, the value and truth of religion, appealing to their affections and sympathies, helping and inspiring them to reach after and rely on unseen spiritual things, a certain amount of form and ceremony and the use of outward ordinances is necessary.

It is the peculiar genius of the Churches of the Anglican Communion, to which our American Episcopal Church belongs, that it recognizes this and makes ample provision for it, and yet always in a language, and with forms, that the people generally can understand and take part in. No matter how beautiful or symbolical forms may be, if they are not such that the worshippers can appreciate and follow, they can scarcely be of much spiritual use to them.

Our Book of Common Prayer provides a mode of worship most dignified, beautiful and impressive. Any one can soon learn to use and appreciate everything in it, and he whose habit it has become to do so, will value it above words. He would not change it for any other mode of worship that he knows. He will find in its solemn, reasonable, and beautiful words and ceremonies that which will best form and guide and give expression to, the attitude and feelings he is sure he ought to have when he engages in the lofty, solemn act of the worship of Almighty God.

✠

PARISH NOTES.

Lenten services. As we have so many services regularly in this Church there is no necessity for many additional ones during Lent, but there is great need for larger attendance at those services by our people.

It is a season for special prayer, and we cannot pray so well as in the regular services in the Church. We do trust our people will make use of these opportunities they have during this season, when there is such special need of prayer for ourselves and for the world.

The services during the week are daily prayers at 10 A. M. and 5 P. M. On Wednesdays at 8 P. M., the Penitential service and lecture. At this service the singing is congregational. Thursdays at 9 A. M., Holy Communion. On Fridays at 5 P. M., the boys of the choir are present to sing, and there will be a short lecture by the Rector on the principal Christian duties.

Holy Week comes this year the first week in April, before the April number of this paper can be issued, so we announce now that the services will be as in previous years. Holy Communion each day at 7.30 A. M., and after Morning Prayer at 10 A. M., except on Good Friday. Evening Prayer daily at 5 P. M., and the Stations of the Cross each evening at 8 P. M., except Wednesday when the Cantata of the Crucifixion will be sung by a largely augmented choir, and Saturday, when there is a short service and sermon for Easter Even. On Good Friday the Stations will be observed at 9.30 A. M. Morning Prayer and the Litany at 11 A. M., followed by the singing of the Reproaches and the preaching of the Cross from 12 to 3 P. M. The Rector expects to be the preacher this year.

On Palm Sunday, there will be the usual Procession of Palms before the Midday Celebration at 11 A. M.

Confirmation will be administered in the Church on the evening of March 14, at 8 P. M., by the Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese. The Rector is much disappointed that a number of persons whom he hoped would have presented themselves at this time have failed to do so. There will, however, be a fair class, considering the numbers now attending the Church.

The offerings on this occasion are for the Bishop's private purse for assisting special cases of need in the Diocese.

The Men's Club meeting this month will be on the evening of Thursday, March 15th, when in addition to the usual smoker it is hoped to have present the celebrated Greek athlete of the University, who will lecture on athletics and give exhibitions of his great strength.

Entertainments. We had a number of entertainments in the Parish building during the past month. One was a very high-class concert for the benefit of S. Barnabas' Guild for Nurses, which holds its regular monthly meetings here. The proceeds yielded about $150 for the use of the Guild. Then an Old Folks' Concert was given for the benefit of S. Agnes' Guild for little girls. This was well rendered by some persons not connected with the parish who kindly volunteered their services. All the children of the Sunday School were given tickets as it took the place of the usual children's party we have before Lent.

The Minstrel Show and Dance given by the Junior St. John's Guild and Troop No. 63, Boy Scouts of America, in the Parish House, on February 12th, for the purposes of raising funds for next summer's encampment, was one of the most delightful and successful given in recent years by any of the organizations of the Church of the Ascension. The circle was composed of J. Barr, Bender, G. Mull, Hannums, Graham, Reeves, H. Barr, Bieberback, W. Mull, Ramonette, McCann, Dennis, with Jones as "Tambo", McDermott as "Bones", and Myers as Interlocutor, who not only surpassed the previous high standards he has placed for this difficult position, but added greatly to the evening enjoyment by singing so delightfully three solos.

The burden of the entertainment was, of course, assumed by Jones and McDermott, but they were very ably assisted with the solos rendered by Bender, Hannums, H. Barr, Bieberback and Dennis.

Seyfert and Consolvi accompanied upon the piano and violin.

We cannot speak too highly of this first Minstrel Show ever given by these boys and predict great success for their future efforts.

After the performance the floor was cleared and dancing followed until 11.30, music being furnished by the Peerless Stringed Orchestra.

Junior St. John's Guild and Troop No. 63 B. S. of America desire to take this opportunity to thank very kindly all those good friends who subscribed for the tickets mailed to them and to express their appreciation of that generosity.

The collection for the Pension Fund for the Clergy on Quinquagesima Sunday amounted to $220, with additional pledges of over $100.

The Vestry have complied with the Canon of the Diocese in reference to insuring the Clergy of the Parish. This will add $150 a year to our current expenses, and it has been suggested that it be made up by individual contributions. One of the Vestrymen has already subscribed $25.00 for the purpose. Who else will do the same?

Easter Offering. We shall need a very large Easter offering this year as we are still some $800 in debt for our summer expenses, and we have also to pay our bill for the whole year's coal.

The Ladies' Aid are working this Lent for the Church School for Boys in Sewanee, Tennessee. Mrs. Barrett, who has charge of this work, we are very sorry to say will be laid up for some weeks with a broken bone, so the other members of the Aid will have to work very hard to take her place.

Diocesan Assessments. As the Benevolent Offerings for this quarter are for the objects in the Diocese to which this Church is expected to contribute, we hope members of the congregation will take copies of the last annual report of the Diocesan Board of Missions, which they will find in the rack in the Vestibule of the Church, and look it over to familiarize themselves with the work which is being done and needs support.

Missionary Class. The Girls' Friendly Society will give up their Tuesday evenings during Lent to a Missionary Lecture Class. A very capable teacher will be provided by the Educational Department of the Docese, and we are sure it will be very interesting. Any one attending the Church, male or female, old or young, is invited to attend this class. There is no charge for attendance and no collections are made. It is simply to excite interest in the general work of the Church throughout the world.

Gifts for the Church. A handsome silk American flag to be hung in the Church, brocade and velvet for a violet Cope, with jewels for the same. A piece of fine linen embroidered for the Altar. A ton and a half of coal, and three half price coal orders for the poor.

NOTICE.

The annual meeting of American Branch of the Anglican and Eastern Association will be held in the Church on Tuesday, March 6th, at 8 P. M. There will be a solemn Even Song with a sermon by the Rt. Rev. Dr. Parker, Bishop of New Hampshire. Public invited.

✠

MINUTE OF THE VESTRY.

On the death of the Rev. Mr. Dyer. At a meeting of the Vestry of the Church of the Ascension, Philadelphia, held January 18th, 1917, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Whereas, the Vestry has learned with sorrow of the death of the Rev. Henry Page Dyer, sometime Curate of this Parish, they wish to place upon record the expression of grief voiced by all throughout the Parish, and that while he has been taken away in the midst of hi syears and in the height of his usefulness he has left us a pattern of faithfulness to duty and to the Cause of Christ and His Church.

To his afflicted family we extend our sincere sympathy to which we join our thanksgiving for his Life and Work.

JOHN D. HENDERSON, *Secy.*

✠

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Miss Walsh (2)
Miss Alice Rousseau
Mrs. Brodie
Mr. Barton
Mrs. MacKen
Mrs. Wylie

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THE SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE.

Not only the Jews and all Christians and Mohamedans, but many other nations as well, have always felt one day in each week should be set aside for the public worship of Almighty God. If this is neglected it is impossible to keep religion alive. Not only the community as a whole, but the individuals who systematically give up such worship, will deteriorate spiritually and morally.

Every man owes to God the debt of honoring Him openly, and his own spiritual nature requires the regular help and stimulus which comes from acts of worship.

Sunday is the day observed by Christians universally for this purpose. And what should be the great act of worship on that day but that special rite which Christ Himself instituted as "His memorial," by which His sacrificial death for all men is "set forth," which the early Christians, we are told in the Acts of the Apostles, celebrated "daily," and which the vast majority of Christians have always regarded as the great act of worship by which every Sunday and Holy day should be sanctified. Down to the time of the Reformation it was everywhere so celebrated, and today all Greek and Latin Christians regard its celebration on every Lord's Day as obligatory, and the Prayer Books of all branches of the Anglican Communion make provision for, and intend that it shall be so celebrated.

It is one of the great mistakes of most of the Protestant Bodies that they have given up that service except only on comparatively a few occasions in the year, and substituted for it a mere preaching service with some prayers and singing. Such a service may, or may not, be for the edification of some individuals, but it can never take the place

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KALENDAR.

April 1. Palm Sunday.
2. Monday in Holy Week. Fast.
3. Tuesday in Holy Week. Fast.
4. Wednesday in Holy Week. Fast.
5. Maundy Thursday. Fast.
6. Good Friday. Fast.
7. Easter Even. Fast:
8. Easter.
9. Monday in Easter week.
10. Tuesday in Easter week.
13. Friday. Fast.
15. Low Sunday.
20. Friday. Fast.
22. Second Sunday after Easter.
25. S. Mark, Evangelist.
27. Friday. Fast.
29. Third Sunday after Easter.

✠

RECORD FOR MARCH.

BAPTISMS—Adults,
Dorothea Alice Oldfield.
Eleanor Matilda Oldfield. 2
Infant,
John Hagey Warwick. 1
CONFIRMED, John William Freund.
Thomas Rundle Neilson, Jr.
Edward Thomas Porter Ramonett.
George James Dennis.
Max Bieberbach.
Charles Ritsert.
Virginia Lee Bacon.
Elizabeth Alberta Oldfield.
Dorothea Alice Oldfield.
Eleanor Matilda Oldfield.
Catharine Wilhet Rocap.
Elizabeth Margaret Atkinson. 12
UNCTION of the sick. 1
COMMUNICANTS received, from Trinity Church, Red Bank, N. J.,
Louise Fowler Carter. 1
DIED, Clara Elizabeth Hullinger. 1
BURIALS, John Moore.
Mrs. Mary Louise Moore.
Clara Elizabeth Hullinger. 3

✠

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$177.23
" the Poor	45.45
" Diocesan Missions	26.17
" General Missions	1.00
" The Bishop's Purse	5.73
" Flowers	1.55
" the Pension Fund	5 00
Of the Sunday School	3.61
Total	$265.74

of Christ's own service, and be the vehicle for the same high worship and devout communion with God.

The Holy Communion appeals to the eye as well as to the ear, to the heart as well as to the mind. It alone combines in itself every element of worship, and in the highest and most perfect form.

So every Christian should naturally want to take part in it on every Lord's Day. For thirty-five years it has been so celebrated in this parish without the intermission of a single Sunday or Holy day. It is celebrated twice on every Sunday, early in the morning, for those who can come better at that time, and because it is most fitting to begin the day with Communion, and in the middle of the day, as the most joyful act of worship in which every one can join.

We are sure that no one who has made the practice of attending this service each Sunday will ever be satisfied with any other. He will gain more spiritual benefit from it than he could from

the very best sermon he could hear, and he will not feel the day is fully sanctified by any lesser service.

He who takes part in a Celebration of the Holy Communion can feel that he is doing what Christ taught His disciples to do, and that in company, not only with the vast mass of Christians throughout the world, but as well—as our service reminds us—"with all the Company of Heaven," who are worshipping, as S. John saw in his vision, before an altar on which "there was, as it were, a Lamb slain." That may be imagry, but it sets forth the profoundest truth of the highest religion, and of spiritual experience. All should feel the duty and privilege of trying to join in that worship each Lord's Day.

✠

CAMPAIGN TO INCREASE CHURCH ATTENDANCE.

A committee has been formed from the young men of our church which has undertaken a campaign to increase first of all the attendance at our Morning Service, and as that committee, we are taking this opportunity, through the "Ascension News" to ask the assistance of all its readers to bring success to our efforts.

Our campaign has been outlined as follows:

There are 450 communicants of our Parish, which, if we multiply by 2, will give the approximate number of people who are really more or less interested in the Church of the Ascension. Therefore, we say there are 900 of such people. In our Church, we have four Services,—the Early Celebration, the Morning Servie at 10.30 o'clock, Sunday School and Instruction at three o'clock and Evening Prayer at four o'clock, so if we divide this 900 by 4, there would be at each service 225 people, each one only going to one Service. It is up to, at least, this number that we want to bring the attendance at our 10.30 o'clock Service on the four Sundays of April 15th, 22nd, 29th and May 6th, and when we come to call upon you personally to ask your assistance, please make allowances for us, beause it is all new work to each of us, and please help us to far surpass our expectations.

Upon the last Sunday of the campaign, May 6th, we ask each person to bring another person with them and make the closing Sunday attendance the high-water mark, and fill the Church. It would make us all sort of proud to think that our new Church was also made necessary by the growth of our congregation.

So you will hear from us again, and all that we ask is that you help us by coming to the Morning Service on each of these four Sundays and by bringing some friend with you on that last Sunday.

✠

STATEMENT OF WARDEN.

In addition to the ordinary reeeipts for this month, we shall need an Easter offering sufficient to meet the following obligations: Coal bill for the year, Assessment for the Episcopal and Convention Fund, Rector's salary for the past six months, making a total of $1,200.

MILLARD F. ROBERTS,
Accounting Warden.

✠

PARISH NOTES.

Easter services. Holy Communion, 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 and 11 A. M. Morning Prayer, 10.30 A. M. Choral Evensong with Procession, 4 P. M.

Holy Communion on Easter Monday and Tuesday at 7.30 and 10 A. M., and on Thursday at 9 A. M. Any persons failing to make their Communion on Easter day, are urged to do so on one of these occasions.

Easter music. In morning prayer,
"Christ our Passover" Weigrand
Te Deum, Fay
Communion Service, S. Cecilia Mass
except the Kyrie by Strang.
Offertory Anthem, Barnby
"Break forth into joy"
4:00 P. M., Choral Evensong and Procession.
Magnificat, Stainer B
Nunc Dimittis, Stainer B
Anthem, Solo, "The Resurrection" Shelley

Special Easter offerings are asked from each member of the congregation in addition to their ordinary weekly contributions.

Offerings for Easter flowers, which we suppose everyone will wish to see in the Church on this great Festival, can be put in the box in the vestibule of the Church, which is marked "for Flowers."

Vestry election. The annual election of four Vestrymen to serve for the ensuing three years, will be held in the Vestry room of the Church on Easter Monday, the polls being open from the close of Divine Service in the morning until 1 P. M. All registered as Communicants of the Parish for one year and who have contributed to the support of the Church through the envelopes, are entitled to vote.

The Annual Meeting of the Eastern and Anglican Association, held in the Church last month, was a most interesting occasion. It opened with a solemn Evensong in the Church. In the procession our new American flag was carried for the first time, also a banner of the Blessed Virgin and child, such as the Easterns use. After the choir came the Rev. Mr. Emhardt, Secretary of the Society, and the Rev. Dr. Lacey of Brooklyn, then the Rev. Mr. Lacey of England, and the Rector, followed by an Armenian priest, and a Russian and a Greek priest, then the Bishop of New Hampshire, and the Rev. Mr. Morris, Curate, who was Celebrant of the service, each with two attendants. All these wore copes and sat in the sanctuary. As the Greeks do not consider any service as worship without incense, that was used during the Magnificat, and as they only use the Nicene Creed, that was sung instead of the Apostles. The Bishop of New Hampshire preached a forcible sermon on the "entertaining of strangers," and the choir rendered a very beautiful anthem in addition to the service.

On the next morning there was a service in the Russian Church on Spring Garden Street, and in the evening one in the Greek Church at 12th and Fitzwater Streets, each of which was attended by some of our clergy in their vestments, and the Bishop of New Hampshire gave the Benediction.

Such interchanges as these lead to a very friendly feeling between the two Churches, and will hasten the time when they will come into full ecclesiastical Communion with each other, which it is the object of the Society to promote.

The Conference held during the day, at which addresses were made by Bishop Courtney, formerly of Nova Scotia, Dr. Lacey of England, and others, as very interesting. A Diocesan branch of the Society was also founded with our Rector and the Rev. Father Angelopolous as Presidents, and Dr. Perry, President of the Standing Committee of the Diocese, and the Russian Priest, Father Adaniak, as Vice Presidents.

Advertisements. Cannot some of our people secure us some new advertisements for this paper? They are a great help in paying for its publication. It will be noticed we have a vacant space on the last page.

Men's Club. At the meeting last month, the Hon. Hampton L. Carson, formerly Attorney General of the State, gave a most interesting and instructive talk on Pennsylvania, its geography, topography, and history. No one could be better qualified for such a talk or could have done it more effectively.

Boy Scouts. Troop 63 is beginning its third year in fine shape. Scouts W. Mull, Bieberbach and Ramonett becoming second class Scouts, with prospects of a few more promotions when we get out doors for the other tests.

"Happy" Barr was appointed to fill the vacancy of Patrol Leader of the Mongoose Patrol. He will appoint his assistant this month. In the knot-tieing group we have learned a total of fourteen knots and will continue to take one new one every week.

The fellows got another chance for a good turn when they helped the "Red Cross" in their campaign for new members.

Plans are being made for a mobilization of the older and more advanced Scouts of the city for emergency should such a thing be necessary and advisable, not for military operations but for police relief, messenger, first aid, signaling or similar duties. We expect to be useful, true scouts.

The Missionary lectures on Tuesday evenings during Lent in the Parish Building have been well attended. The last one will be given on Tuesday evening, April 10th.

The ladies' missionary meeting will be held on Friday, April 13th, as the first Friday this month is Good Friday.

✠

ONE DAY'S INCOME.

The Board of Missions of the General Church urge that the "One Day's Income" plan, in addition to all usual missionary offerings, should be a feature of our missionary giving. The Board recognizes the force of these requests, and now asks all to unite in making offerings to a ONE DAY'S INCOME FUND, in addition to the usual apportionment offerings.

1. Will you join in prayer for the Church's world-wide work and for the men and women who are serving as our representatives? Will you do this especially whenever you come to the Holy Communion?

2. Will you, in addition to your usual missionary offerings, give not later than July 1, 1917, at least One Day's Income—or wage?

3. If this is impracticable, will you make an equivalent self-denial offering?

The members and officers of the Board count it their privilege to do this and have already pledged their personal gifts to the Fund.

All offerings for the ONE DAY'S INCOME FUND will count upon the apportionment of your parish and diocese unless you request otherwise.

Envelopes for this purpose can be found in the rack near the door of the Church.

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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The following were received since the last issue.

Mrs. Van Pelt (2)
Dr. Neilson
Mr. S. Milliken
Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Cope
Mrs. Watson
Miss Rhein

The Ascension News

VOL. XXXI. PHILADELPHIA May, 1917 NO. 3

Church of the Ascension

Broad Street, Below South — All Seats Free

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EVERY SUNDAY ..... 7.30 and 11.00 A.M.

HOLY DAYS ..... 7.30 and 10.30 A. M

Morning Prayer

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DAILY ..... 10,00 A M.

Evensong

SUNDAYS (Choral) ..... 4.00 P. M.

DAILY ..... 5 00 P. M.

INSTRUCTIONS in Bible and Prayer Book, in the Church, by the Rector, Sundays ..... 3.00 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE CLASS 3.00 P. M.

All the Seats are Free at all Services. God's House is open to all its Children The Church is always open for private prayer, and the Clergy can be seen after any service or by appointment.

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2022 St. Albans Street

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Tuesdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.00 P. M
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P. M
Thursdays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent ..... The Curate

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

For Young Men ..... 3.00 P. M
Taught by Miss Maria J. Gilpin

THE SECOND SUNDAY SERVICE.

As we said last month the Holy Communion is the great service which should be celebrated every Sunday morning. As that has been the general sentiment and practice among Christians, so there has been a general agreement that there should be an evening service on Sundays as well. The Jews had a daily evening sacrifice, as well as a morning one. So Christians have felt in regard to their worship, "With Thee began, with Thee shall end the day."

A Vesper service is really a thanksgiving for the Eucharistic Feast of the morning. Devout souls want to give as much as possible of the Lord's Day to holy thoughts and worship, and the closing hours of the day lend a peculiar solemnity and sweetness to such acts. So all liturgies provide for evening services as well as for the morning. That in the Prayer Books of the Church of England is called "Even Song," because it was generally musical. As in this country when our Prayer Book was drawn up, music had been but little cultivated, it was called "Evening Prayer." It consists of recitation of Psalms, reading from Scripture and Prayers, as the daily morning service does. And there has generally been a sermon after the service chiefly for the sake of those who may be unable to attend church on Sunday mornings.

In this Parish for many years we had two evening services on Sundays, one at 4 P. M., a full Choral Evensong without any sermon, then at 8 P. M., there was a shortened plainer Evening service with a sermon. The four

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A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITOR
THE RECTOR

TREASURER
MR. R. HICKMAN YOUNG
1529 South 4th Street

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KALENDAR.

May	1	SS. Philip and James
	4	Friday. Fast.
	6	Fourth Sunday after Easter.
	11	Friday. Fast.
	12	Rogation Sunday
	13	Rogation Day. Fast.
	14	Rogation Day. Fast.
	15	Rogation Day. Fast.
	16	Ascension Day.
	17	Friday. Fast.
	20	Expectation Sunday.
	25	Friday. Fast.
	27	Whitsunday.
	28	Whitsun Monday.
	29	Whitsun Tuesday.
	30	Ember Day.

✠

RECORD FOR APRIL

BAPTISMS
Howard Thompson Clark.
Helen Bailey Hill.
George Henry Fidler. 3

COMMUNICANTS, new
John William Freund
Thomas Rundle Neilson, Jr.,
Edward Thomas Porter Romonett
George James Dennis.
Max Beirberback
Charles Ritsert
Richard Allen Pickett
Virginia Lee Bacon
Elizabeth Alberta Oldfield
Eleanor Matilda Oldfield
Dorothea Alice Oldfield
Catharine Wilket Rocap
Elizabeth Margaret Atkinson 13

Received from the Church of Rome
Mrs. Marie Cecilia Pickett 1
COMMUNIONS of the sick 2
BURIAL, Annie Scott 1

✠

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses (including Easter offering)	$1,210.70
" the Poor	21.53
" Flowers	37.80
" Outing Fund	16.00
" General Missions	53.00
" Diocesan Missions	131.31
" Domestic Missions	56.25
" Foreign Missions	14.40
" Colored Missions	10.40
" the Pension Fund	5.00
" Assessment on Do.	25.00
" Parochial Activities	.30
" Prayer Book Society	8.00
" Tract Society	5.00
" United Offering	77.80
" Extra Music	89.00
Of the Sunday School	3.17
Of the Do. for Missions	23.77
Total	$1,802.83

o'clock service was at one time very popular and well attended, until from deaths and removals from the parish, the attendance fell off, and it was discontinued. It was hoped that its discontinuanec would increase the attendance at the 8 P. M. service, and it did so for a time. But of late years, owing to the constant removals from the neighborhood of the Church, the attendance at it also declined, therefore a year or so ago it was given up, and return made to the four o'clock hour with a shortened form of Evening Prayer, and a short ten minutes' instruction of the children of the Sunday School, who were expected to attend this service. But as the children receive an hour's instruction before it in the Sunday School, it does not seem necessary for them to have another instruction in the Church.

Lately, therefore, we have returned to the old custom of having a full Choral Evensong at 4 P. M., without any sermon, in the hope that it may be more attractive both for adults and for children. The anthem we formerly had during the offertory in the morning has been transferred to this service and every effort is made to render it musically effective.

We trust our people will not be content with one attendance at Church on a Sunday, but in addition to the great morning service will also come to this act of evening worship, which will add greatly to the solemnizing, hallowing influences of the Lord's day.

There are some persons we know who have their dinners on Sundays at or near this hour, but they certainly ought to arrange to have them either earlier or later so as not to interfere with their paramount religious duties.

✠

CHURCH ATTENDANCE CAMPAIGN.

With the issue of this number of the "Ascension News", the Church Attendance Campaign will have come to a close, and we wish to thank everybody who has aided in making our efforts successful. At this writing, two of the Sundays have passed, the first one we feel was a great success, and we were so greatly encouraged. The second one did not bring out as large an attendance, but the decrease was due to the absence of many who attend regularly, rather than to the absence of those who promised us to come on these four Sundays.

We are looking forward a little anxiously to the third Sunday, but we refuse to be disappointed, and on this fourth and last Sunday, we hope to break all records.

This has been new work to all the members of the committee and we appreciate the long trips that many of our friends must make, but won't you all, now that you have made the start continue regular Church attendance?

THE COMMITTEE.

✠

PARISH NOTES.

Easter. The way in which Easter is celebrated in a parish is always taken as a fair guage of the prosperity it is enjoying or the progress it is making.

Our Easter certainly was up to the average of recent years. The number of Communions made was not less than last year, and the sight of some forty young men making their Communions together was a proof of the hold the Church has on that very important element in its congregation.

The Saint Cecilia Mass was beautifully rendered, and the offerings amounted to some $900, being in excess of last year by about $150. We require, however, at least $300 more to meet our obligations up to the first of May, the end of our financial year. Will not *each member* of the congregation contribute something to make up this amount.

A generous offering of $150 also helped the parish towards meeting its assessments for General and Diocesan Missions. The offering of the Sunday School for Missions amounted to $23.76, and each child received a potted flower through the kind interest of the old friend of the school, Mr. D. L. Witmer.

The Holy Week services were not attended as we should like to have seen them, with the exception of Good Friday. About a hundred people attended the three hours' preaching that day. But one would think that more than one day at this solemn season could be given to real purposes of devotion.

Ascension day, May 17th, will be kept this year as it always has been kept as our special parochial Festival. The full choir will be present at the 10.30 A. M. service, which will be as on Sundays, and at 8 P. M., there will be a shortened Choral Evensong and the Anniversary sermon by the Rector. Every one connected with the parish ought to be sufficiently interested in it to attend this service in which the Rector reviews the work of the Church for the past year and tells of the plans for the future.

On the afternoon of the Sunday after the Ascension there will be the Annual Guild service, with procession of all the parish Guilds, and a special sermon addressed particularly to them.

The Annual Parish Tea, which we have had without a single intermission for thirty years, will take place on Monday evening, May 21st. The Candidates' Class of the Girls' Friendly Society are preparing an entertainment for that evening. We hope to see all our parishioners present.

The offerings on Ascension day are for the Endowment fund of the Parish, which needs to be largely increased.

Change of name of the Church. The plans for constituting the parish the Watson Memorial, and making it the Bishop's Church, have been delayed by a variety of causes, chiefly by the sickness and absence of the Bishop from the city, preventing his giving it the attention he intended. Matters are, however now being pressed forward. Formal consent to the change of the name of the Church to that of "St. Mary's" has been given by the Bishop and Standing Committee of the Diocese, and the Committee on Charters of the Diocesan Convention is now considering the matter, and will report at the meeting of the Convention on May 8th. If the report is favorable and the Convention approves it, steps will be immediately taken to secure the confirmation of the Court. When this is done, the Vestry will then probably by resolution place the Church in the hands of the Bishop to use for the Diocesan purposes he has in mind.

In the meantime the architects are perfecting their designs for the enlargement of the Church, under the direction of the Commission of the Diocese on Church Building, which was formally asked by the Trustees of the Diocese to take charge of the matter.

Vestry election. At the annual election for Vestrymen held on Easter Monday the following gentlemen were elected to serve for the ensuing three years: Thomas R. Neilson, M. D., Millard F. Roberts, Charles L. Borie, W. Moore Wharton.

Dr. Neilson was reappointed Rector's Warden, and Mr. Roberts reelected Accounting Warden. Mr. Henderson, declining reelection as Secretary of the Vestry, Mr. R. H. Young was elected in his place.

Mr. Walter M. Newnam, Mr. Charles L. Borie, Mr. Spencer Ervin were elected delegates to the Annual Diocesan Convention.

Minute of the Vestry on the retirement of Mr. John D. Henderson from the position of Secretary.

Whereas, Mr. John D. Henderson has declined reelection as the Secretary of this Vestry after an unbroken service in that capacity for ewenty-five years, be it

Resolved, that this Vestry put on record its high appreciation of the faithful and devoted service Mr. Henderson has rendered during the unusually long period in which he has discharged the duties of that office.

He has always been most regular and punctual in his attendance at meetings, sending out of notices, keeping the minutes and discharging the other obligations of his office.

His interest in the parish and its affairs has been unfailing, and his fellow members rejoice that he will still remain on the Vestry though no longer feeling able to continue as Secretary. They feel that he has well earned the right to retire.

Flower Sale. The Little Garden Association will hold a flower show and sale in our Parish building again this year on Saturday, May 25th. Our members are invited to attend it.

A Sociable will be given by the members of St. John's Guild on Thursday evening, May 10th. The members of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew and the Girls' Friendly Society will be invited, and each will be entitled to bring a guest.

Boy Scouts. The improvement in the troop under the new Patrol Leaders has been noticeable; real interest is being shown by the Scouts in everything they do—whether it be games, hikes, drill, tests or even "work."

The City Championship Meet will be held soon and we hope to have some one in it. Last year we succeeded in getting two fellows on the district team, so with practically the same bunch, together with the four new Scouts, Craig, Bunting, Holt and Samuel added we ought to do more this year.

We had two chances to be of service this month, the first coming on the day of the big Patriotic demonstration when we were on police duty handling crowds, etc. The other was after the big explosion at Eddystone when fifty Scouts from District II of Philadelphia which included four of our fellows, were sent to do their bit toward relieving conditions on the scene of the "accident." Incidentally though we were the last to be notified to "report at once"; we were "first on the job." Scouts John Barr, Harry Barr and Chas. McDermott being there before any others.

The Girls' Friendly Society will continue this month to work for the Red Cross. A paper will be read or a talk given each evening they meet on Red Cross work.

The Annual Service of the Pennsylvania Society will be held in the Church of the Holy Trinity, 19th and Walnut Streets, on May 3rd at 7.45 P. M.

That for the Candidates' Classes will be held in S. Simeon's Church, 9th and Lehigh Ave., on May 12th at 8 P. M.

The members of our Parish branch we hope will turn out in full force with their banner on both these occasions.

✠

APPEALS.

We have many appeals in connection with the war. The Sunday School Guilds and members of the congregation are asked to give each $1.00 a month to support a Belgian child.

Envelopes for Armenian relief have been placed in the Vestibule of the Church, and any that are filled can be put in the Alms boxes or collection plates, and will be forwarded to the proper Treasurers.

The Episcopal Hospital has been organized as a Red Cross Base Hospital, and asks for funds to provide equipment, and volunteers for service as nurses, male or female, assistants, ambulance drivers, chauffeurs, ward attendants, clerical force, etc.

The City Mission has opened a war Emergency Bureau of Information, Organization and Distribution for the use of all Churches, social organizations or individuals. Its telephone call is Lombard 1824.

✠

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The following were received since the last issue.

Mr. Carroll Hodge
Mrs. Ellis
Miss A. H. Chamberlane
Mrs. Barrett
Miss Johnson

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Daily.....10,00 A M.

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2022 St. Albans Street

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Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society ---------- 8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew --- 8.00 P. M
Thursdays, St. John's Guild ---------- 8.00 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent ---------- The Curate

DEDICATION FESTIVAL.

Our annual parish Festival was celebrated as usual on Ascension day, with an anniversary in the evening, being the thirty-eighth occasion of the kind during the present Rectorship.

On Ascension day a year ago the Rector announced that it would probably be the last time such a celebration in the Parish would be held on that Feast, as the name of the Parish was to be changed, and it was to be made a Diocesan institution. Various things, however, have delayed the carrying out of this project, but things are now shaping themselves so that it is hoped rapid progress will be soon made. Formal concent has been given by the Bishop and Standing Committee and by the Diocesan Convention to the name of the Parish being changed, and it only remains to have it legally carried out by the civil court. When this is done and the architect's plans are approved by the Architectural Commission and by Mr. Watson, the executor of Mrs. Watson's will, the church will be placed in the hands of the Bishop to use according to the plans he has already formulated.

As the Church is to be called S. Mary's there would be no appropriateness in keeping Ascension day any longer as the parochial Festival. Probably the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin, which occurs on February second, will be taken for that purpose. And as by a Canon adopted at the last General Convention the financial and statistical year of all our parishes is to be the civil year, that will be a very convenient time, as it will be so soon after closing our annual reports. This will give us another Dedication Festival within nine months, but after

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KALENDAR

June 1 Ember Day.
2 Ember Day.
3 Trinity Sunday.
8 Friday. Fast.
10 First Sunday after Trinity.
11 S. Barnabas.
15 Friday. Fast.
17 Second Sunday after Trinity.
22 Friday. Fast.
24 Nativity of S. John Baptist.
29 S. Peter.

✠

RECORD FOR MAY

MARRIAGE
Clarence Crane and
Violet Tindell Hudson.

COMMUNICANTS, transferred to the Church of the Ascension, Atlantic City, N. J.
Irwin Sheetz Conger.
Mrs. Elizabeth Bella Conger.

To S. Bartholomew's Church
George Gilmore McLaughlin.

✠

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$391.80
" the deficit	126 00
" the Poor	58.57
" Endowment Fund	43.92
" Parochial Activities	38 00
" Domestic Missions	2.00
" Diocesan Missions	5 55
" General Missions	1.65
Of the Sunday School	3.02
Total	$669.51

that of course they will occur regularly at a year's interval.

In studying the statistics of the past year it will be noticed that the number of Baptisms, Marriages, Confirmations, and Burials have been less than last year. These items naturally vary from year to year. But the number of registered Communicants still decreases, due to the continued removals from this part of the city. We do not wonder that people do move to more attractive localities, but it makes the work of the churches which remain here much harder. And if people move away and yet retain their connection with us, as many of them do, we insist that they should still attend the Church and contribute to its support.

The ten Communicants of the parish who have died since last Ascension day, were first Mrs. Sadie Kelly, one of our old Sunday School girls, who had married, and died, leaving two or three small children. The second was Edna Grace Reeves, the young wife of our Boy Scout Master. She had been married only a little over two years and left a baby boy. She had been Confirmed in the Church the previous Easter. The third was George Ware, who had been been Confirmed some years ago but owing to his occupation he could seldom attend Church, and made his first Communion only shortly before his death. He was 84 years old and continued working up to his last illness, which lasted only some weeks. The fourth was another aged member of the Parish, Mrs. Celestia Harrich Darlington. She was over eighty and had for many years been an inmate of Christ Church Hospital, but as long as she was able came in regularly at Christmas and Easter to make her Communions here, and by her special request her body was brought to the Church for its burial service. The fifth was Miss Adaline Lucy Aucott, one of our Sunday School teachers, who died suddenly of pneumonia. Though she only became an attendant of the Church when the Rev. Mr. Morris became Curate, who had been her Rector, and though she lived at a great distance from the Church, she came to it very regularly and was most faithful in her duties to her class and in other Church work. We miss her presence very much. The sixth was Mr. William C. Lloyd, fomerly our Accounting Warden. He had been connected with the parish for many years, and had served both as a Vestryman and Warden, and had at one time taught a Bible Class. He died in his 84th year. For some time his infirmities prevented his attendance at Church, but the Rector ministered to him in private, and he was buried from the Church. The seventh was Mrs. Margaret Hill Hunter, transferred to this parish when All Saints' Church, to which she had belonged, removed from 12th and Fitzwater Streets, but the state of her health never permitted her to attend the Church. The eighth was Mrs. Elizabeth Walker, who, with her husband and children, attended the Church when they lived near. Of late years she moved to a distance and could rarely come The Rector ministered to her on her deathbed and at her burial. The ninth was John Barton Cooley. He had formerly beloned to the Methodist body, but was received into the Church during his last illness. The tenth was Miss Clara Elizabeth Hillinger. She had been connected with the Church since the Church of the Messiah at Broad and Federal Streets, had been closed. The Rector gave her the Holy Communion on a number of occasions during her long illness, and she was buried from the Church with a Celebration of the Holy Communion. This should always take place at Christian burials.

In this connection we note the sudden death last December of our former Curate, the Rev. H. Page Dyer. He had served the Church in that capacity for twelve years. He was a devout man, absorbed in his work, and many of our people were devotedly attached to him. May he and all those mentioned rest in peace and enjoy light and refreshment in that new life into which they have entered.

The Sunday School and Saturday Industrial School have been maintained with about the same attendance as previously. There is little opportunity for growth for them at present owing to the population by which the Church is surrounded being now almost altogether colored.

The Young People's Guilds have been well sustained and made interesting. There is particular cause for congratulation in the large accession of members recently to our Chapter of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew, and to the reorganization of St. Agnes' Guild for little girls as a Candidates' class for the Girls' Friendly Society. This is due to its efficient Secretary, Miss Ely.

The Woman's Guild has not grown in numbers, but those belonging to it have done faithful work, and its receipts have been slightly more than last year.

In regard to the Financial statistics, we find that the total receipts were some $1,200 in excess of last year. But his includes $1,000 received as a legacy for the Poor of the Parish, and the cost of a stained glass window placed in the Chancel of the Church. Our receipts, therefore, were about the same as those of the previous year, which, considering our circumstances, is a matter for congratulation. As, however, we have a deficit of some $450 for the year, and nearly the same the year before, it is manifest that our receipts are some $500 less than our expenses, and some steps ought to be taken to permanently remedy this condition.

We have of course before us the prospect of the altered condition of the parish. If it is made, as we trust it will now shortly become, the Bishop's Church, and the Church is enlarged and beautified that will give it a prominence and attract to it more people, so that we trust our report another year will be of improvement greatly in excess of anything we have known in the past.

PARISH NOTES.

Ascension day was kept as usual with a Choral Celebration in the morning, a Choral Evensong at night with the Rector's Anniversary sermon. The attendance was, as it generally has been, a disappointment. So great a day should be better observed, and our people should manifest a greater interest in the affairs of their parish. The number joining in the annual procession of Guilds was not what it should have been. We would suppose that the members of the Guilds would take a pride on turning out on such an occasion and make as good a showing as they could.

The only occasion connected with our Parish Festival at which the attendance was good, was the Parish Tea on Monday evening of May 21st. Our Sunday School room was filled, and a very excellent entertainment was furnished by some friends of Miss Ely, the head of the S. Agnes Guild. Our Choirmaster, Mr. Ullrich, and Master Watson Mull, one of our choir boys, gave us also a number of excellent songs. There was the usual ample repast of ice cream, strawberries, cake and coffee, and dancing by the young people followed later. Altogether it was a most enjoyable occasion, and one which we trust, serves to cement our people together.

Summer services. The daily service is discontinued this month, and the Sunday School and Sunday afternoon service after the second Sunday in the month. The 7:30 and 10:30 A. M. services on Sundays and on all Holy days will be continued without intermission, and prayers will be said at 10:00 A. M., generally on Wednesdays and Fridays during June and September. The Sunday School and Suuday afternoon service will be resumed on the third Sunday in September.

On Sunday afternoon, June 10th, the prizes for good attendance and etc. in the Sunday School for the winter will be awarded.

The annual picnic of the parish will take place on Saturday, June 23rd. It will be held as formerly on Burlington Island. Free transportation will be provided for all the members of the Sunday School and of the Mothers' Meeting from the Church to the Island and return. Entertainments will be given the children on the Island, but each person is expected to bring his or her lunch. Members of the parish can join the picnic by paying their own expenses. All will assemble in the Parish building by 7 A. M.

Should June 23rd prove stormy the picnic will take place the following Saturday.

The envelopes sent out May 1st were for six months, and the benevolent side of these are, three months for the Poor of the parish and three months for parochial activities. The Rector depends on the receipts through these for carrying on the Mothers' Meeting and other benevolent work of the parish, and supporting the Parish Guilds, providing summer outings, and etc.

More envelopes needed. Out of over four hundred Communicant members of the parish only about one hundred and twenty-five are now using envelopes. This is manifestly not a fair proportion of contributing members.

The members of the Brotherhood of S. Andrew, who so earnestly conducted the campaign to increase the Church attendance, are going to conduct another such campaign to increase the number of those using envelopes and thus remedy the trouble we have in regularly meeting our expenses. Ten men have undertaken to get each ten new subscribers at ten cents a week each, which would give us $500 a year more income. Or where ten cents is thought too much to give, two will be found who will give five cents each. This is a small amount, one carfare a week. Every one ought to be able and willing to give that. We trust success will come to this effort.

Letter from the Vestry. At its regular meeting on May 3rd, the Vestry directed its Finance Committee, consisting of Messrs. Newbold, French and Roberts, to send out a circular letter to all the registered members of the parish, informing them that we have a deficit of $450 due at the end of our fiscal year to our Rector on account of his salary, and asking for special contributions towards making it up, and also suggesting that in order to avoid any deficit in the future each Communicant should increase his or her annual contribution by one dollar. This would not be a burden upon any one and would meet the additional amount we need.

$187 have been received in response to this letter so far.

Enlistments in the Army. As far as we know at present the only men from this parish who have as yet enlisted for the war in any branch of the service are Russell Franks, Stanley Atkinson and James Hill. We trust the members of the congregation will remember them in their prayers.

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REPORT.

The following is the report of the Parish for the year ending May 1st, as made to the Bishop:

Baptisms,—Adults, 2; Infants, 10; total, 12.

Confirmed.—Males, 6; females, 6; total, 12.

Communicants added.—New, 15; by transfer, 7; total, 22; died, 10; removed by revision of list, 20; by transfer, 16; total, 46; present number, 432.

Marriages.—4.

Burials.—15.

Public Services.—Sunday, 147; on the other days, 600; total, 747.

Celebrations of Holy Communion.—247.

Children Catechised.—Times, 108.

Snday School.—Officers and teachers, 9; scholars, 88.

Other Parish Agencies.—Officers and workers and members, 100; Industrial School Teachers, 6; scholars, 48; Mothers' Meeting, members, 16.

Money Receipts.—Offerings for Parish support, $4,711.82; offerings for purposes outside the Parish, $1,582.00; investments, $554.24; other sources, entertainments, etc., $128.75; Sunday Schools and Guilds, $263.12; the poor, $473.16; Women's Auxiliary, $33[illegible].24; for Endowment Fund, $45.56; Legacy, $1,000; total, $9,003.74.

Expenditures.—Parochial current expenses (including salaries of clergy, music, futl and lighting, care of church buildings and grounds and ordinary repairs of same), $4,526.44; interest on loan, $56.76; support of the Sunday and Industrial Schools and Guilds, $315.48; for the Poor, $487.91; added to Endowment Fund, $1,045.56; Pension Assessment, $50; miscellaneous, $1,028.36; total, $7,510.91.

Diocesan.—Episcopal and Convention Fund, $200.69; Diocesan Missions, $209.08; Episcopal Hospital. $14.62; Bishop's Fund, $5.73; total, $430.22.

General Missions.—Collections, $879.81; Pension Fund, $230.00; War Relief, $18.80; Theoloical education, $5; Clergy Relief, $14.90; Prayer Book and Tract Societies, $13.00; United offering, $77.80; Periodical Club, $4.65; total, $1,245.09. Total for all objects, $9,187.09.

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since the last issue.

Miss Eckert (2)	Miss Holbrook
Miss Hare	Miss Peters
Mrs. Carmen	Miss Hamilton
Mrs. Shelton (2)	Miss Macartney

✠

NOTICE.

The Bishop of the Diocese invites all our parishioners to attend the open-air services on the side of the proposed Cathedral for the Diocese on the Parkway at 23rd Street each Sunday during the summer beginning June 3, at 5 P. M.

Preachers for the month of June: 3rd, The Rt. Rev. Philip M. Rhinelander, D.D.; 10th, The Rt. Rev. Charles Fiske, D.D.; 17th, The Rt. Rev. Ethebert Talbot, D.D.; 24th, The Rev. H. Percy Silver, D.D.

The Ascension News

VOL. XXXI. PHILADELPHIA. OCTOBER, 1917 No. 7

Church of the Ascension

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Services

Holy Communion

EVERY SUNDAY.....7.30 and 11.00 A.M.

HOLY DAYS.....7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer

SUNDAYS .....10.30 A. M.

Daily.....10.00 A M.

Evensong

SUNDAYS (Choral).....4.00 P. M.

DAILY.....5 00 P. M.

INSTRUCTIONS in Bible and Prayer Book, in the Church, by the Rector, Sundays.....3.00 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE CLASS.3.00 P. M

All the Seats are Free at all Services. God's House is open to all its Children The Church is always open for private prayer, and the Clergy can be seen after any service or by appointment.

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HENRY L. T. ULLRICH.

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WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild	8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, St. Agnes' Guild	7.00 P. M
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society	8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew	8.00 P.M
Thursdays, St. John's Guild	8.00 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent ---------- The Curate

THE WAR AND THE PARISH.

The great struggle in which our country is now engaged affects the parish as it does everything else, and we ought to be asking ourselves how it can help in it.

As soon as war was proclaimed the Bishop appointed a committee of clergymen to see and consider what the duty of the Church was in regard to it. This Committee has been very active. It sent a circular letter to all the clergy of the Diocese asking what each one was willing to do and what their parishes could do to help.

In response to this letter a number of the clergy volunteered to go as Chaplains, and many offered to put their parish buildings and other resources at the disposal of the government for any purpose for which they could be employed.

As from ten to twenty thousand men have been stationed at League Island Navy Yard all summer, a most important work was undertaken there. Some three clergymen and several laymen have been stationed there to minister to the spiritual needs of these men and to provide healthful recreations which might keep them from the evil influences to which they were exposed through their neighborhood to a great city. A large tent has been erected for holding religious services and for recreation purposes.

As this Church is easily accessible from League Island, the Rector extended a cordial invitation to as many of the men as it could accommodate to attend any of its services. He also offered the use of the Parish building for any recreations for which it might be desired, and invited the men to make it a resort where they could read, write, smoke, play shuffle board or other games, at any time during the day.

We are sorry to say that none of these invitations have been accepted so far,

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITOR
THE RECTOR

TREASURER
MR. R. HICKMAN YOUNG
1529 South 4th Street

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KALENDAR

Oct. 5 Friday. Fast.
7 Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.
12 Friday. Fast.
14 Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.
18 S. Luke Evangelist.
19 Friday. Fast.
21 Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.
26 Friday. Fast.
28 S.S. Simon and Jude.
31 Eve of All Saints.

RECORD FOR JUNE, JULY, AUGUST and SEPTEMBER

BAPTISMS, Etta Wood Neilson
James Malin Harvey.
Janet Marie Amies. 3

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED
From Christ Church, Palmyea, N Y.
Jane Brittain Ely.
Transferred to the Church of the Atonement Philadelphia.
Mrs. Cecile Harvey. 1

BURIAL, Mrs. Amorinda Held. 1

✠

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$114.05
" the deficit	168 00
" the Poor	68 94
" Parochial Activities	18 60
" Boy's Camp	52.00
" Teeological Education	5.00
" Honor Roll Frame	1.00
" At Rector's Discretion	500.00
" War Relief	17.50
" General Missions	1.55
Of the Sunday School	4.79
Total	$1257.43

except by one or two sailors who have attended some of our services. We suppose it is difficult to get the men to go to church when they have time to themselves. They prefer to visit friends, if they have any, or other occupations. And if they are to be entertained in our parish building doubtless it is up to us to provide the amusements. Perhaps some of our Guilds will undertake to do that during this winter. Some of the city parishes have been doing this on a large scale.

As to what individual members of the parish have been doing we have not full reports. But we know many of the women have been sewing or knitting industriously or doing Red Cross work all summer. And our Guild of little girls has continued their meetings all summer for this purpose.

The only men whom we know of so fas as having enlisted are Dr. George M. Coates, one of our Vestry, who has gone to Camp Sevier near Greenville, S. C., where he will act as chief nose and throat speciaist, with some four assistants. The camp contains some 40,000 men.

Stanley Atkinson enlisted as a member of a Pennsylvania Regiment and is now at Camp Hancock. Russell Franks is in the Navy and is employed at League Island.

James Hill joined the Ambulance Corps and spent the summer in the camp at Allentown. He is probably now in France.

Each of these men will have need of special things which the government does not provide, and it would be very nice and very much appreciated by them if members of the congregation would from time to time send them some thing which would be useful to them and show them that they were remembered by those at home.

It is said that for every soldier going into the war, six persons must stand behind him to supply his needs. So we ought especially to stand behind those going out from our own parish.

It is a righteous war in which our country is engaged, against powers which, setting aside every dictate of civilzation, have brought desolation and ruin and untold suffering and sorrow to millions of people. So the Church should not only as an act of mercy minister to those who are afflicted, but do all it can to help conquer this great evil power.

In the early summer the Rector placed on the door of the Church a large sign which had been prepared for the purpose, calling attention to the fact that the Church was always open and could be used by any one for private devotions for the country, for our soldiers and sailors, and all assisting in the war in any way, and for those who might be sick or wounded and those who had lost relatives or friends. We believe it has been laregly used in this way. He has also presented to each of those who have gone into the army from the parish, a copy of a special Prayer Book which has been prepared for our soldiers and sailors.

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PARISH NOTES.

The Summer has passed off very quietly in the parish. Too quitely, that is, we have not been able to have those summer activities which we should have liked to have had and have had, other summers. The Sunday morning services were kept up without intermission, but the attendance was small, so many even of those who remain in the city during the summer generally manage to get away some where over the Sundays.

We have been very free from sickness and we do not know of a single death occuring among our parishioners during the summer.

The Sunday School closed its sessions on Sunday afternoon, June 17th, when the following priezs were awarded at the four o'clock service.

Bertha Franks and Frank Kohlhund were given first prizes for not having been absent a single session of the School. George Dennis and Watson Mull second prizes each having been absent twice, and Catharine Beiberbach only three times. Samuel Williams and Anna Schultz were given prizes for bringing new scholars, and each child in the Infant Class was given a silver cross on a blue or pink ribbon.

The Annual Sunday School and parish excursion took place on Saturday, June 30th, preceded by a service in the Church. The sail to and back from Burlington Island and the stay there was much enjoyed. And fortunately there was no such trouble experienced as one or two other excursions had, caused by over crowding the boats and the admission of disorderly persons. Strong efforts are being made by the Social Service Commission of our Diocese to put a stop to the selling of liquor on these boats. We trust they will be successful.

The Boy Scouts kept up their activities during the summer. They had a number of hikes to different places, on two occasions staying over Sunday, the boys of the Choir coming home to sing on Sunday morning and returning in the afternoon. Their annual encampment took place at a new ground they secured on the Delaware above Florence, N. J. We append an account of it written by one who took part in it.

Camp Gilpin.

All things come to them that wait, but to us July 21st seemed a long time coming, for on that day you must know, we started for camp at Florence, N. J. The camp was located in the pine grove, and to say that this place was the best ever in all respects, is putting it mildly. Never beore have we had any place to compare with it.

After a seemingly never ending boat ride, we arrived there about half past one, and found that Scoutmaster Reeves with Walter Ullrich, Harry Barr and John Jones had practically established camp. Surely they are some workers. Everybody then pitched in, and by supper, we all turned in for a good night's rest. We got it too for two hours.

Sunday morning, we went to the early Mass at the Church in Florence, and with the boys from St. Elizabeth's camp, left little room for the parishioners.

After breakfast, we could hardly wait for the hour of the swimming period, but we certainly did have fun when it came, and anybody seeing the bunch in the water on that day, (many of them only wading), would not have known them on the last day, for excepting one or two, we all were swimming. We had to learn in order to pass our test.

After dinner, one of us heard Doc. Seyfert tell Scoutmaster Reeves he was afraid our appetites were failing, for we had only eaten forty-two loaves of bread since Saturday supper, and everything else in proportion. Poor "Aunt" Katie had no vacation when she cooked for us.

There isn't enough room to tell you what we did each day, but there was something doing all the time,—always having fun. In the evening we would have big camp fires. "Dutchy" would play the mouth organ. "Pop" or Joe would tell us stories, but by nine o'clock, everything was pretty quiet. Wednesday night we had a marshmallow toast. Thursday night there was a fierce thunderstorm and we couldn't do anything. Friday night was the annual watermelon party and "Doc" Wallace, whose father keeps the candy store, came up from town with cakes and pockets full of chewing gum.

The boys took many hikes—Roebling, Florence and Bordentown, suffering chiefly through our pilgrimages. Bordentown being seven miles from Camp was the objective of several parties who were passing "Tests"—a fourteen mile hike alone or with one other scout and a composition describing the same.

They all met snakes. Bob Holt brought one back with him and took Max Bieberback's seat from the dining room and half our salt supply with which to "Cure" the skin—all in vain.

The whole gang took a big hike, and though we did not have any narrow escapes or meet any snakes, we had plenty of fun. We went to Bustleton, N. J., and some of the boys were disappointed to find that the town was not Bustle-ing at all. Two houses, a Church and a school, and not even a soda fountain!

Mr. Roberts and Mr. Ullrich came to see us, and they certainly knew what fellows like—the way that candy and those peaches did disappear. But ask "Pop" Reeves, Joe Graham and Doc Seyfert how they like peaches, especially after a thunderstorm. Doctor Rock also came up to visit us, and he stayed with us all night. Doctor Rock is now bound for somewhere in France, and we all miss him. We had many other visitors, among them being Dr. and Mrs. Ciccone, Dr. Kitchen, Mrs. Kaufman, Chester A. Myers, Mrs. Kohlhund and Miss Kohlhund, Arthur Challman and Father Williamson of St. Elizabeth's, and next year we are looking for more.

But of course the last day had to come, and we broke up camp on Saturday morning after one fine week. We are looking forward now to next year and already making plans, but all of us Scouts and Scoutmaster Reeves and Mr. Seyfert want to sincerely thank through the "Ascension News" those people who by their contributions made it possible for us to have such a good time this year.

We won't tell you what we think of Walter Ullrich and Joe Graham, our Interlocutor, but we made them promise to go with us next year, and Mr. Sullivan has given us first choice for the camp. We don't think any other place will do now since we have been there.

Appeal for deficit. The responses to the letter sent out in May by the Vestry for special subscriptions to meet our annual deficit have amounted to $294. This leaves us still several hundred dollars in debt for last year's expenses, to say nothing of the amount we have been obliged to borrow to carry us througgh the summer. If every member of the congregation would contribute regularly according to his or her ability we would not find ourselves in this condition of always struggling with a deficit.

The Girls' Friendly Society. We regret to announce that Miss Elizabeth Gilpin, who has so long acted as Secretary for our Parish branch, has felt obliged to resign owing to her pressing home duties. She will continue, however, to act as an Associate, but it will hardly seem the same thing without her. Miss Ely, who has had charge of the Candidates' Class for the past year, will become Secretary and with the aid of the Associates direct the meetings of both the older and the younger girls.

The classes will begin their meetings, Tuesday evening, Oct. 2nd. This being the first Tuesday in the month, there will be a service at 8 o'clock, which will be followed by a short business meeting and a social time from 9 to 10. It is hoped that as many as possible will attend this first meeting, when some plans for fun, as well as for work, will be discussed for the coming winter.

Through the summer, an effort was made to meet Tuesday afternoons to sew for the Red Cross, but the attendance was very small and we regret to say that little work was accomplished.

We hope to have a busy winter, full of religious benefit, work, and pleasure, and we need the co-operation of all the members.

As we need funds for carrying on the work, we expect to give an entertainment some time in November; just what nature it will be has not been decided. We will give the date and details in the November "News" and trust every one will encourage our efforts by buying a ticket which will be ten cents.

S. John's Guild Senior will recommence their meetings on Thursday evening, Oct. 4th, and hold them regularly on that evening of the week throughout the winter. Plans are already on hand for basket ball and other exercises.

Roll of honor. One of our parishioners has sent to the Rector a donation to procure a frame to be hung in the vestibule of the Church to contain the names of all those connected with our Church who are serving in the war. He will be glad to do it if other donations are given him for the purpose.

The new Church. We suppose our people have been wondering what has become of the project of improving the Church and turning it over to the Bishop to use for Diocesan purpopses.

There have been many and vexacious delays in regard to it and owing to the present enormous increase in the cost of building no one has been in a hurry to begin building at the present time. But the *plans* for the new building have been completed and approved by the Bishop and the Architectural Commission of the Diocese, which will act as the Building Committee. An agreement is now being drawn between the Trustees of the Diocese and Mr. Watson, the executor of Mrs. Watson's estate, in regard to terms on which the building will proceed. When that is signed and the corner property transferred to the Trustees of the Diocese, the name of the Church will be legally changed to that of S. Mary's, permission to do so having been granted by the Diocesan Convention which met in May. The architects will then proceed to make detailed drawings for the new building, estimates will be obtained and as soon as it is deemed wise to do so the rebuilding will begin.

As soon as the agreement with Mr. Watson is signed the Bishop purposes to take over the parish as his own Church.

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TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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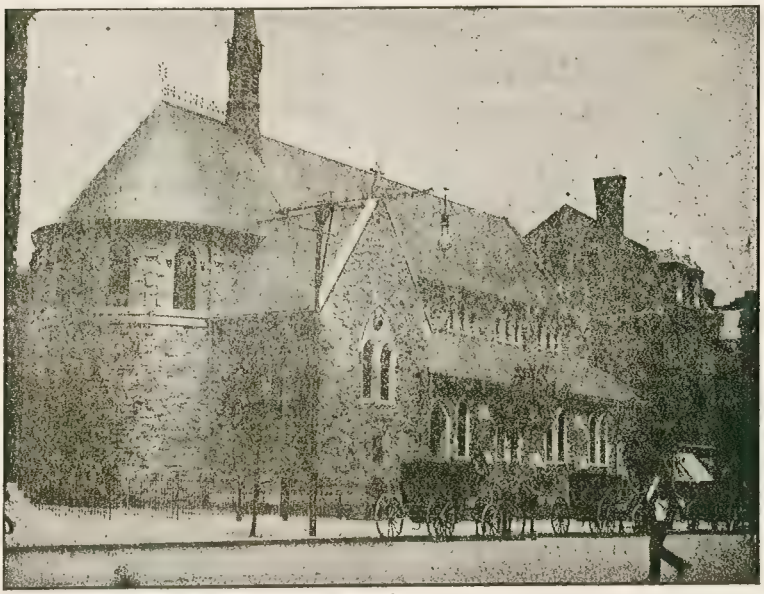
The following were received since the last issue.

Mr. Sayfert
Dr. Coates (2)
Mrs. Parish (3)
Mrs. Pepper (5)
Mrs. Shelton (2)

The Ascension News

Vol. XXXI. Philadelphia, November, 1917 No. 8



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334 South Thirteenth Street

CURATE
REV. RICHARD J. MORRIS
CHURCH HOUSE

WARDENS
THOMAS R. NEILSON, M.D.
MILLARD F. ROBERTS

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST
PHILIP F. ALBURGER.

SEXTON
WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Wednesdays, Junior St. John's Guild ..... 8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, St. Agnes' Guild ..... 7.00 P. M
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society ..... 8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew ... 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild ..... 8.00 P. M.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid ..... 3 00 P. M.
Wednesdays Mothers' Meeting ..... 8 00 P M.
Thursdays. Embroidery Class ..... 10.30 A. M.
First Friday Missionary Society ..... 10.30 A. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent ..... The Curate

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

For Young Men ..... 3.00 P. M.
Taught by Miss Maria J. Gilpin

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays ..... 10,00 A. M

FOOD CONSERVATION.

The Rector has received numerous communications from the government and from various agencies in regard to the necessity of food conservation in this time of war.

He preached on the subject one Sunday morning in the early summer, and he is now asked to urge upon each family in the congregation to make a weekly report for nine weeks as to the economies they are personally making. Cards were distributed in the Church on Sunday, Oct. 28, to be filled in, stating how many meatless days and wheatless days have been kept during the succeeding week, to be returned to the Church by Nov. 4th. And so on for nine weeks until Dec. 30th. These will be sent to Washington for the information of the government.

United States Food Administration says our problem is to feed our Allies this winter by sending them as much food as we can of the most concentrated nutritive value in the least shipping space. These foods are wheat, beef, pork, dairy products, and sugar.

Our solution is to eat less of these and more of other foods of which we have an abundance, and to waste less of all foods.

Bread and cereals. Have at least one wheatless meal a day. Use corn, oats, rye, barley, or mixed cereal rolls, muffins, and bread in place of white bread certainly for one meal and, if possible, for two. Eat less cake and pastry.

As to the white bread, if you buy from a baker, order it a day in advance; then he will not bake beyond his needs. Cut the loaf on the table and only as required. Use stale bread for toast and cooking.

Meat. Use more poultry, rabbits, and especially fish and sea food in place of beef, mutton, and pork. Do not use either beef, mutton, or pork more than

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITOR
THE RECTOR

TREASURER
MR. R. HICKMAN YOUNG
1529 South 4th Street

TERMS;

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KALENDAR

Nov. 1. All Saints.
2. All Souls. Fast.
4. Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity.
9. Friday. Fast.
11. Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity.
16. Friday. Fast.
18. Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity.
23. Friday. Fast.
25. Sunday next before Advent.
29. Thanksgiving.
30. S. Andrew. Fast.

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RECORD FOR OCTOBER.

BAPTISMS. Adelaide Smith. 1

COMMUNICANTS RECEIVED from S. Stephen's Church, Camden,
Mrs. Elizabeth Thorn.

From S. Stephen's Church, Wilkes Barre, Pa.
Marion Kershaw Boyer. 2

TRANSFERRED to Calvary Church, West Philadelphia,
Jeannette Esther Ward. 1

✠

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$212,69
" the Poor	22 85
" Parochial Activities	30 21
" Thanksgiving Dinners	2.00
" Sunday and Industrial	2.00
Of the Sunday School	2.37
Total	$272.12

once daily, and then serve smaller portions. Use all left-over meat cold or in made dishes. Use soups more freely. Use beans; they have nearly the same food value as meat.

Milk. Use all of the milk, waste no part of it. The children must have whole milk; therefore, use less cream. There is a great waste of food by not using all skim and sour milk. Sour milk can be used in cooking and to make cottage cheese. Use buttermilk and cheese freely.

Fats (butter, lard, etc.) Dairy butter has food values vital to children. Therefore, use it on the table as usual, especially for children. Use as little as possible in cooking. Reduce the use of fried food to reduce the consumption of lard and other fats. Use vegetable oils, as olive and cottonseed oil. Save daily one-third of an ounce of animal fat. Waste no soap; it contains fat and the glycerine necessary for explosives. You can make scrubbing soap at home, and, in some localities, you can sell your saved fats to the soap maker, who will thus secure our needed glycerine.

Sugar. Use less candy and sweet drinks. Use less sugar in tea and coffee. Use honey, maple sirup, and dark sirups for hot cakes and waffles without butter or sugar. Do not frost or ice cakes. Do not stint the use of sugar in putting up fruits and jams. They may be used in place of butter.

Vegetables and fruits. We have a superabundance of vegetables. Double the use of vegetables. They take the place of part of the wheat and meat, and, at the same time, are healthful. Use potatoes abundantly. Store potatoes and roots properly and they will keep. Use fruits generously.

Fuel. Coal comes from a distance. and our railway facilties are needed for war purposes. Burn fewer fires. If you can get wood, use it.

Our Allies depend on America for food as they have never depended before, and they ask us for it with a right

which they have never had before. For to-day they are our companions in the great war for democracy and liberty. They are doing the fighting, the suffering, and dying—in our war.

Why we must send more wheat. England, France, Italy, and Belgium, taken together, import in peace time forty per cent of their breadstuffs. But now, with their reduction in harvest, they must import sixty per cent. We must increase our normal export surplus of 88,000,000 bushels to 220,000,000 bushels. It can be done but in one way: by economizing and substituting. There is but one way; we must reduce our use of wheat. We use now an average of five pounds of wheat flour per person per week. The whole problem can be met if we will substitute one pound of corn or other cereal flour for one pound of wheat flour weekly per person; that is, if we reduce our consumption of wheat flour from five pounds a week to four pounds a week.

Why we must send more meat. The food animals of the Allies have decreased by 33,000,000 head since the war began; thus the source of their meat production is decreasing. At the same time, the needs of their soldiers and war workers have increased the necessary meat consumption. Our meat exports to our Allies are now already almost three times what they were before the war. The needs of the Allies will steadily increase, because their own production of food animals will steadily decrease because of lack of feed for them. If we will save one ounce of meat per person per day we can send our Allies what they need.

Why we must send butter and milk. The decreasing herds and the lack of fodder mean a steady falling off in the dairy products of our Allies. They have been asking for larger and larger exports from us. Last year we sent them three times as much butter and almost ten times as much condensed milk as we used to send them before the war. Yet we must not only keep up to this level, but do still better.

Why we must send sugar. Before the war France, Italy, and Belgium produced as much sugar as they used, while England drew most of its supply from what are now enemy countries. France and Italy are producing less than they need, while England is cut off from the source of seventy per cent of her usual imports. These three Allied countries must now draw 1,500,000 tons more of sugar than they did before the war from the same sources from which we draw our supplies. We must divide with them. We can do it by economizing. The usual American consumption per person is just double that of France.

Food Conservation is a duty to God, Who hates waste; a duty to our country, in order to win the war; and a duty to suffering humanity across the sea, concenrning whom it will be said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, ye have done it unto Me."

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PARISH NOTES.

The Anniversary of the Woman's Guild of the parish was held on Monday, Oct. 29th, as the anniversary day, the Feast of SS. Simon and Jude occurred on Sunday. Some, but not *all* of the ladies of the parish were present. The reports of the past year were read which showed that the work had kept up with the average of late years.

The resignation of the veteran President of the Guild, Mrs. Thomas Neilson, was presented, but it was unanimously resolved not to accept it as her letter said she still hoped to attend the meetings. Mrs. T. Leaming Smith, however, was elected as an additional delegate to the Domestic Committee of the Woman's Auxiliary, and Miss Mary Chamberlaine to the Foreign Committee. The other officers and members of the Guild remain the same. Additional teachers are wanted in the Sunday School and in the Saturday Industrial

School, and money and donations of clothing are needed for the Mothers' meeting.

The Girls' Friendly and the Candidates' Class will give a "Patriotic Tea" Tuesday evening, Nov. 27th, at 8.15. The program will consist of a flag drill by the girls, a drill by the Boy Scouts, patriotic recitations and songs. At the conclusion of the program, tea and crackers will be served, and dancing will follow. The tickets are 10 cents and can be purchased from any of the members. The proceeds will be devoted to carrying out the plans for the winter, which means not only to continue the gymnastic work and dancing, but also to do some service for others and for the church. We shall feel grateful to those who buy tickets, thus enabling us to realize a large sum.

The G. F. S. will continue the war relief work they have been doing. Will not more of the members please attend the meetings so that we can have suggestions as to what will be the best way to spend our Tuesday evenings? We want to combine pleasure with work. Will you help us?

Our Choir Master drafted. It is a great misfortune to the Church that in the selective draft which is calling men irrespective of their duties, business or personal preference to serve in the army, our Choir Master and Organist, Mr. Henry L. T. Ullrich, has been drawn and leaves early this month for camp. We shall certainly miss him, and our warmest prayers will go with him for his preservation and early return to his position in the parish which will be kept open for him.

We are fortunate in securing as his substitute, during his absence, our former choir master, Mr. Philip F. Alburger, who happens not to have any musical employment at present, and is willing to undertake this duty. As he is perfectly familiar with our services, and many members of the choir were with him when he was here before, the transition will be very easy. And as a change has to be made for a time, we heartily welcome him back.

The members of the choir presented Mr. Ullrich with a military wrist watch as a slight testimonial of their affection for him and as a reminder of their best wishes for a safe and speedy return.

The Men's Club will hold its first meeting on Thursday, Nov. 15th, when it is proposed to invite a number of the soldiers from League Island, about fifty, to join in the entertainment which will consist of music, boxing, etc., things which will appeal to the men.

The Mothers' Meeting on Wednesday, and the *Industrial School* for boys and girls on Saturdays at 10 A. M., recommence with this month.

Honor Roll. The Rector has purchased and had hung in the Vestibule of the Church an illuminated Honor Roll to contain the names of the men of the parish who are now serving in the Army or Navy.

The following names have been reported since our last issue. If there are any others we should be glad to be informed.

James Bonsack
Frederick Botwright
Willaim Boggs
Arthur Christian
Stuart Tait
Henry L. T. Ullrich
William Whitehurst

Special sermons. On Sunday, Oct. 14th, the peracher was the Rev. S. W. Harris, Ph. D., of Bartram, Conn., who had attended the Convention of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, and spoke in regard to it. On Oct. 21st, the Rector preached on Religious education as requested to do by the General Convention Commission on that subject.

Oct. 28th was observed as requested by the President of the United States as a day of special prayer for our Country in this time of war. A special Litany and other prayers set forth by the Bishop with special Collect, Epistle and Gospel were used, and the Rector read the Pastoral letter issued by the Bishops of the Church at their last session in Chicago.

St. Barnabas' Guild for Nurses which holds its monthly meetings generally in our Church, gave the Rector a very agreeable surprise at its meeting last month by presenting him, and the Secretary, Mrs. Henry Brincherhoff, with solid gold badges of the Guild, in commemoration of their having each served as Chaplain and Secretary of the Guild for twenty-one years. Refreshments, including a cake with twenty-one candles on it, were also served. Our Verger, too, who attends to the Guild meetings, was also handsomely remembered on the occasion.

Error in last issue. Under the head of "Offerings" last month it was reported that $1.55 had been contributed to General Missions, and $500 "placed at the discretion of the Rector." It was the printer's mistake and should have been directly the reverse. The Rector would be very glad indeed to have had $500, or any sum, put at his disposal to use at his "discretion," as he has so many appeals and objects presented to him he has no means to meet. In many parishes some of the people make their contributions to missionary and other objects through the Rector, that he may be able to respond to the objects which are personally presented to him.

THE THIRD SESSION OF THE PROVINCIAL SYNOD OF WASHINGTON

to which this Diocese belongs, will be held in this city from Nov. 19th to Nov. 22nd. The opening service will take place in S. James' Church, 22nd and Walnut St., at 9 A. M.

The meetings of the Woman's Auxiliary will be held in conjunction with the Synod in the Trinity Memorial Chapel at 22nd and Spruce Sts., and Holy Trinity Parish House, 20th St. below Walnut St.

The Annual Devotional Meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary will take place on Nov. 15th at 10 A. M. in S. James' Church to be conducted by the Rev. Dr. Drary of Concord, N. H. And the business meeting and conference on the same day at 2.30 P. M. in the Church House at 12th and Walnut Sts.

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THE LIBERTY LOAN.

We hope all our people are subscribing to the new Liberty Loan. Not only is it a patriotic duty, but it is a most safe and profitable investment, and one which is most easy to make. Any one who can spare one dollar a week, and make that payment for fifty consecutive weeks can secure a bond which will pay four per cent interest, be free from all taxes and be sure to increase in value.

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TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the NEWS is due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since the last issue.

Miss Hofmann (2)
Mr. S. M. Sears (2)
Mrs. Tutwiler
Mrs. Busch
Miss Carpenter

The Ascension News

Vol. XXXI. Philadelphia. December, 1917. No. 9

Church of the Ascension

Broad Street, Below South — All Seats Free

Services

Holy Communion

Every Sunday.....7.30 and 11.00 A.M.

Holy Days.....7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer

Sundays .....10.30 A. M.

Daily.....10.00 A. M.

Evensong

Sundays (Choral).....4.00 P. M.

Daily.....5 00 P. M.

Instructions in Bible and Prayer Book, in the Church, by the Rector, Sundays.....3.00 P. M.

Sunday School and Bible Class. 3.00 P.M.

All the Seats are Free at all Services. God's House is open to all its Children

The Church is always open for private prayer, and the Clergy can be seen after any service or by appointment.

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The Ascension News

The Church of the Ascension

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REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE, D.D.
334 South Thirteenth Street

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Superintendent ..... The Curate

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

For Young Men ..... 3.00 P. M.
Taught by Miss Maria J. Gilpin

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays ..... 10.00 A. M.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT ON THE CHURCH-GOING HABIT.

Says Mental Vacuity Characterizes Those Who Stay Home.

Colonel Roosevelt has contributed to the October number of *The Ladies' Home Journal* an article entitled "Shall We Do Away With the Church?" which has made an impression both on Church people and those who are not Church people. Speaking of the value and duty of attending services, Mr. Roosevelt says:

"For all those whose lives are led on a plane above the grimmest and barest struggle for existence church attendance and church work of some kind mean both the cultivation of the habit of feeling some responsibility for others and the sense of braced moral strength which prevents a relaxation of one's fibre.

He Merely Dawdles

"The household in which Sunday is treated merely as a day of easy self-indulgence does not on that day offer an attractive spectacle. Nor in such a household is what occurs on that day a healthy stimulus toward right living for the children. In such a household the master of the house generally rises late. That is all right if his staying in bed means rest for him without meaning added work for somebody else. But, having risen, he merely dawdles half-dressed, smokes and reads the Sunday papers, lounges around the place if nothing more attractive offers itself, and finally goes off to the club or other lounging place.

"The mistress of the household meanwhile, if like her spouse, stays in bed, too, with the Sunday paper, or with a cheap magazine or a cheap novel; then also lounges around the house before fully dressing, and finally visits or receives visits from some other women who also regard slipshod absence of effort as the proper characteristics of the day.

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KALENDAR

Dec. 2. First Sunday in Advent.
7. Friday—Fast.
9. Second Sunday in Advent.
14. Friday—Fast.
16. Third Sunday in Advent.
19. Ember day. Fast.
20. S. Thomas. Ember day. Fast.
21. Ember day—Fast
23. Fourth Sunday in Advent.
25. Christmas.
26. S. Stephen.
27. S. John Evangelist.
28. Holy Innocents.
30. Sunday after Christmas.

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RECORD FOR NOVEMBER.

BAPTISM. May Toal.	1
COMMUNICANT received from the Church of Ireland, Mrs. Jane Galegher.	1
DIED, Agnes H. Martin.	1
TRANSFERRED to S. Elizabeth's. Mrs Rebecca Irene Scheffling.	1
COMMUNIONS OF THE SICK.	2

✠

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses	$409.25
" General missions	36.23
" the Poor	41.01
" Thanksgiving dinner	6 60
" Parochial Activities	6 65
" Epi copal Hospital	31.21
" Do Base Hospital	3.00
" Belgian Relief	1.50
" War Commission	10.00
" Endowment Fund	.05
" New Piano	41 00
At Rector's discretion	10.00
Of the Sunday School	2.83
Total	$599.33

"The case is not bettered if the heads of the family possess more energy but use it merely for their own selfish enjoyment, as, for instance, if they habitually spend the entire day in the motor, or take part in some form of dress parade, or visit brightly lighted restaurants.

Need Toning Up.

"In ordinary cases, as regards most men and women, the performance of their duties to the Church, to themselves and to others, on Sunday, represents merely such 'toning up' of their systems as will enable them to profit more by rest and amusement during the remainder of the day. Sundays differ from other holidays—among other ways—in the fact that there are fifty-two of them every year! The proper conduct for other holidays may be treated in itself as an exception. For Sunday it must be treated as a rule—a rule properly subject to exceptions, and perhaps to numerous exceptions—but a rule, nevertheless.

"Therefore, on Sundays go to church. Yes—I know all the excuses. I know that one can worship the Creator and dedicate oneself to good living in a grove of trees, or by a running brook, or in ones own house, just as well as in church. But I also know that as a matter of cold fact the average man does not thus worship or thus dedicate himself. If he stays away from church he does not spend his time in good works or in lofty meditation. He looks over the colored supplement of the newspaper; he yawns; and he finally seeks relief from the mental vacuity of isolation by going where the combined mental vacuity of many partially relieves the mental vacuity of each particular individual."

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This is the testimony of a man of affairs, who has seen and studied human character under all circumstances, a man to whom the people of the United States have twice entrusted the supreme control of all its interests, and who is a man of unusual intellectual attainment and acumen.

Perhaps those who pay no attention to the teaching of the Scripture and of the Church, may be moved by the testimony of such a one.

And we may add that he practices what he preaches. He has always been a regular Church attendant even in the midst of all his cares and duties as President of the United States. If such a person feels that Sunday observance is necessary for him, surely it must be as much, if not more, needed by others.

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PARISH NOTES.

Thanksgiving was observed as usual in the Parish with an early Celebration and a Choral service in the middle of the day. The Rector read the President's proclamation in regard to it and commented on it, and then spoke as he was requested to do, in regard to the principle of Democracy for which we are fighting.

The Church was decorated with fruits and specimens of grain. On the evening before the usual Turkey supper was provided for the members of the Mothers' Meeting.

The Men's Club meeting in November was a disappointment as far as having sailors at it was concerned. A large entertainment being provided for those at League Island that evening they were unable to send any to us. We had, however, one sailor present who was formerly one of our choir boys.

A very interesting address was made by Prof. Holmes, of Swathmore, in regard to the principles on which a permanent peace for the world can be secured. After this the famous band to which Mr. Challman and some of our other members belong, gave a number of selections which with the other music and the usual "eats" filled up the evening.

New teachers. We are very glad to welcome three new teachers in the Sunday and Industrial Schools. Miss Margaret Mull has taken a class in the main School and Miss Tames, who last year had a class there, has taken charge of the Infant School. Miss Caroline Ritsert has promised to assist her by playing the piano for the children.

Miss McCallum has taken charge of the small boys' class in the Saturday Industrial School. Miss Clara Williamson remains in charge of the girls.

The War Commission was represented in the Church on Sunday, Nov. 18, by a very eloquent address from Mr. A. Dupont Parker, showing the great need of the Commission of funds to provide additional Chaplains for the soldiers. Any offerings for this purpose can be placed in any offertory in envelopes marked for the same.

Exchange. On Sunday morning, December 9th, the Rector will exchange pulpits with the Rev. Percy Stockman, the new Rector of Gloria Dei Church, the old Swedes Church, on Swanson St.

On the afternoon of December 16th, as Chaplain of the Society of Sons of the Revolution, he will have to attend the annual service of the Society, which is to be held in the new Chapel at Valley Forge. The Bible and Prayer Book Instruction at 3 P. M. will have to be omitted that afternoon.

New piano. The Music Committee of the Vestry thanks those of the congregation who contributed toward the purchase of a piano to be used in the choir room.

Mr. Ullrich, having to go to the war, gave up the one we had there, as he had rented and paid for it out of his own pocket. So it was necessary to supply its place, as a choir can only be trained by a piano.

Christmas. There will be the usual early Celebrations of the Holy Communion at 6.30, 7.30 and 8.30 A. M. The music at the mid-day service will be Martin's Mass in C, and the Te Deum, Gordan in C.

One of the clergy will be in the

Church most of the day and evening preceding Christmas.

Christmas offering. The congregation will remember that a special appeal was sent out last spring for offerings to make up the deficit we found we had at the end of our Financial year, May 1st. $450 was asked for; nearly $300 was received in response. The remaining $150, together with what we have had to borrow as usual for the summer expenses, leaves us with some $1,200 now to be made up by special Christmas offerings. Of course unusual demands are being made on all, owing to the many war requirements, but we must not forget our ordinary obligations, and the Church, which after all, is the source which furnishes the inspiration for all good works, and can alone supply the guidance and comfort so many will need, must be maintained. And owing to losses by death and removals the burden of supporting the Church will fall all the heavier on those who remain. We trust we shall have a large offering on Christmas day.

Special contributions will be needed to provide Christmas dinners and the Children's Festival. Funds also are much needed to carry on the Mothers' Meeting.

Our soldiers. Our honor roll has been increased since our last issue by the addition of two names of those who have entered the service, Joseph Cornelius and William Platt Pepper.

A number of letters have been received from those already in the Camps. Most of them seem to be enjoying the life.

Mr. Ullrich writes that although he still thinks his work is in the Church, he is sure the life he is living will do him good.

Several of our ladies are knitting sweaters, etc., for soldiers and sailors, and naturally are sending them to those who have gone from our own parish. On of our boys who received one writes that he felt as if he had found a gold mine when he got it. We should be glad if all of them could be provided for in the same way. There are thirteen now that we know of who have gone from the parish in the service.

"The Patriotic Tea" given by the Girls' Friendly Society and the Candidates' Class on Tuesday evening, Nov. 27th, was enjoyed by a small but appreciative audience. The original program could not be carried out as Mrs. Rossiter, who had expected to contribute two songs, was ill, and the Boy Scouts did not have enough members present to give us the promised drill. All this was a regret to us, but our kind friends, Miss Wharton, Mr. Seyfert and George Dennis offered to help out in this emergency and thus made our evening a success.

The flag drill by ten girls wearing red, white, and blue caps and carrying flags, was very pretty. The little girls in their recitations and Red Cross drill were excellent, and were so applauded that they were called upon to repeat the drill. Miss Ida Klofack trained this drill and to her is due the credit of its great success. Katharyn Rocap recited "The Baby and The Soldiers" in a very pleasing way, and sang very sweetly "Joan of Arc" in French. Elsie Friedman played the accompaniment for the drills and also a solo in a very able manner.

We wish to thank all those who so kindly helped us in any way to make the evening a pleasant and successful one, and especially the young men and Mr. Morgan who decorated the Parish hall so beautifully with bunting and flags. The affair, while not a financial success, brought the young people together to have a good time under the right influences.

The G. F. S. and the Candidates' class will not meet Christmas night or New Year's night. The service for January will be the second Tuesday instead of the first.

Boy Scouts. During the war service and community good turns are the chief activities of Scouts. The boys gets many chances to be of service—working in Red Cross Warehouses after school, selling Liberty Bonds, helping Mr. Hoover and farming, etc. Scout Dennis has bees awarded two medals for his work in the Liberty Loan Campaign, one for each issue, by National Headquarters, and the Treasury Dept. of the United States. Other Scouts in Troop 63 have earned local prizes for work in these campaigns.

The Scouts of Philadelphia are now campaigning for $125,000 to carry on the work for the next three years, and as everybody recognizes the merit of this splendid movement for better citizenship it is expected that the amount will be over-subscribed.

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The following appeal has been issued on behalf of the Christmas Fund of the Diocese of Pennsylvania for Disabled Clergymen and the Widows and Children of Deceased Clergymen: The present annual allowances amount to $12,600, the income from investments is $6,850, leaving a deficiency of $5,750.

Christmas offerings, until the last, always made up the difference, whatever it might be. Last Christmas the Pension Fund Committee for this Diocese asked the Churches to give one-quarter of their offerings to General Clergy Relief, one-quarter to the Christmas Fund, and to devote the remainder to their assessments for the Pension Fund to become due later. Some of the larger churches gave the Christmas Fund nothing, many of them reduced amounts, so that under the circumstances the Trustees were surprised at receiving the total amount of $4,254.20, though that was little more than half of the averages of several years. This year the Trustees fear that they will receive considerably less from churches, some of which may have difficulty in paying their Pension Fund assessments, and some never having approved of the Christmas Fund plan, welcoming the opportunity to contribute to another system.

But the Rectors and Congregations should remember that none of the Christmas Fund beneficiaries are eligible for Pension Fund benefits, and that justice requires that they should have all the relief they are now receiving. It is hoped that most of the churches will be able to give as of old their Christmas offerings to this venerable charity. Every dollar so given will *pro tanto* lessen the reduction in stipends which will cause great suffering if allowed to occur. *George Harrison Fisher,* For the Trustees, 308 Walnut Street, Philadelphia.

✠

THERE IS NO DEATH.

"There is no death, I'm sure of that, the
thing that seems to be
Is but the touch of winter that lays bare
the spreading tree;
And as the roses bloom again, when all
the snows have gone
So do the souls of men arise with finer
raiment on.
Oh, weary heart, be brave and strong,
nor wince beneath the sting,
Beyond the gates of death there lies the
sweet, eternal spring."

—*E. A. Guest.*

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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The following were received since the last issue.

Miss Carpenter
Mr. Patten (2)
Mrs. Tait
Mrs. McLaughlin
Mrs. Parrish

The Ascension News

VOL. XXXII. PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY, 1918 NO. 1

Church of the Ascension

Broad Street, Below South — All Seats Free

Services

Holy Communion

EVERY SUNDAY.....7.30 and 11.00 A.M.

HOLY DAYS.....7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer

SUNDAYS .....10.30 A. M.

Daily.....10.00 A. M.

Evensong

SUNDAYS (Choral).....4.00 P. M.

DAILY.....5 00 P. M.

INSTRUCTIONS in Bible and Prayer Book, in the Church, by the Rector, Sundays.....3.00 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE CLASS. 3.00 P.M.

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The Church of the Ascension

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Superintendent.....The Curate

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

For Young Men.....3.00 P. M.
Taught by Miss Maria J. Gilpin

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays.....10.00 A. M.

PAROCHIAL CONNECTIONS.

The old idea of a parish is that of a district, a neighborhood. When a Church was built it was for the purpose of providing religious influences for all the people living within easy reach of it. And the Pastor, or Clergyman in charge of the Church was supposed to know and look after all the people living within his parish bounds.

But now-a-days when there are so many different kinds of religion and it seems impossible for all Christian people to worship together in the same Church, so that there are many Churches erected in the same district, and when owing to the easy modern methods of locomotion it is possible for persons to attend churches even at a great distance from their homes, it is impossible to carry out this parochial idea, excepting so far as making a Priest responsible for some knowledge of the people living within his parochial lines and doing what he can to look after their spiritual welfare. But the people who attend his Church constitute his real parishioners, and he must try to see and know and minister to them no matter where they live.

That he may do this it is essential that every Church member should be registered as belonging to some particular parish. It is essential for the clergy man that he may know who are his people, and it is essential for the people that they may feel their duty and responsibility to the Church to which they belong. Unless people are thus definitely attached to some Church, if they go about to different churches as they may feel inclined, they will not gain the same benefit, and they cannot have the same feeling for a church, and they will not be discharging their bounden obligation to support the Church as they should, and they will be in great danger of neglecting Church attendance altogether.

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITOR
THE RECTOR

TREASURER
MR. R. HICKMAN YOUNG
1529 South 4th Street

TERMS;

Single Copies, by Mail, 50 Cents a Year

KALENDAR

Jan.	1	Circumcision
	4	Friday. Fast
	6	The Epiphany
	11	Friday. Fast
	13	First Sunday after the Epiphany
	18	Friday. Fast
	20	Second Sunday after the Epiphany
	25	Conversion of S. Paul
	27	Septuagesima

RECORD FOR DECEMBER

MARRIAGES, Capt. Henry Lyndon McMillan and Helen Ridgeway Morris 1

COMMUNICANTS transferred to the Church of S. Luke and the Epiphany
Beatrice Goddard Craig
to the Church of the Epiphany, Sherwood
Mrs. Eleanor Leeds

COMMUNIONS of the sick 3

DIED, Lavinia Smith 1

BURIAL, Agnes H. Martin
Lavinia Smith 2

OFFERINGS.

For current expenses (including Christmas offering)	$721.68
" General missions	43.90
" the Poor	32.59
" Christmas Festival	38.12
" Thanksgiving dinners	3.00
" Parochial Activities	3.63
" War Relief	5.00
" Clergy Christmas Fund	4.75
Of the Sunday School	3.76
Total	$855.43

We have too many of these unattached Church members altogether, to their own personal loss, and to the loss of the Church.

It comes about very naturally. A person is Confirmed in a Church and is of course registered as a member of that parish. Then in a little while he moves to a distance. Perhaps he is very much attached to that Church and he thinks he will keep up his connection with it and attend it when he can. Gradually his attendance becomes less and less frequent, perhaps ceases altogether. Naturally he can do no Church work in that parish, and he generally drops off in his contributions. So the result is he does not go to church at all, or most infrequently, and he gives nothing and does nothing for Church support. This is ruinous to him spiritually and to the Church.

If any one removes from the district in which the Church with which he is connected is situated, or if he professes to attend some other Church, he should always ask his Rector to give him a letter of transfer to any parish he prefers, where he will be registered as a member and where he will feel he has a spiritual home from which he will derive benefits and in which he will discharge his duty of Church support.

We have spoken of this matter before but cannot too strongly insist upon this obligation of, every Christian, being regularly registered as a member of a particular Church. Multitudes are lost to the Church, and lose their religon altogether by neglecting this rule.

✠

PARISH NOTES.

Christmas was a very dismal day this year, cloudy and rainy all day. This doubtless was much in keeping with the feelings of a great many at this time, especially of those who have relatives and friends in the service who could not get home to the usual family reunions, and when there is so much suffering in the world. But no matter what happens, Christmas ought always to be a joyful time because it sets before us the one hope we have for the final redemption of the world. So we tried to make it as bright a time as ever in the parish. Of course the weather largely affected our congregation. Still we had a good turn out at the early Communion, more so than in the middle of the day. The clergy are always glad to see at these Festival Communions many whom they rarely see at any other time. On the other hand they always miss many who should be there, and they wonder why they do not come. Was it that they really could not come, or was it due to growing indifference, or is it consciousness of wrong doing that keeps them away?

The Church looked as beautiful as ever, and the Choir deserved credit for accuracy and feeling with which the music was rendered.

The Children's Christmas Festival occurred on the evening of Holy Innocents' day. There was the usual Christmas tree and Creche and the real live Kriss Kringle coming in the window and giving a present to every regular attendant of the Sunday School. All others present were given a box of candy.

The entertainment consisted of recitations by Ethel Carey, William Donelli, Louisa Fritz, William Siefert, Margaret Carey, Barbara Ritsert, rduet by Katharyn Rocap and Reba McDermot and a repetition of a very pretty drill given by six members of S. Agnes' Guild at their entertainment in November. There was also singing of Christmas Hymns and an address by the Rector.

The Christmas Offerings amount to $553.00. About $150 more than last year. This was a very handsome offering at this time of the year, and under present circumstances, when there are so many objects clamoring for contributions. But it was not enough to meet all our indebtedness. What we need is a larger regular income. And this could be gained if *every* one connected with the Church would take an envelope and contribute as largely as possi- week by week. In this day of large wages many who formerly had not much to spare could now give easily a quarter of a dollar or more each week and they ought to do so. Or if a number gave only ten or even five cents weekly it would mount up to a considerable sum in the course of a year. Our list of contributors through the envelopes ought to be very largely increased.

Our honor roll in the Vestibule of the Church has been increased last month by two new names of those in the service: Lieut. Hubley Owen, M. D., and Clarke Wylie. There are may be others whom we not yet have heard of. We shall be glad to be told of any who have already gone or may be going.

Two or three, of the sixteen who have now gone from the parish have not as yet been provided with sweaters. We should be glad to hear of any ladies who would knit some for them.

The Men's Club Meeting this month will be on the evening of Jan. 17th. A very capable and entertaining speaker has been secured. There will be also music, smoking, etc. Let the men of the parish turn out strong on this occasion ror the pleasure it will give them, to show their interest in the parish and to get acquainted with their fellow parishioners.

Reading matter. We want to call the attention of our people to the reading matter they will find in the rack in the Vestibule of the Church. Copies of the Spirit of Missions, the Survey, the Temperance Magazine, tracts in regard to the Church seasons, and a variety of pamphlets on Church, social and political subjects are to be found there. Any one is welcome to take and read them.

The Year Book for 1916-17 was given out in the first week in December. All who have not had one can find it in the rack just inside the door of the Church. It shows just how the Church is carried on, and gives the reports of work done during the past year.

Confirmation will be administered in the Church on the evening of Wednesday, March 13th. The clergy would like to know at once of any who would like to be confirmed at that time.

Epiphany meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary will be held in S. Simeon's Church, 9th St. and Lehigh Ave., on Jan. 24th. 10 A. M., Holy Communion. 11-1P. M., Addresses by Bishops and other clergyman. 1 P. M., Lunch. Tickets, 30 cts. 2.30 P. M., Addresses.

✠

The Bishop of the Diocese set forth the following service to be used on Christmas day in commemoration of the capture of Jerusalem by the British.

It is fitting that we render thanksgiving to Almighty God in that He has thought good to restore Jerusalem and Bethlehem once more to Christian rule and keeping.

It is fitting, also, that our thanks for this be given on Christmas Day.

I ,therefore, authorize the following short service in al oulr churches on that Day, and suggest that it be used immediately before the Celebration of the Holy Communion.

PHILIP M. RHINELANDER,
Bishop of Pennsylvania.

December 19, 1917.

The Priest, standing before the Altar, shall say:

When the Lord turned again the captivity of Sion: then were we like unto them that dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter: and our tongue with joy.

Then said they among the heathen: The Lord hath done great things for them.

Yea, the Lord hath done great things for us already: whereof we rejoice.

Then shall be said, or sung, Psalm 122. Laetatus sum.

Then shall be said or sung Te Deum laudamus.

✠

NOTICES.

Communicants coming into the Parish, or leaving it, should comply with the following canon:

A communicant removing from one parish to another *shall* procure from the rector (if any) of the parish of his last residence, or if there be no rector, from one of the wardens, a certificate, stating that he or she is a communicant in good standing; and the rector of the parish or congregation to which he or she removes shall not be required to receive him or her as a communicant until such letter be produced.

Concerning baptisms, the rubric before the offices for that sacrament says:

The Minister of every parish shall often admonish the people that they defer not the baptism of their children longer han the first or second Sunday after their birth, or other Holy day falling between, unless upon a great and reasonable cause. And he shall also warn them, that without like great cause and necessity they procure not heir children to be baptized at home in their houses.

Baptism is administered on any Sunday, or at any week day service.

Attention is called to the rubric before the office for the visitation of he sick, which reads:

When any person is sick, notice shall be given thereof to the Minister of the Parish.

On due notice being given, the clergy are always ready and desirous to visit those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, and to administer the Holy Communion to such as by reason of sickness or other infirmity are prevented from coming to the church.

The clergy should always be consulted before arrangements are made for baptisms, marriages or funerals at which they are expected to officiate.

The clergy can be seen after any church service, by those whe desire to consult them in regard to spiritual matters or church work, and will be glad to respond at any time to requests for private Celebrations of Holy Communion.

Parishioners are asked to send prompt notice of change of residence.

Those who wish to become members of the Parish are asked to send their names and addresses to the clergy, when they will be promptly called upon. Applications for envelopes can be made to the Accounting Warden, or the clergy, or by letter to the church.

✠

Boy Scouts. The roll of Troop 63 is rapidly filling up and soon it will have to stop taking new scouts.

Another patrol has been started with "Bob" Holt as Leader. It is the Eagle and as all the Scouts are young and full of pep great things are expected of it. Wm. Bender has been appointed Senior Patrol Leader in place of John Barr, who resigned, owing to his school work. He will stay with the troop, however, as patrol-leader of the Woodpigeons.

All of the Scouts are busy now shining up their equipment, etc., and getting ready for the weekly inspections which begin Monday, Jan. 7, 1918.

A Silver Cup will be awarded to the Patrol making the best showing.

Saint John's Guild. The basketball team is doing its usual good work in the cage, not only winning at home but when away as well. Four victories have been chalked up so far and no defeats. Richardson Memorial was beaten 36-30; Eagle, 49-5; Cooper, 48-6; and Marford, 72-7.

The minstrels are working hard and expect to have their show just before Lent, which will be about the last dancing of the season for our young folks. This year's show will be very much better than the average so that everyone will be expected not only to buy tickets but to *come;* laugh and dance. The date will be announced in our next number.

✠

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The following were received since the last issue.

Mr. Newnam
Mrs. Gilpin
Misses Williamson
Miss Whitehouse
Miss Schell
Misses Epprecht
Miss Wurts (2)

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Superintendent ..... The Curate

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

For Young Men ..... 3.00 P. M.
Taught by Miss Maria J. Gilpin

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays ..... 10,00 A. M.

OUR NEW FINANCIAL YEAR.

The last General Convention adopted a Canon, that is a rule, requiring all the Dioceses in the American Church to make the Calendar year their financial year, and of course every parish has to do the same. Henceforth, therefore, all our accounts and reports must run from January to January each year, instead of from May 1st to May 1st as heretofore.

This will necessitate several changes.

In the first place our Vestry will have to meet each year some time in January, instead of in May as formerly to receive the Warden's report. This will be an advantage for one or two reasons. It will make the meetings of the Vestry at more regular intervals, instead of having two very close together, one in April after Easter and another in May, and none between November and May, as we have had them. Then if a deficit is reported at the end of the financial year it will be much better to know of it in January, when there is still a good part of the winter left in which to try and make it up, instead of not knowing of it until May, after which the congregation so largely disperses for the summer.

Secondly. This change of the Financial year will change the quarters for sending out our envelopes. Formerly they were sent out for three months, each May, Aug., Nov., and Feb. Now they must go out Jan., April, July and Oct. That will give eventually the months of Jan., Feb. and March for Diocesan Assessments, on the Benevolent side of the envelope. April, May and June for contributions for the Poor Fund. July, Aug. and Sept. for Parochial Activities, and Oct., Nov. and Dec. for General Missions. This year, as the envelopes had been already printed and sent out for General Missions in January, the envelopes for Diocesan Assessments can only be for the months of February and March. We hope our

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EDITOR
THE RECTOR

TREASURER
MR. R. HICKMAN YOUNG
1529 South 4th Street

TERMS;

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KALENDAR

Feb. 1. Friday. Fast.
2. Purification B. V. M.
3. Sexagesima.
8. Friday. Fast.
10. Qninquagesima.
13. Ash Wednesday.
17. First Sunday in Lent.
20. Ember Day.
22. Ember Day.
23. Ember Day.
24. Second Sunday in Lent.

All days in Lent are fasts.

✠

RECORD FOR JANUARY

COMMUNICANTS TRANSFERRED to St. Peter's Church, Essex Fells, N. Y.
Mrs. Mary Carroll Coale.
To S Elizabeth's Church.
Albert William Eisenger.
Esther Matilda Neill. 3

BURIAL. Mrs. Sarah Jane Hoskins. 1

✠

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$238,20
" General missions	15.83
" the War Commission	129 35
" the Poor	18.36
" the Episcopal Hospital Unit	3.00
" War Relief	9.50
" Parochial Activities	.10
" Emergency Aid	5.00
" the Mother's Meeting	5.00
At the Rector's discresion for missions	55.00
Of the Sunday School	3.47
Total	$482.81

people will bear this in mind in making their offerings, and in those *two* months give as much as they usually do in three months.

The assessments this year are for the Episcopal and Convention Fund $197.30, for Diocesan Missions $163.78, for the Sustenation Fund for Poor Parishes $23.90, for Religious education $20.07, and for Social service $12.03, making a total of $407.46, which we have to look to receive from these envelopes during February and March.

Another thing affected by the change of the Financial year will be the observance of our anniversary day. Heretofore we have done so in connection with our parochial name day, the Ascension, which occurred very conveniently some time in May. But to wait from January to May before reading our annual reports would be rather long.

It so happens for us, however, that it is proposed to change the name of the Church to St. Mary's. When this is done, we shall then observe the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which occurs on Feb. 2nd, as our Parish Festival, and this will be just in good time for our reports to be made up after the close of the year.

As this has not yet been done, as we had hoped it would have been by this time, we shall still observe the Feast of the Ascension this year as our Parochial Festival, reading the reports of the entire year of 1917 at that time, though it will necessarily include part of the preceding financial year.

The Annual Year Book of the parish will hereafter be issued in January of each year instead of the first of Advent as formerly.

✠

PARISH NOTES.

Confirmation. As we have announced the Bishop of the Diocese will administer Confirmation in this parish on the evening of March 13th. Instructions preparatory to Confirmation will be given by the Rector in the Church each

Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock, beginning with the first Sunday in this month, and the Rev. Mr. Morris will meet after the service on Wednesday evenings any who cannot come at that time.

The Clergy hope that every one in the parish who is of sufficient age and has not yet been Confirmed, will avail himself of the opportunity of receiving it at this time and will regularly attend one of these courses of Instruction.

Our Honor roll of enlisted men has this month been increased by the addition of two other names, those of Harold Patterson, one of our old choir boys. He writes that he is drilling four to five hours a day, and has plenty of good physical exercise, and that "since he has joined the army it has built him up wonderfully." Mr. Patterson had intended to have been Confirmed in the Church this spring, but as he has enlisted, this is impossible. He writes the Rector, however, that he firmly purposes to be so when he returns. He is now in Camp Greenleaf at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga. The other is Barton Huntington, who was formerly President of S. John's Guild. He has been appointed to the U. S. Naval Reserve Force, and is now with the colors.

Parish visiting. The Rector has been very much thrown back in his parochial visiting on account of the very severe weather. But when it grows milder he will certainly get round to see every one in time.

Subscribers. Will not all our subscribers, who see blue marks on their papers pay up the amounts due, as we are very far behind in paying for our printing and other expenses.

The last issue of the NEWS was in some way unaccountably delayed either by congestion in the mail service—it is printed out of town—or in some other way, so that it was not delivered at the Church, until after the Second Sunday in the month. It was not the fault of the Editors as they were up to time.

The Men's Club meeting this month was made very interesting by a talk from Mr. R. H. Bayard Bowie, Jr., giving an account of his experiences as an ambulance driver in the French army for over a year. He only returned recently, owing to a severe wound which disables him from duty for the present.

It gives a very vivid idea of the condition of things at the front to hear one tell of what he has actually seen and gone through. We regret that there were only about twenty-five of our men present. Those who fail to attend these Club Smokers will be sure to miss something good each time.

The Nurses of St. Barnabas' Guild, which meets in our Church each month, had a very interesting description at their last meeting from an English officer, Lieut. Sutton, of his experiences in the terrible assault at Gallipoli, in which he lost his right hand. These personal relations tell more than anything else of what war is, and what our men have to look forward to when they go into it. Let us pray that peace may come before they have to do so.

The War Commission of the general Church asked all our parishes to observe Sunday, January 27th, as the day for informing our people of the work of the Commission, and asking for special contributions for the fund of $500,000 it is trying to raise to carry it on.

A quantity of the papers issued by the Commission was distributed in the Church together with forms for pledges and envelopes. Instead of a sermon that day the Rector described at length just what are the needs created by the war and how they should be met. Though it was a very inclement day and the congregation was small, the offerings on the occasion in money and pledges amounted to $639.35. Doubtless more will come in later.

We are very glad to see what our congregation can do when it is interested in an object, and we are very glad to have them give on these emergencies, but they

must not forget as well to contribute to the regular support of the Church.

Because we have additional calls on our benevolence we are not relieved from our obligation to fulfil our usual responsibilities.

The Girls' Friendly Society is planning a "Camouflage Package Party," to be given Tuesday evening, Feb. 12th, at 8 o'clock. We are not divulging any of the details hoping that the name will so arouse the curiosity of our many friends that they will attend to see what it is like. There will be several unique and novel ways of entertaining you during the evening, also music and dancing.

Like many other organizations at this time, we need more funds to meet the demands made on us in doing "our bit" for our Country, and also for Missions. We have contributed $5 to the Church War Commission fund, after the appeals made for it, and every Tuesday evening we are busy doing war relief work. Please come to our party and help make it a success in every way.

There will be no admission fee, but it will cost you a small sum before you leave.

Acknowledgement of our annual Missionary box. Alva, Oklahoma, Dec. 5th, 1917.

Mrs. T. L. Smith,

Dear Madam:

The missionary box which you so kindly sent for us to Oklahoma City I had sent on to me here, hence the delay in writing to thank you. We are delighted with all the things, they are splendid and will be very useful and a great blessing to us.

We all wish to express our sincere thanks to the ladies who took such an interest and care in preparing the box. My suit is really a very fine one and fits perfectly. The coming of the box brings cheer into our home as all the many other things that the good people of the east do for the missionaries out west. Especially does the box come as a boon at this time of hardship and high prices on account of the terrible war.

We send our very best wishes to your ladies for success in all their undertakings, and many, many thanks for their goodness, and for your own personal interest and that of your daughter.

With cordial best wishes, I remain,

Yours most gratefully,

The Boy Scouts. President Wilson, seeing how successful the German Propaganda had been, decided that he would go into the business himself. But realizing the difficulty in getting the people to read "official publications," he called the Boy Scouts to help him as "Official Dispatch Bearers."

The first dispatch was the President's Flag Day Address, with a valuable lot of notes on the same prepared by three college professors. The Scouts obtained a written pledge from each person, that they would read it and pass it along, before they delivered the booklet. When you consider that there are over 300,000 Boy Scouts, and that each Scout was allotted 15 booklets, you will see the big help this will prove in educating our people on the cause and progress of the war. The sale of thrift stamps will also take a portion of the time of these little "men in khaki."

The weekly inspection has made a wonderful improvement in the appearance of the troop—from the mighty patrol leaders down to little Mulholland and his "buddies."

A big hike in February, a basketball game in which Troop 63 trounced Troop 22, and the Minstrel show which is to take place on Feb. 5th, are some of the activities during the current season.

✠

NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES.

Headquarters
1519 Walnut Street

We have received the following appeal to the members of our congregation for the Navy League. Owing to the unusually bitter weather we are now experiencing, the daily requests for our garments are increasing and our incoming stock must be increased also if we are to meet the demands.

We are not only requested to meet the needs of our own men but those of our Allies as well. It is a serious problem to supply wool to those who are willing to knit but are unable to purchase the wool. We, therefore, feel that we must appeal to the generosity of our people to help us carry on our work by contributions—no matter how small.

We, also, would like you to become members of the Navy League, to knit for us, and assist in every way our great cause.

FOURTH CHAPTER COURSE for Red Cross Training in Civilian Relief Work

Beginning February 4th, 1918

The Fourth Chapter Course given by the Red Cross and The Pennsylvania School for Social Service to train volunteers for work with families of soldiers and sailors is now being organized. There will be two lectures and fourteen hours of supervised field practice work each week for six weeks.

The subjects studied will include problems in family care, child welfare, employment of women and children, material relief, dietetics, health and sanitation.

For further information call or 'phone The Pennsylvania School for Social Service, 1302 Pine Street. Telephone Walnut 257. A registration fee of $3.00 is the only charge for the course.

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TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the News is due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following wer received since the last issue.

Mrs. Read
Miss Casey
Miss Goodman (2)
Miss Ashbridge
Mr. Young (4)
Mrs. Bradley
Mrs. VanPelt (2)
Mrs. Borie (2)

The Ascension News

VOL. XXXII. PHILADELPHIA MARCH 1918 No. 3

Church of the Ascension

Broad Street, Below South — All Seats Free

Services

Holy Communion

EVERY SUNDAY ..... 7.30 and 11.00 A.M.

HOLY DAYS ..... 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer

SUNDAYS ..... 10.30 A. M.

Daily ..... 10,00 A M.

Evensong

SUNDAYS (Choral) ..... 4.00 P. M.

DAILY ..... 5 00 P. M

INSTRUCTIONS in Bible and Prayer Book, in the Church, by the Rector, Sundays ..... 3.00 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE CLASS. 3.00 P.M.

All the Seats are Free at all Services. God's House is open to all its Children
The Church is always open for private prayer, and the Clergy can be seen after any service or by appointment.

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FUNSTON-McARTHUR
OFFICE
1617-19 CATHARINE STREET
BOTH TELEPHONES PHILADEL HIA

J. Wolff Moore
FLORIST
1639 NORTH BROAD STREET
PHILADELPHIA

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The Church of the Ascension

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334 South Thirteenth Street

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THOMAS R. NEILSON, M.D.
MILLARD F. ROBERTS

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PHILIP F. ALBURGER.

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WM. J. MORGAN
2022 St. Albans Street

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SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent -- The Curate

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

For Young Men -- 3.00 P. M.
Taught by Miss Maria J. Gilpin

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays -- 10.00 A. M

MOBILIZATION OF THE CONGREGATION.

In this time of war it is essential that every power that we can control should be mobilized, that is put in active service to the fullest extent.

We think our Parish has done its share in this respect in contributing some $700 to the War Commission and other war agencies. But it is essential that the Parish itself should be mobilized to carry on its own work. While doing for others we must not neglect our home duties. It is the Church after all which affords the inspiration for all good works, and its efficiency must be maintained to give men the motive to work for others. And we fear that in contributing time and interest and money to meet the special exigencies created by this war, many of our members have cut down the amount they have been in the habit of giving to the Church. Then, too, we have been suffering, in common with other Churches in the center of the city, from the continuing exodus of our people to the country and suburbs, their places being taken by peoples of other races which have no affinity with our Church. Certain it is that our income has diminished and our Vestry found itself at what is now the close of our financial year, Dec. 31st, $1,000 in debt.

After consulting about the matter the Vestry came to the conclusion that the only possible economy they could maks only possible economy they could make to cut off the appropriation for music, which is $1,500. This would seem to be a great pity, as the music is a very important feature in the services of the Church, and we have always prided ourselves on having very good music at a very small cost. Churches in our neighborhood expending for the purpose a great deal more than we do.

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITOR
THE RECTOR

TREASURER
MR. R. HICKMAN YOUNG
1529 South 4th Street

TERMS;

Single Copies, by Mail, 50 Cents a Year

KALENDAR.

March 3. Third Sunday in Lent.
10. Fourth Sunday in Lent.
17. Passion Sunday.
24. Palm Sunday.
25. Monday in Holy Week.
26. Tuesday in Holy Week.
27. Wednesday in Holy Week.
28. Maundy Thursday.
29. Good Friday.
30. Easter Even.
31. Easter Day.

All dayt in Lent are Fasts.

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RECORD FOR FEBRUARY.

COMMUNICANT received from Christ Church, Georgetown, D. C.
Mrs. Elizabtth Baker Stockton. 1
TRANSFERRED to S. George's, West Phila.,
Emelia Palmgren.
To the Church of the Nativity,
Mrs. Louise Mary Clare.
To S. Bartholomew's Church,
Joseph William Caywood.
Bayard Henry Caywood.
Earl Closson Caywood.
Henry Clay Irvin. 6
COMMUNION OF THE SICK. 1

✠

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$373.35
" the Deficit	60.00
" the Poor	27.69
" Diocesan Assessments	57.31
" General Missions	7.80
" Parochial Activities	.40
" the War Commission	9.87
" Coal	11.00
At the discresion of the Rector	5.00
Of the Sunday School	3.05
Total	$560.47

Finally it was determined to put it up to the ladies of the congregation as to whether they would prefer to have the music given up or whether they could suggest some means by which this deficit of $1,000 could be made up, or the income of the Church be permanently increased. It is a number of years since the ladies of the congregation have been asked to do anything especially for the support of the Church, and it was thought that they might be willing to share with the Vestry the burden of meeting this exigency in which we find ourselves.

The Rector was asked to call a meeting of the ladies and lay this matter before them. He called such a meeting at his house on Saturday, Feb. 23rd. After stating the purpose of the meeting and asking for expressions of opinion, it was voted in the first place that it would be disastrous to the interests of the Church to give up the music and that special efforts should be made to make up the deficit. In the second place it was agreed that it would be impossible to attempt to raise money by giving any general large entertainment at the present time when so many were being given for war purposes. But it was suggested that a number of small entertainments could be given by individuals or by the various Guilds of the parish. One lady offered to have a concert in her own house, the proceeds being for this purpose. The Secretary of the Girls' Friendly Society, which has just given a very successful entertainment for the work of that Society, might give another, something of the same sort, for the benefit of the Church. Our young men and boys' Guilds may do the same. Some ladies thought that they might make and sell things, war bread, cake, candy, etc., or have small parties in their houses for the purpose.

Then it was suggested that each person in the congregation, who is not now using the envelopes, should be asked to do so as a means of permanently increasing the revenue of the Church; that those who have taken envelopes and not paid them up should be asked to do so, and that those who have paid up, should increase, if possible, the amount they give, or should make a special contribution for the deficit. If each person connected with the parish would contribute even a small sum each week, or if those who have taken envelopes and fallen behind hand in their payments, would give what they thus owe, the parish would have sufficient to meet its obligations. Five ladies offered to call upon or write letters to members of the congregation asking them to do this.

It was also suggested that collection cards or books for the gathering of small offerings be provided and put in the hands of any who would take them to secure contributions from their friends, both in and outside the parish.

By these means it was thought the whole congregation can be mobilized, get actively at work to raise this sum which we owe and which must be paid.

It must also be understood that any offerings for the deficit should be *in addition* to our usual Easter offering which is needed to pay our annual coal bill, Episcopal and Convention assessment, and other regualr expenses which will amount to nearly another $1,000.

The ladies adjourned to meet on Saturday, March 23rd, at the same place at three o'clock in the afternoon, to report what each had been able to do. And it was asked that all who come to that meeting should bring with them something in a package, which could be auctioned off for the benefit of the Fund.

The Rector and his wife will be glad to see any who will come at that time.

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PARISH NOTES.

St. Peter's Church. The Rector, having heard that old St. Peter's Church at 3rd and Pine St. was without coal and could not procure any, invited the authorities of that parish to unite with us and worship in our Church while the coal shortage lasted, as we fortunately had laid in our supply of coal during the summer. As the Church of the Ascension was founded originally in 1835 by members of St. Peter's Church, it was eminently fitting that the Mother Church should turn to its daughter parish in this emergency, especially as the services and the teachings of the two churches are very similar.

The invitation was accepted, and since Feb. 20th the two congregations have been worshipping together. This has made a considerable change in our services. All those of the Church of the Ascension have been continued as usual, and in addition there has been a celebration of the Holy Communion on Sundays at 9 A. M., by one of the Clergy of St. Peter's Church with St. Peter's choir rendering the music, also a service rendered in the same way at 7.45 P. M. The St. Peter's Clergy also assist at the mid-day service on Sundays, our Rector and the Vicar in charge of St. Peter's Church alternating as preachers.

On week days in addition to the Ascension services, there have been daily, except Saturdays, a short service with a special preacher from 12.30 to 12.55 P. M., as arranged for the St. Peter's congregation. There has also been a service at 11 A. M. on Fridays for St. Peter's congregation.

The preachers appointed for the noon-day services have been for the first week in Lent, the Rev. Bakewill Green; the second week, the Rev. Percy Stockman; the third week, the Rev. G. G. Walenta; the fourth week, the Rev. E. S. Lane; the fifth week, the Rev. S. B. Booth; the sixth week, the Rev. Dr. Yerkes.

It has been a great pleasure to us to have St. Pter's congregation with us and to see the Church so fully utilized.

All offerings intended for St. Peter's Church are placed on the collection plates in envelopes so marked.

Holy Week. The last week in this month is the Holy Week, and it has

been purposed by the Diocesan authorities to have it observed this year in an intensified way on account of the war.

A letter has been sent to the Clergy of all the parishes in the Diocese making the following suggestions in regard to it, that there should be

I. A Daily Celebration of the Holy Communion.

II. Preaching of the Cross each night from Monday to Friday.

III. Special service for Communicants.

IV. Special meeting of recent Confirmation Classes.

V. Guild service for Parochial organizations.

VI. A service for those engaged in war work.

VII. A service for children.

VIII. Services in public institutions.

We shall comply with these suggestions.

I. By having two Celebrations of the Holy Communion each day, one at 7.30 A. M., the other after Morning Prayer at 10 A. M., except on Good Friday, when there will be only one at 7.30 A. M.

II. Instead of the Way of the Cross we have been observing of recent years, each night in Holy Week we will have the preaching suggested, except on Thursday, when there will be a service for Communicants and those recently Confirmed, combining thus suggestions III and IV. We do not think our parochial organizations sufficiently strong or the nuumber of those engaged at war work at home sufficiently numerous to call for special esrvices for them as suggested in V and VI.

There will be the Way of the Cross for the children on Good Friday at 9.30 A. M., thus complying with suggestion VII.

The only public institutions in our neighborhood where services could be held are the Woman's and Howard Hospitals, and we should be very glad to arrange for services there if desired to do so, as in accordance with VIII.

We trust these services will be largely attended as they should be in this time of stress and anxiety when all should be looking for guidance and help to a higher than earthy power, and we extend a hearty invitation to members of other Denominations whose Churches may not be open during this week, and to those who do not belong to any Congregation, to attend any or all of our services.

There will be the usual three hour service on Good Friday and Procession of Palms on Palm Sunday.

Easter day. There will be two extra Celebrations of the Holy Communion on Easter day, March 31st, at 6.30 and 8.30 A. M., to provide opportunity for everyone to make his or her Easter Communion. One of the Clergy will be in the Church all day on Easter Even, except from 6 to 8 P. M., to assist any who desire help in making their preparation for Communion.

Easter offering. All attending the Church are expected to make a special Easter offering to enable us to meet our expenses for the year. The amount each can give will depend on the degree to which he has himself been blest, and he should consider carefully and conscientiously what that amount should be.

The Men's Club will have their usual Smoker on Thursday evening, March 21st, when we shall have another good speaker to talk about the war. We extend a special invitation to the men of St. Peter's Church to be present on this occasion.

The "Camouflage Package Party", given by the Girls' Friendly Society, was a success both socially and financially. The many entertaining features we had planned were thoroughly enjoyed. The little girls of the Candidates' class sang a Camouflage song. A young lady played the mouth organ and Miss Elsie Friedman gave a piano solo. The tiny little Miss, only seven years old, amazed and delighted the audience with her performance on the piano. Mr. Reeves won a cake by guessing the article that was baked in it. Miss Trice won a large cocoanut cake in the march, and Mr. Tutweiler, a box of candy for making the nearest guess of the number of beans in a pint jar. There was dancing from nine to eleven, with excellent music, which was enjoyed by all. We cleared $23, and through the "News", we thank all who contributed in any way to make the affair a success.

Through Lent we shall turn our attention to more serious things. We are most fortunate in having Mrs. Horner Smith for our "Leader" of the Lenten talks, and we trust our meetings will be well attended, as Mrs. Smith is interesting and inspiring. We have chosen the Episcopal hospital as our obejct to sew for during Lent, and realizing that we should not put aside the war relief work, the girls have expressed a willingness to come Friday evenings also. This means a sacrifice to some, but shows a fine spirit to do one's part and so live up to our motto,—"Bear ye one another's burdens."

The Saint John's Guild have elected new officers for the coming year. Mr. Raymond Reeves, President; John Owens, Secretary, and Stanley Hannums, Treasurer. The new "cabinet" is a live one and there should be lots of interesting activities during the next year.

The basket ball team continues to win regularly, having lost but one game all season. The team is formed of Mull, Barr, Hannums, Jones, McDermott and Bender, all veterans of several years' standng.

A dance is planned for the first Thursday after Easter.

Boy Scouts. Mr. J. L. Graham has been called to the colors and his services will be greatly missed by the troop and the staff.

His last night with us was spent in drilling and giving him a rousing send-off. There are now five members of Troop 63 serving the country in the army and navy; Scouts Brown and McMeekin, two of the "Alumni"; Mr. H. L. T. Ulrich, of our Troop Committee; Dr. J. W. Rock, First Aid Instructor, and Mr. J. L. Graham, Assistant Scoutmaster.

The hike to Camp Van Rensselaer was a dandy; beautiful country, big, open fireplace, songs and stories by Mr. Graham, "Pop", Bill Bender, etc., etc. This is one of the most delightful camps that we have permission to use. The weather was "great." We are "dreaming" of a place like this of our own.

Our inspections are good and helped us a lot when Executive Gordon decided to inspect all the troops in this section of the city. He gave us an average of 93, which was the fourth best out of about 30 troops. There were 27 boys and 2 men present from our troop.

Promotions are coming faster than the Scribe (Dennis) can record them. From Candidate to Tenderfoot to Second Class and as soon as the leaves begin to peep out Mr. Bushnell and Mr. Clark are going to lead another Nature Study hike, for that is all some fellows need for First Class Rank.

We are looking forward to the third Liberty Bond, Thrift Stamps, Dispatch bearing, more hikes, new games, test passing, Spring sports and Camp and a few other things.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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The following were received since the last issue.

Miss Chamberlain
Mrs. Carmen
Mr. Kelly
Miss Moreland
Mrs. Machen
Miss Alice Rousseau
Mr. and Mrs. Cope (2)
Miss Rhein
Miss Leaming
Miss Dickerson
Mrs. Christian
Mrs. Barrett
Miss Barrington
Mr. Carroll Hodge
Mrs. Connelly

The Ascension News

Vol. XXXII. Philadelphia April 1918 No. 4

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Saturdays ..... 10 00 A M

THE CONGREGATION MOBILIZED.

In our last issue we called upon the congregation to mobilize to make up a deficit in our current expenses we had January 1st. We can now report that it has mobilized very effectively.

A number of the ladies who met at the Rector's house on Feb. 23rd undertook to write letters or personally to see different members of the congregation, asking them to assist in this work. The result has been so far that some $582.50 has been contributed in special donations. Several have promised to increase, in two or three cases to double, the amount of their regular weekly offerings, and a few new envelopes have been taken. On March 23rd a Package Party was held at the Rector's house, which readized $65.70. On April the fourth a Card party is to be held at the house of Mrs. Harry B. French, 1502 Spruce St. On April 9th a Rummage sale will be given in the Parish Building. On April 16th an entertainment and dance will be given in the Parish Building jointly by the members of S. John's Guild and the Girls' Friendly Society. And on April 24th a Musicale wlil be given in the house of Mrs. John Hirst, 1823 Pine St. The proceeds of all of these being for the deficit.

Thus we can say that the congregation have been very fairly "mobilized", and with good success.

We doubt, however, if the receipts from all of these efforts will be enough to make up the entire sum of $1,000 needed. So we must still ask that further efforts be made.

The most substantial and permanent way of enabling the Church to meet its expenses would be for all those who belong to it taking envelopes, if they do not do so now, or increasing the amounts they are giving, as they have to increase

The Ascension News

A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITOR
THE RECTOR

TREASURER
MR. R. HICKMAN YOUNG
1529 South 4th Street

TERMS;

Single Copies, by Mail, 50 Cents a Year

KALENDAR.

April 1. Easter Monday.
2. Easter Tuesday.
5. Friday. Fast.
6. Low Sunday.
12. Second Sunday after Easter.
19. Friday. Fast.
21. Third Sunday after Easter.
25. S. Mark. Evangelist.
28. Eourth Sunday after Easter.

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RECORD FOR MARCH.

BAPTISMS, George William Elias
James Edward Frazer
Dorothy Hughes 3

CONFIRMED, George Albert Wilson
Robert Ernest Holt
Allmond Gilson Bower
Mrs. Lydia Ann Lawrence
Mrs. Elsa Josephine Cramp
Elsie May Schnell
Frieda Frances Schnell
Edna Catharine Fisher
Catharine Ann Graff 9

COMMUNICANTS added new
George Albert Wilson
Robert Ernest Holt
Almond Gilson Bower
Mrs. Elsa Josephine Cramp
Elsie May Schnell
Frieda Frances Schnell
Edna Catharine Fi her 7

RECEIVED from Church of the Epiphany, Pelham,
Mrs. Mary Helen Bowen 1

TRANSFERRED to All Saints' Church
William Dougherty Hill 1

UNCTION OF SICK 1

BURIALS, George Jacob Kohlhund
Mrs. Georgianna Dutch.r 2

✠

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$1016 20
" the Deficit	582 50
" the Poor	45.24
" Flowers	45.18
" Diocesan Missions	35.06
" the War Relief funds	6.50
" the Bishop's Purse	17 03
" Parochial Activities	.60
At the discresion of the Rector	5.00
Of the Sunday School	5.34
Proceeds of Package party	67.50
Total	$1826.95

what they give for every thing, in these war times.

Many of the persons to whom the ladies wrote made no replies to the letter they received. One lady wrote twenty-five letters, and did not receive a single response. This shows that many are very indifferent or fail to realize their responsibility to contribute regularly to the support of the Church. Every one who has an income of any kind should conscientiously give a certain proportion to religious purposes, and the support of your parish Church, which gives you your religious privileges, should have the first claim. If *every* one in the congregation gave something each week, if it were only five or ten cents, it would be some fulfilment of this duty, and provide the Church a regualr income.

And those making pledges of weekly contributions should feel the obligation of punctually paying them. If all the pledges made for the support of the Church had been so paid we would not be forced to undertake this extra effort to make up a deficit.

So while we thank the congregation most heartily, especially the ladies who have responded so readily and done so much work, we still ask particularly

those members of the congregation who are not now taking envelopes, or contributing regularly, to do so at once. The Rector will furnish a set to any one asking for them.

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PARISH NOTES.

The Package Party at the Rector's house proved very successful. There were not a great many present, but those who were there proved good buyers. Some very pretty and even valuable articles were donated. Miss Alice O. Young, who acted as auctioneer, proved very expert in securing good prices, which added very much to the interest of the occasion. The receipts from the sale, together with some donations of money from those who could not be present, amounted to $67.70.

A Rummage Sale will be held in the Parish Building, Tuesday, April 9th, from 3 P. M. to 10 P. M. Any articles of any description, furniture, carpets, bedding, pots, pans, clothes, books, shoes, etc., can be sent to the Parish Building any day before the sale begins and will be disposed of for the benefit of the deficit fund.

Liberty bonds sale. A number of the ladies of the congregation are assisting in the effort to float the new issue of Liberty bonds, by attending in different theaters in the southern part of the city during their performances. Mrs. Combs has undertaken to secure the workers. Miss Ely will furnish some fifty aides, who will be on hand so many nights for so many weeks. Miss A. O. Young will be responsible for three nights a week for a month. Miss Carmen will take other nights. Any of our young people, willing to aid in this patriotic work can give their names to Miss Ely, whose office is at 1307 Locust St.

Farm work. The Rector has been asked to secure from the parish as many boys over sixteen, and young men, as he can, who will sign up to work on the farms near the city for the summer months, to supply the great need there is for workers to raise the large crops that are absolutely needed to feed ourselves and our allies. He would be glad to hear at once of any willing to engage in this very healthful and pleasant work and serve his country at the same time. The Rector, in spite of his age, works in this way three hours each day during the summer and enjoys it very much.

The Men's Smoker had another inspiring patriotic address from Mr. Anthony Griffith at their meeting on March 23rd, followed by some very good singing by the younger men. But again we had to deplore the absence from this meeting of so many of the older men of the parish. This is not a Boys' Guild intended for the young. They have their own special meetings. It is intended primarily for the older men for the purpose of bringing them out of their homes and keeping up their interest in, and connection with, the Church and each other. We do trust another season that more will turn out on such occasions. Mr. Griffith also addressed the members of S. Barnabas' Guild for Nurses the same afternoon at three o'clock.

The Girls' Friendly Society will have a church service on Tuesday evening, April 2nd, followed by a business meeting, and it is earnestly requested that all members be present. Through Lent the meetings have been quite well attended, and we all enjoyed and appreciated Mrs. Smith's talks, and heartily thank her for her patience and faithfulness. Some Lenten sewing and war relief work were also accomplished. On April 18th, there will be a Council meeting at Holy Trinity Parish House at 3 o'clock, and a conference of Associates at 7.30 P. M. It is hoped that some of the Associates will find it convenient to be present at these meetings.

On April 25th at 7.45 P. M. there will be the Annual Service and Exhibition of Lenten work at Holy Trinity Church. All members and Associates are invited and will find it a most helpful and inspiring service.

The Candidates' Annual Service will be held at Calvary Church, Germantown, on May 4th, at 3 P. M.

An entertainment, a Fete d'Avril, will be given by the G. F. S. and S. John's Guild on Tuesday evening, April 16th, at 8.15 P. M., the proceeds of which will be devoted entirely to the church as a help to meet the present deficit. There will be dancing with excellent music, and for those not caring to dance, we have planned some special features of entertainment, and so there is insured a good time for all, both old and young. The tickets are 25 cents and can be procured from any member of either Society.

St. John's Guild. The Minstrel Show, given jointly by St. John's Guild and the Boy Scouts, proved a great success. The proceeds from the sale of tickets amounted to $102.35. After deducting expenses, the balance was divided equally between the two organizations. From their share, St. John's Guild donated $10.00 towards meeting the deficit of the Church. The Boy Scouts' share has given them a good start toward meeting the expenses of their summer camp, and everybody is very grateful for the manner in which their friends helped them.

The deficit in the current expenses of the Church and its possible results are on our minds, and to do "our bit," we are giving, with the Girls' Friendly Society, an entertainment and dance on Tuesday evening, April 16th, at the Parish House. The tickets are twenty-five cents and the entire proceeds will be given to the Church. We promise you something unusual and please come help us make our efforts a great success financially for such a worthy cause.

The Boy Scout Troop. There was a re-organization of the troop, for the annual registration at national headquarters, during March, which shows our roll to include 33 boys. About 10 were dropped and 2 transferred. Gathering old kid gloves which will be used to make garments for soldiers, and books for the soldiers and sailors were the chief activities of the month. The Scout farmers are all busy and expect to make even a better showing than last year. The weekly inspection shows the Eagle Patrol to be in the lead, Mongoose second, and Tiger and Woodpigeon following closely in the order named.

Choir Honor roll. The choir-master wishes to take this opportunity of commending the members of the choir for their faithfulness and attention to their duties, and in order that the congregation may know more of the work of the boys, will publish each month an honor roll containing the names of boys having a perfect record for attendance or some other meritoriosu acts. The Honor Roll for February is: Watson Mull, Philip Fritz, William Seiffert.

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LETTER TO THE RECTOR FROM MR. ULLRICH.

March 19, 1918

My dear Doctor Hodge:—

I have been very glad indeed to receive the copies of the Ascension News you so kindly sent me, and particularly interested in reading your somewhat War-like article: "Mobilization of the Congregation" in the latest issue. Probably one of the greatest benefits to be derived from the War will be a concentration of thought and effort, to say not anything of the elimination of the waste places, and I fervently hope a renewed and invigorated spiritual life. Certainly those men who have come into the actual Service will come back, those who do come back, with a new and different view oft he Church and its value, due largely, undoubtedly, to the splendid work and influence of the Y. M. C. A. I was further glad to learn from one of Mr. Roberts' recent letters that the response to the efforts to reduce the indebtedness of the Ascension has been quite wonderful. It is certainly regrettable that the new plans for the Church have been held in abeyance for so long, particularly since such conditions only create uncertainty, and, in some spheres, demoralization. But, of course, present conditions, the War, etc., for which the Church is not responsible, have contributed to the unfortunate delay. However, I trust matters are so shaping themselves as to bring the initiation of the new Organization close to hand.

You continue to address me in care of the 312th Field Artillery, for the very good reason, I suppose, that I have never told you otherwise. But I had rather assumed that Mr. Roberts or Mr. Alburger had advised you of my new address. Shortly after the first of the year, I was detached from my old Regiment and detailed upon special work, stenographic, etc., at the Headquarters of the Officers' Training School here. Before coming to Camp, I offered my services as a stenographer, etc., to the Government, and only now have they seen fit to utilize my work in that direction. Needless to say, I can be of infinitely more value to the Service in that capacity than almost any other, particularly since there is such a great amount of this sort of work to be done, and I am very happy in my present location, where I shall in all likelihood remain until about May 1st. Although there is a feeling that this School is to be made a permanent feature of the War, and if the War is to continue, as now seems definitely certain, such would be a very good procedure, particularly since it has been the experience of the English that Officers are extremely difficult of making, and probably more difficult of retaining. And we are to profit by their mistakes, we are told. You probably know that in the German Armies, it is the custom for the Officers to drive their men before them, whereas in the English and American Armies the Officers lead their men, and of course casualties are correspondingly greater.

Things continue to move along smoothly here. With the good weather we have had here for some weeks, splendid progress has been made by the men, and there is a persistent feeling that this Division is to move directly to France before Summer, probably during June, but the Army is just one rumor after another, and there is not anything official in this connection as yet.

I heard the Choir of St. Paul's, Baltimore, in the "Crucifixion" last Sunday evening, and while it was very well sung, it lacked the volume and splendor of the renditions of the last few years at the Ascension. The Baritone was very good indeed, but the Tenor did not stir one as did VanLeer. Of course, they have a splendid Choir there, but then they have a Choir School, and their appropriation for Music is about $5000.00, which is considerably more than we spend at the Ascension. Incidentally, I have yet to hear a better Choir than that of the Ascension, and I have heard the best in this section of the Country.

Much to my regret, I shall in all probability have to remain in Camp Easter Day, and be unable to attend the Ascension on that day, but I trust the Services will not only go very well musically, as well as otherwise, but that they may be very well attended, and this latter is important.

Hoping Mrs. Hodge and you are both very well, and hoping you will have a very happy Easter, I am,

Very cordially yours,

Henry L. T. Ullrich,
Headquarters, Officers'
Training School,
79th Division,
Camp Meade, Maryland.
Barracks AA-8

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that you subscription to the NEWS is due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since the last issue.

Mrs. Wightman (2)
Mrs. Bonsall (2)
Mrs. Pfander (2)
Miss Peters
Miss A. O. Young
Miss Pomeroy
Miss Johnson

The Ascension News

Vol. XXXII. Philadelphia May, 1918 No. 5

Church of the Ascension

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Services

Holy Communion

Every Sunday ..... 7.30 and 11.00 A.M.

Holy Days ..... 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer

Sundays ..... 10.30 A. M.

Daily ..... 10,00 A M.

Evensong

Sundays (Choral) ..... 4.00 P. M.

Daily ..... 5 00 P. M.

Instructions in Bible and Prayer Book, in the Church, by the Rector, Sundays ..... 3.00 P. M.

Sunday School and Bible Class 3.00 P.M.

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The Church is always open for private prayer, and the Clergy can be seen after any service or by appointment.

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The Ascension News

The Church of the Ascension

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CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST
PHILIP F. ALBURGER.

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2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior . John's Guild ..... 8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, St. Agnes' Guild ..... 4.00 P. M
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society ..... 8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew .. 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild ..... 8.00 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent ..... The Curate
SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS
For Young Men ..... 3.00 P. M.
Taught by Miss Maria J Gilpin
INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL
Saturdays ..... 10.00 A M.

PRIVATE DEVOTIONS.

There is nothing so essential to the maintenance of spiritual life as devotion, that is constant communion with God. He is the source of all spiritual life, and it is only by constant contemplation of, and prayer to, Him that we can hope to imbibe His spirit and to be supported and guided aright.

This is the purpose and necessity of regular public worship. We build and frequent our Churches not only to honor God, to recognize and maniest our sense of dependence upon Him, but that they may minister to us spiritual benefits. If a man gives up church going, ceases to make it a regular part of his life to thus worship God and seek His help, he will inevitably deteriorate in character. If he does not fall into open sins, he will become worldly, selfish, self-centered, and evil habits, tempers and dispositions will grow in him.

But it is not sufficient to go to Church once a week. Our religion should be brought into our daily lives. It is constantly, daily, hourly, that we are subjected to temptation, and that the hardening, unspiritualizing influences to which we are exposed in our intercourse with our fellowmen, affect us. So we should make a habit of having regular daily devotions. This was the purpose of the Church in appointing a daily service to be recited in the Churches. The Episcopal Church is the only Christian body that has such a provision, and many of its members value and use it regularly, or at least on some days in each week.

But in the rush and absorbtion of our modern life there are not many apparently who can find time to go to Church, even once a day, unless it is to an early Communion, in Churches where there is a daily Celebration. For those who cannot do so we urge most strongly their always having daily devotions of some

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KALENDAR.

May 1. SS. Philip and James.
3. Friday. Fast.
5. Rogation Sunday.
6. Rogation day.
7. Rogation day
8. Rogation day.
9. Ascension day.
10. Friday. Fast.
12. Expectation Sunday.
17. Friday. Fast.
19. Whitsunday.
20. Whitsun Monday.
21. Whitsun Tuesday.
22. Ember day.
24. Ember day.
25. Ember day.
26. Trinity Sunday.
31. Friday Fast.

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RECORD FOR APRIL.

BAPTISMS, Kathryn Josephine Amies.
Eleanor Busch. 2
MARRIAGES, Charles Williams Landell, Jr. and Dorothy Bond.
William John Henry and Margaret Smith.
Emmerson Kenneth Young and Elizabeth Fleming Ashmead Eastburn. 3
COMMUNICANTS transferred to the Chapel of the Mediator, West Phila.,
Charles Sherwood Cameron.
Mrs Ella Mary Cameron, 2
COMM.NIONS OF THE SICK. 4
BURIALS, Alice Goodman.
Eleanor Busch. 2

✠

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$ 398.37
" the Poor	62 78
" the Deficit	67 00
" Diocesan Assessments	1.12
" the United offerings	81.00
" Diocesan Missions	63.60
" Foreign Missions	26.69
" Indian Missions	21 00
" Colored Missions	21.00
" Diocesan Missions	24.10
" the Prayer Book Socicty	8.00
" the Tract Society	5.00
Of the Sunday School	5.47
" " " for General Mis..	16.71
Total	$ 301.75
Proceeds of Card party for deficit	$150 00
" " Rummage sale for deficit	60 25
" " Guilds entertainment	50.00
	$260.25
Total receipts	$1061.00

sort at home, preferably family prayers, if possible. The head of each household should regard himself as the natural priest of the family and responsible not only for his own spiritual welfare, but for that of the members of his household as well. This was once the universal rule in all Christian households, but has sadly fallen into disuse of late, and the general neglect of all religion is doubtless due to this cause more than any other. In households in which there are young children it is especially necessary that the constant habit of religious worship should be thus cultivated.

But if that is not possible, and as a great help to its performance where it is practicable we urge upon all our people the regular use of a book of devotions, even in their private prayers. As we feel that a regular liturgy is incomparably superior to extemporaneous prayers for public worship, so are preconceived forms most valuable for private use. They "open our lips," so to speak, that we may worthily and effectively show forth God's praise," and teach us what things we ought to ask, and how to ask them.

There is an art in worshipping, as there is in speaking and writing, and those who have studied it and cultivated it, can teach and help others to worship and pray aright.

There are many such books available at any Church book store. We would especially recommend the "Treasury of Devotion" by Carter for this purpose.

To set aside daily, if it is only for a very short space, a time which will be used regularly for this purpose, together with some Scriptural reading, will be simply invaluable as a means of conserving and perfecting one's spiritual life, and defending it from those influences which are so numerous and powerful, which tend to draw us away from God and holy things, and bring upon us all those results which will inevitably lower and degrade us. We speak of this now especially when the summer season is coming on, when so many are cut off from their regular religious habits at home. If you go away, try always to be on Sundays in a place where there are Church services. But in any event have, take with you and use always, your book of private devotions.

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PARISH NOTES.

Holy Week. We tried to keep it as the Bishop had requested all the parishes to do. We had four services each day, but we regret to say they were not all largely attended. The Rector sent out a hundred cards of invitation for the meeting on Thursday evening for those recently Confirmed in the parish. Only about thirty were present. The attendance during the three hours' service on Good Friday we thought rather better than in recent years.

Easter proved a beautiful day, and the Church looked unusually attractive. In spite of the change of hours owing to the putting forward of the clocks the previous night, most people were on time, and the congregations good. The number of Communions made was about one hundred and seventy. The offerings, with some which came in later, amounted to $850, which came pretty near to the $1,000 we asked for.

The deficit we had Jan. 1st and to make up which the Vestry appealed to the ladies of the parish for their help in raising, and for which last month we announced $582.50 had been contributed, has now been made up to $910.87, very nearly the amount needed. We have every reason to be much gratified with this result, and the Vestry at their regular meeting after Easter passed a resolution most heartily thanking the ladies for the readiness and energy with which they responded to the appeal for their help. It is demonstration, not only of what the parish can do, but of the interest, and affection, its members have in it.

Easter gifts. A very handsome new banner and staff was presented by one of our Vestrymen. It is composed of very rich material bearing a cross outlined in gold and the whole bordered with gold cloth.

The Church also received a very handsome piece of handmade lace for a fair linen cloth for the main altar, seven feet long. It has "I. H. S." recurring throughout it, and an elaborate edging. It was made for the Church as an Easter offering by one of the young girls of the Sunday School, only fifteen years of age. It is beautifully done and was a labor of love on her part.

Two of our Servers were presented with gold crosses as rewards for their voluntary attendance. We hope it will make them appreciate the honor of acting in that capacity.

The Rummage Sale took place in the Parish building on April 9th, and though it was a bad day it was very successful, the sales realizing $60 in all.

The Musicale announced for April 24th has had to be postponed until the Autumn, owing to the "talent" which was counted on having gone to the war. It is hoped others may be obtained in their place by that time.

A service flag for the Church. A lady has sent the Rector a dollar to start a fund for "a service flag" to be hung in the Church opposite the National flag. Are there others who will contribute for this purpose?

Ascension day occurs this year very early, on May 9th. We had not expected to have kept it this year as our Parish Festival as we supposed the name of the Church would have been changed before this. And as it is, our financial year having been changed, it would be impossible to give the usual statistics for the previous year. It has been decided, therefore, not to have the annual service we always have had on the night of Ascension day, and in place of it we will have the Parish Tea that night. At the morning service, which will be at the same hour as on Sunday, 10.30 A. M., the Rector will make some statements in regard to the condition and prospects of the parish. We hope for a large attendance, both because it is one of the great Feast days of the Church and because it is still the name day of our Parish.

The offerings on that day will be as usual for the Endowment fund of the Church which needs so much to be enlarged. If there are those who have funds to dispose of by will, we trust they will not forget this object among their charitable bequests.

The Liberty bond drive. In response to a call from the Bishop all the Clergy in the Southern section of the City associated themselves together in a joint letter to their parishioners asking each one to aid the government by buying Liberty bonds of the last issue, and to report that they had done so. A large poster calling attention to the need of the bonds was printed and placed in a conspicuous place in each Church and beneath it an Honor roll of the names of those who had subscribed for them. The roll in the Vestibule of our Church now contains some 65 names so far. We should like to see many more still added to it.

In addition to this the Vestry of the Parish directed that $300 of our Endowment fund we had on hand for investment be put in these bonds, and others have subscribed through the Church.

The ladies who undertook to sell bonds in the theatres have been hard at work and quite successful in obtaining subscribers.

Lenten serving. The managers of St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, to which was sent the box made up by our Ladies' Aid Society during Lent, have sent their grateful acknowledgment for the same. The box contained 7 pairs of socks, 10 towels, 13 garments and a strip of blanket. Only a few persons took part in the Lenten work this year, owing, we suppose, to other engagements, so the result was not large.

The Girls' Friendly and St. John's Guild can mark up another big success in the Fete de' Avril, given on Tuesday, April 16th, to help obtain the necessary funds to pay off the Church deficit. The entertainment was of the vaudeville type, combined with general dancing by the audience. Master Kenneth Hutchinson of St. Mark's choir sang beautifully two solos, as did also John Owens of our own St. John's Guild. Our own Bender, who by the way, is speaking and

singing at the various movies and theatres for the Liberty Loan Committee, gave us his services for the evening and put his songs across in the way only Bill can do. Miss Janet Laird danced just like the fairy she appeared to be, and Miss Montgomery of West Philadelphia and Miss Calhoun and Miss Ziegler, of the New Century Club, more than did their "bit" by their clever recitations. We are surely very much indebted to all of these good friends.

We are glad we will have the substantial sum of $50 to turn over to our Rector to help meet theh deficit, and incidentally we are glad of the sociability these entertainments and dances promote, a thing so necessary to the greater success of both our Guilds.

The Vestry election held on Easter Monday resulted in the re-election of those whose terms then expired. And at the subsequent Vestry meeting, the same officers and committees were reappointed, except that Mr. John W. Patten was elected as a delegate to the Diocesan Convention in place of Mr. Newbold, who would be unable to attend.

Honor Roll of Choir for March:
William Seiffert
Edward Morrison
Charles Lee
Harold Zeigler
Harry C. Hansen
William Donnello
Paul Dull

✠

AN IMPORTANT DUTY IN THE COMMUNION SERVICE.

"After the Prayer for the Church comes the preparation for the Communion itself. At this point people often leave the Church. It is difficult to understand why, for it is then that the important part of the service begins. Communicants should always stay through the service, even if they do not receive. It is the best time in the world for prayer; and they should join in the worship of thanksgiving even when for one reason or another they do not receive the Blessed Sacrament. There is no reason why non-communicants should leave the Church either, and it would be far better if they did not do so."—*The Episcopal Church,* by Latta Griswold.

✠

ONLY THROUGH ME!

Only through Me!—The clear, high call comes pealing
Above the thunders of the battle-plain;—
Only through Me can Life's red wounds find healing;
Only through Me shall earth have peace again.

Only through Me! Love's might, all might transcending,
Alone can draw the poison fangs of hate.
Yours the beginning! Mine a nobler ending—
Peace upon earth, and man regenerate!

Only through Me can come the great awakening!
Wrong cannot right the wrongs that Wrong hath done;
Only through Me, all other gods forsaking,
Can ye attain the heights that must be won.

Can we not rise to such great height of glory?
Shall this vast sorrow spend itself in vain?
Shall future ages tell the woeful story—
Christ by his own was crucified again?

—*John Oxenham.*

✠

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that you subscription to the NEWS is due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since the last issue.

Mrs. Frantz
Miss Hare
Mrs. Tait
Miss O'Harra

The Ascension News

VOL. XXXII. PHILADELPHIA JUNE, 1918. No. 6

Church of the Ascension

Broad Street, Below South — All Seats Free

Services

Holy Communion

EVERY SUNDAY ..... 7.30 and 11.00 A.M.

HOLY DAYS ..... 7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer

SUNDAYS ..... 10.30 A. M.

Daily ..... 10,00 A M.

Evensong

SUNDAYS (Choral) ..... 4.00 P. M.

DAILY ..... 5 00 P. M.

INSTRUCTIONS in Bible and Prayer Book, in the Church, by the Rector, Sundays ..... 3.00 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE CLASS .. 3.00 P.M.

All the Seats are Free at all Services. God's House is open to all its Children The Church is always open for private prayer, and the Clergy can be seen after any service or by appointment.

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The Church of the Ascension

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GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior . John's Guild-- ---------8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, St. Agnes' Guild----------4.00 P. M
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society----------8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew-- 8.00 P.M .
Thursdays, St. John's Guild----------8.00 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent ----------The Curate

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

For Young Men----------3.00 P. M.
Taught by Miss Maria J Gilpin

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays----------1.000 A. M

A BISHOP'S CHURCH.

We are glad to repeat the announcement the Rector made on Ascension day that at last the Watson legacy has been paid to the Trustees of the Diocese. Half of it was paid in Liberty bonds, and the other half in real estate, consisting of the shop north of the Church and the two properties immediately south of the Church, which are necessary to carry out the scheme for improvements.

Unfortunately, however, owing to war conditions it is not deemed wise to do any building at present when materials and labor are so high. And by the agreement made with Mr. Watson, the Executor of Mrs. Watson's estate, the Trustees will not be obliged to begin building until two years after the close of the war. Let us hope, however, that the war may soon come to a close and that then building operations may rapidly return to normal conditions.

As the legacy is now paid it is expected that the Bishop will soon take the Church over as his special Church and use it as such until the proposed Cathedral scheme on the Pathway can be realized, which may not be for many years.

If this parish is thus to become the Bishop's Church, we ought to understand just what such a Church is.

When the Christian religion was first planted it was by one of the original Apostles, or aterwards by their successors, gathering a congregation of believers in some principle city or town, to whom he ministered personally. The Bishop was the Pastor, the other Clergy were simply his assistants. But as the Church grew other congregations were formed and the Bishop delegated certain Priests to have charge of them. The original or chief Church remained his, and came to be known as the Cathedral, from a Greek word meaning a chair, because the Bishop had his chair or official seat there. So in the old country in all

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A monthly Record of the Work in the Parish

EDITOR
THE RECTOR

TREASURER
MR. R. HICKMAN YOUNG
1529 South 4th Street

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Kalendar.

June 2. First Sunday after Trinity.
7. Friday—Fast.
9. Second Sunday after Trinity.
11. S. Barnabas.
14. Friday—Fast.
16. Third Sunday after Trinity.
21. Friday—Fast.
23. Fourth Sunday after Trinity.
24. Nativity of S. John Baptist.
28. Friday—Fast.
29 S Peter.
30. Fifth Sunday after Trinity.

✠

RECORD FOR MAY.

COMMUNICANTS transferred to S. Paul's Church, Doylestown, Pa.,
Melaine South Rousseau.
Mary Branbt Parke.
To S. James' Church, Hestonville,
Annie Mccartney.
Jennie Macartney.
DIED, Mrs. Elizabeth Enverline.

✠

OFFERINGS

For current expenses	$ 250 46
" the Endowment Fund	37.70
" the Poor	25 68
" Parochial Activities	4.35
" Diocesan Assessments	.65
" the United offerings	2.50
" the Deficit	5 00
" the War Chest	12.15
Of the Sunday School	5.48
	$343.97
Proceeds of Guild entertainment for deficit	$50 00
Total	$393.47

parts of the Catholic Church there has always been in each Diocese one Church which was called the Cathedral or Bishop's Church.

In this country, owing to the fact that prior to the American Revolution, there were no Bishops in America, so there were no Cathedrals. It is only of recent years that many of the Dioceses have begun to have them, some are parish's Churches which have been transformed into Cathedrals, in others new ones are being built, some on a very large and magnificent scale, as in New York, Baltimore, Washington, San Francisco, etc.

A Cathedral differs from a parish Church in that it stands for the Diocese and is under the immediate control of the Bishop. It is a Church in which he can hold his ordinations and official meetings with the Clergy and laity. He orders its services and in them sets the standard of worship he would like to see attained throughout the Diocese.

It should be large enough to hold congregations gathered for special occasions. It should be sufficiently endowed to maintain a staff of Clergy who will not only minister in the numerous srevices which will naturally be held there, but who should have charge of different departments of work throughout the Diocese, its Missionary, Educational, Social work, etc.

Its pulpit should be occupied at the different services each Sunday by distinguished preachers. Every one should be sure of hearing a good sermon in the Cathedral. Conferences, lectures, retreats, etc., should be held in it from time to time.

Its seats, of course, will be free at all services, so that every one,whether he belongs to a particular congregation or not, will feel that he has a right and place in the Bishop's Church.

Instead of an ordinary parochial constitution it is generally governed by a body called "the Chapter," which consists of the Bishop, the Clergy of the Cathedral, and in this country, of some

lay trustees representing the Diocese, and not merely a particular congregation, and so acting and speaking for the interests of the whole Diocese, making it the center for all Diocesan activities and interests.

It should, if possible, be the largest and most prominent building in the town or city in which it is situated, that it may act as an ever speaking monument, testifying to the dignity, importance and supremacy of religion beyond every thing else. If such a building cannot be erected, or until it is determined to erect such, in the meantime it is customary to take a parish Church and use it as a Pro-Cathedral for the time being.

That will practically be the position of this Church. While it will be greatly enlarged, still it will not be large enough or impressive enough to answer permanently all the ends of a Bishop's Church. But it can serve very well for that purpose for a time until the Cathedral system can be gradually developed, and funds accumulated to erect and endow a suitable building in another locality.

Every Bishop naturally feels that he would like to have a Church which he can regard as his own and in which he is perefectly free to carry out his ideas and plans for the benefit of the whole Diocese.

For the present this Church will be governed by its former charter, the name only being changed, until a regular Cathedral foundation can be elaborated, the Vestry putting it at the disposition of the Bishop to use as if it was his own.

✠

PARISH NOTES.

Ascension day was observed, as we announced, to a certain extent as our parish festival, as it is still the name day of the Church, though the services were not attended as they should have been. Unless a day is a public holiday it seems very hard to get any number of people to come to church on a week day.

In his sermon in the morning the Rector, after speaking of the significance of the day, spoke of the present position and prospects of the parish, and mentioned the names of the parishioners who had passed away during the time between last Ascension day and January 1st, when our new Church year began.

The annual parish tea took place on the evening of Ascension day and was a very enjoyable occasion. A little play was given by some members of the new Century Club, who kindly volunteered their services. This was followed by some recitations and music and an address by the Rector. Miss Carmen, also made an earnest appeal on behalf of a new Convocational Mission, in which she is much interested as one of the representatives of the parish in the Woman's Auxilary to the Convocation. She has undertaken to raise $50 for it. Who will help her?

There were, of course, the usual refreshments, and the evening closed with a dance by the young people.

Summer services. The daily prayers are discontinued until October, except on the mornings of Holy days, when there will be also Celebrations of the Holy Communion. The Sunday School, and the 4 o'clock evening service will be discontinued from after the second Sunday in this month until the third Sunday in September. The Sunday morning services at 7.30 and 10.30 A. M. will be kept up as usual without intermission.

The Church will be always open for private devotion, and the services of one of the clergy, when needed, can be obtained at any time on application at the Church, or by phone.

The notice board in our Vestibule ought to be watched, for almost every week there is some new notice of one kind or another posted there. And there is also quite a supply of interesting and valuable reading matter in the rack at its base, which is put there for general distribution. We are glad to know that some persons not connected with the parish come in and take away these papers.

Memorial day, May 30th, was observed as the President of the United States requested as a day for penitence and prayer on behalf of our country. A special service, authorized by the Bishop, was used, there being two Celebrations of the Holy Communion, the early one being especially for the commemoration of the dead heroes, both of our Civil and the present War. At the second service the Rector spoke of the need of penitence for our national sins, of earnest prayer by all for guidance and help in the great struggle on which we have entered, that it may be speedily brought to a safe and satisfactory end, and that it may be the means of inspiring a new and better state of things for our country and for the world.

Our honor rolls. Another name has been added to the roll of those of our members who have entered the National Army, that of Samuel Neill, who was brought up in the parish, was a Sunday School and Choir boy, a member of the Young Men's Bible Class and of S. John's Guild. He is now at Camp Lee in Virginia and writes that he is well and enjoying the life. Some of our other boys have now gone over the sea. May God preserve them and bring them safely home again.

The list of names that has been handed in as subscribers to the third Liberty loan now numbers eighty-three. We have no doubt there are others who have done the same.

Increase of Insurance. The Provident Trust Company, to which the Trustees of the Diocese have intrusted the care of its buildings, having informed our Vestry that it considered the Church property was not sufficiently insured against fire, the Vestry has increased the amount heretofore on the Church by $30,000. That involves a payment on our part of some $45, an addition to our expenses for this year.

Boy Scouts. The scouts will get a well earned rest after the War Chest Campaign. They have been kept pretty busy with Liberty Bonds, etc., for the past month. Troop 63 worked in the theatres for the Girls' Friendly until they started out for themselves the last week of the campaign. Twelve thousand dollars was the total of our business for the week—160 subscriptions! Scouts Bowen, Holt, Barr, Straub, Ciccone, Ferrante, Bieberback, and Dennis will receive medals for their work.

Scout Ed Marsh has enlisted in the Navy; and Senior Patrol Leader Bender in the Boys' Working Reserve. He is now on a farm at Honeybrook, Pa., where he will stay until the fall.

The Championships of District No. 2 were held and old 63 was right there with the rest of them. Our signaling teams were crippled by the absence of Bender and Holt but we more than evened things up in the other events.

The spring sports are going to be held on June 10; there will be scouting contests, athletics, music, drilling and dancing. Tickets are fifteen cents and may be obtained from any of the Scouts.

The annual Parish Picnic will take place on Saturday, June 15th. It will be held as formerly on Burlington Island. Free transportation will be provided for all the members of the Sunday School and of the Mothers' Meeting from the Church to the Island and return. Entertainments will be given the children on the Island, but each person is expected to bring his or her lunch. Members of the parish can join the picnic by paying their own expenses. All will assemble in the Parish building by 7 A. M.

Should June 15th prove stormy the picnic will take place the following Saturday.

Choir Honor Roll. The following boys in the choir have a perfect record for attendance during the months of April and May:

John P. Berry
Wm. Seiffert
Charles Lee
Harold Zeigler
William Donello
William Godfrey
Charles Fritz
Harry C. Hansen
Watson Mull
Benjamin Norris

✠

Visit to Mission. Those who were present at thea Parish Tea will no doubt remember the plea which Miss Carmen made to the people of our Parish to obtain $50.00 toward a fund of $1700 to build a small Mission on Stonehouse Lane to replace one built by the men and boys of that neighborhood in their "after-working" hours. At that time, she spoke also of the boys down there and of the advantages which they might obtain through the formation of a Boy Scout Troop.

Reeves, the Scoutmaster of our own Troop 63, who has made such a success of this work, and Seyfert, visited these boys on Wednesday night, May 22nd, and on Friday night, May 31st, met the boys again at the Mission and took out the necessary papers to form the troop at Stonehouse Lane. Ten boys turned out and their enthusiasm promises much for this troop.

Just how successful Miss Carmen has been in obtaining the $50.00 we do not know, but we do believe that if the people of our Parish knew of the efforts of those men, women and children to obtain a House of Worship before the winter sets in, the $50.00 from our Parish would be greatly oversubscribed.

Saint Alban's Church, Olney, held a special service, including a Sermon and Procession, for servers and acolytes, which was attended by six members of our Guild.

This is an annual event, coming each year on Corpus Christie Day. Geo. Mull, Henry Norris, Geo. Norris, Henry Barr, John Barr and Ray Reeves were the members of our Servers' Guild who were in the Procession.

✠

Persons wishing to take into their homes soldiers or their families can fill in this blank and send as directed.

Hosts-at-Home Registration Application.

Your name_____
Address _____
Telephone _____
How many enlisted men will you accommodate for any one night?_____
Will you take enlisted men who are accompanied by their wives and children? _____
What evenings of the week, if any, will you not receive enlisted men?_____
How late in the evening will you receive enlisted men for lodging?_____
Will you provide supper for enlisted men guests? _____
How late in the evening?_____
Will you provide breakast?_____
Please state how much you will charge each enlisted man for lodging_____
For supper_____For breakast_____
If you do not wish or need to make a charge for this service to enlisted men, please so state here. A nominal registration fee of Fifty Cents per night, for lodging and meals, will then be collected at the Hosts-at-Home Bureau for each applicant. These fees will be paid to each Host each month. Those who so desire may contribute all or part of such registration fees to the extension of the work of the Hosts-at-Home Bureau, or to any other war work.
As a guide in referring to you enlisted men of like affiliations, please state:
Your church preference_____
Your fraternal order or lodge_____
Your National clubs_____
Your college, class and fraternity_____
From what branch of the service do you prefer to have enlisted men as your overnight guests? Why?_____
_____
Application received through_____
Address _____
Telephone _____
Name of church or organization_____

The information that you give on this form will be held strictly confidential. Please give all the information that is asked for and be sure to give your telephone number. Return this sheet promptly to Alden E. Moore, Chairman, 314 Widener Building, Philadelphia. Its receipt will be promptly acknowledged.

The Ascension News

Vol. XXXII. Philadelphia Oct., 1918 No. 7

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Broad Street, Below South

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Daily ..... 10,00 A M.

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The Church of the Ascension

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2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

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Fridays, Girls' Friendly Society.....8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew.. 8.00 P.M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild.....8.00 P. M.

CHURCH MUSIC

Music has universally been used in the public worship of God. The Old Testament tells us to how great an extent it was used among the Jews. There were large bands of "singing men and singing women." All kinds of instruments of music were employed. Most of the Psalms in the Psalter were written for this purpose, and they call upon all persons to take part in singing the praises of God. And it has been used in the same way in the Christian Church. The Psalms have been chanted, Hymns sung, and the greatest musical composers have arranged most elaborate and artistic settings for the services of the Church. Organs, and wind and stringed instruments, severally or together, have been employed.

This was natural, for music is the highest, most artistic and effective form of vocal expression. It affects the feelings, arouses enthusiasm, gives vent to sentiments, both of sorrow and joy, of pathos and grief, of triumph, exultation and thanksgiving.

It appeals to all kinds of people, they expend large sums of money to be entertained by it. Our Opera Houses and Concert Halls are crowded, and it is used in armies and navies as a means of inspiration and interest. So it has naturally been used in the Church for the same purposes. If one is moved to praise God, he instinctively wants to do it in the most effective way, and if the Church would arouse and inbuence her people, she will employ the most potent means she can command. This accounts for the universal use of music in the services of the Church.

But there has been the question as to what should be the character of the Church's music. Should it always be grave and solemn, or should it be light and catching? Should it be congregational, so that all present can take part in it,

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EDITOR
THE RECTOR

TREASURER
MR. R. HICKMAN YOUNG
1529 South 4th Street

TERMS;

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KALENDAR.

Oct. 4. Friday—Fast.
6. Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.
11. Friday—Fast.
13. Twentieth Sundoy after Trinity.
18. S. Luke's—Fast.
20. Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity.
25. Friday—Fast.
27. Twenty-second Snnday after Trinity.
28. SS. Simon and Jude.

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Record for June, July, August and Sept.

BAPTISMS, Maud Isolene Beebe,
Bert Cornelius Beebe.
Helen Augusta Harper. 3

MARRIAGES, Charles Lanemann and Edith Meddlene.
Morgan M. Harrison and Jane M. Pearson,
John Bolan and Helen Carlland.
Cornelius J. McLaughlin and Permelia Howe. 4

COMMUNICANTS received from Grace Church, Cleveland, Ohio.
Jennie Mae Moreland. 1

DIED, Mrs. Marie Louise Eleanor Black. 1

BURIAL, Mrs. Marie Louise Eleanor Black. 1

✠

OFFERINGS

For June, July, August and September.

For current expenses	$457 88
" the Poor	92.73
" Parochial Activities	26.31
" the Deficit	35 00
" General Missions	511.10
" Diocesan Assessments	.60
" the War Commission	2 00
" the Episcopal Base Hospital	3.00
" Belgian Relief	2.00
" Service Flag	2.00
Of the Sunday School	2 44
	$1,135.06

or such as can only be rendered by artists?

The answer to these questions will be largely determined by circumstances. There are some congregations that can only afford, or appreciate, the simplest kind of music. Others will prefer most elaborate and artistic rendering of the Church's services. Should not each, therefore, have its place and be provided as may be desired?

Might not these general principles be laid down for the guidance of all our congregations?

First, no congregation should expend more than a reasonable—not extravagant—amount of its income for music.

Second, no choir should attempt any music that it cannot render well.

Third, the music should be suited to the character and wishes of the congregation.

Fourth, if there are different classes of people connected with a Church, some services should be musically elaborate and others plainer and more congregational. Would it not be well in most congregations to have one service, on Sundays, the midday service naturally, the most elaborate and artistic that the choir can render well, and the means of the congregation can afford. And later in the day—the afternnon or evening—have a simpler, congregational service, perhaps only the singing of hymns. In this way those preferring an artistic service would attend in the morning, and those who like congregational singing, the second service. Or the different kinds of singing might afford a pleasant variety for all. Of course there would be also a plain celebration of the Holy Communion in the morning without atny music whatever.

In this way the services of the Church would be most effectively presented and its attractions felt by persons of all temperaments and tastes.

It certainly is a mistake to fasten one uniform style of Church music on every congregation, or on each service of the same congregation, or for choirs to force on people a kind of music they do not like, or to attempt what they cannnot well perform.

There are many other questions in regard to Church music we might discuss, such as the relative merits of chanting or singing, of Gregorian or Anglican chants or of musical settings to canticles or services, or of boy choirs and mixed choirs, but if the simple rules we have given are adhered to, these minor questions will settle themselves. The main thing to be considered is how can the worship of God be rendered most adequately and effectively so as to be a real act of adoration and praise, and produce the most solemnizing and elevating influence upon those taking part in it.

✠

CHANGES IN THE PARISH.

As we announced in our last number the Watson legacy has been paid to the Trustees of the Diocese. But owing to war conditions it is impossible for any building to be done at present. We are very glad, however, to be able to announce that the Bishop has determined to take over the parish and use the Church as it tis without waiting for the improvements.

The first steps towards carrying this out were taken at a special meeting of the Vestry held in August. The resignations of four members of the Vestry were presented and accepted, in order that others representing the Diocese at large might be elected in their places. Those who were selected for this purpose were those who are now absent from the city owing to government service, and so unable to discharge their duties as Vestryman in any event. They were Lt. Colonel Coates, who is now in France in charge of a Base Hospital. Mr. William Moore Wharton, who is in Washington engaged in government work, Mr. R. Hinchman Young, who is constantly traveling on the same service, and Mr. Senpcer Erwin, who is in Spain on a government mission.

Those elected in their places were the Hon. Mr. Watson, Mrs. Watson's executor, Mr. Charles Biddle, one of the Trustees of the Diocese, who conducted all the negotiations in connection with the settlement of the legacy, Mr. Eli K. Price and Mr. Wm. Ellis Scull, who have been the prime leaders in the movement looking towards the building of a Cathedral. At the same meeting the steps required for legally changing the name of the Church were directed to be taken. The necessary petitions to the Court will be presented during the month.

Further steps towards carrying out the scheme will probably be taken during the month, and the Bishop expects to make a statement in regard to his plans in the next number of this paper.

In the meantime everything will go on in the parish as usual. But we are very much to be congratulated that the Bishop will take over the parish at once, as this will ensure its entrance upon a new era of prosperity and usefulness, and we are confident that it will prove the wisest and most effective way of gradually working up to the establishment and erection of a real Cathedral.

We tried in our last issue to describe just what a Bishop's Church or Cathedral is, and how this Church can be used as such until an actual Cathedral establishlishment can be perfected and its building be undertaken.

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PARISH NOTES.

The summer, as usual, of late, has been a very quiet one in the parish, too quiet. The two Sunday moring services and on each Holy dayhave been maintained without intermission, but beyond that there has been very little doing. And we grieve to say those services were very poorly attended. Of course many of our parishioners are out of town all summer, but there were others who were in the city, and simply did not attend Church. How people can so entirely neglect their religious duties for months at a time, taking a vacation from them as they would

from a secular business, we cannot understand. Another summer, under the changed conditions which are coming to our parish, we shall hope to see as much going on in the summer, almost, as in the winter.

The only real parochial activities which were carried on, were by the Boy Scouts, of which we give an account below. We are thankful for the good health the parish enjoyed during the heated term. The Clergy have not been called on to visit a single sick person, or officiate at a single funeral since June.

The Sunday School closed June 9th, when the following prizes were awarded, 1st prize, girls, Louisa Fritsch, regular attendance and good behaviour. Boys, Philip Fritsch, Chas. Fritsch. Honorable Mention, Francis Loring, Wm. Seyfert, Wm. deNolle, Chas. Lee, Harry Hansen, Wm. Godfrey. 2nd prize, Watson Mull, regular attendance.

The regular Sunday School Picnic occurred June 15 and passed off pleasantly.

The School re-opened on the fourth Sunday in September. As the first day of June this year was on Sunday, this brought it to about the same time as usual.

We are glad to be able to count on having the same teachers this year as last winter, except Mr. Reeves, who is now in the service at Camp Lee, Virginia. We should be very glad to have some one volunteer to take his place.

A change in the method of Instruction will be adopted this season, the regular series of Diocesan leaflets will be used, in place of the special ones prepared by the Rector which have been used for some years. It is thought that this change may prove interesting to both the teachers and scholars.

Our boys at the front. We have now on our Honor roll twenty-two names of those in the Parish actually in the service. Of these, Lt. Colonel Coates is in France, in charge of a large Base Hospital. Our Rector's son, Henry B. Hodge, is in Washington, as an Assistant Judge Advocate, with the rank of Major. Stanley Atkinson, James Hill and William Whitehurst we know to be on the other side, and we believe most of the others, as well. William Whitehurst is the only one we have heard of as yet being injured. He has been in a hospital suffering from shell shock and gas. But before being injured he boasts of having killed a German Major. John Delaney claims to have taken part in the destruction of an U boat off the Delaware capes. The Rector has received letters from James Hill giving accounts of his work near the front, and from other members of the parish in the camps. He has written to each member of the parish in the service, sending them copies of the special Prayer Book prepared for our soldiers and sailors.

Change of Choir Master. Mr. Alburger, who has been supplying the place of choirmaster since Mr. Ullrich entered the service, has found it incompatible with his business to continue to do so. His place has been filled by the appointment of Mr. Francke C. Morley, once a member of our choir. He comes back to us, therefore, thoroughly familiar with our service, and after years of experience as Organist and Choir Master in such churches as the Epiphany, Pelham, and the Church of the Good Shepherd, Rosemont. We trust he will keep up our music to the high standard which has always distinguished it.

The annual meeting of the Women's Guild will be held as usual on SS. Simon and Jude's day when the reports of the work done during the past year will be read and arrangementts made for the coming winter, but the Annual Year Book will not be issued until after the first of the year, in order that the financial items for the entire year may be inserted, as our financial year now has been made to correspond to the civil year.

We trust our ladies wil not forget to attend this meeting on the 28th, as though we know many of them are much occupied with patriotic work, the ordinary charitable and missionary work of the Church must not be neglected. This call is as imperative as that to help in winning the war.

Change of address. On his return to the city this month, the Rector will remove to an apartment in the Gladstone at 11th and Pine Sts. His daughters having all married, and the son, who lived with him having gone into the service, he no longer needed the house on 13th St. in which he has lived for thirty years and brought up his family of six children.

The Boy Scouts' "Ascension" Camp. The week from July 27th to August 3rd, was a red letter week for our boys and Troop 63, for you must know that was the week of our camp in a pine grove above Florence. We called it Camp "Reeves" this year in honor of our Scoutmaster "Pop" Reeves, who is now acting corporal at the U. S. Camp Lee, Va., and it was indeed the best camp ever.

On Friday, the 26th, our good friend, Mr. Morgan, with Reeves, Seyfert, G. Mull and Scouts H. Barr, McLauglin, Holt, and Bieberbach left the city early to get ready the camp for the big day and by the time "Doc" arrived, with the fellows on Saturday morning, everything was in fine shape, even to preparing mess.

There were twenty-five of us this year including our cook, "Aunt Katy," and Phoebe, and what a good time we did have. Such eats, too, and such eaters! And best of all not one of us was sick nor were there any accidents.

We all went to church on Sunday morning, but then it is useless to tell what we did, for there was something doing all the time. We had our customary watermelon party on Friday night. Indeed, there was aparty of some sort every night exeept Sunday, although the one on Tuesday was a "stormy" one, but what would camp be without one thunderstorm.

What we wish we could do is to thank our kind friends in the Parish for their contributions. We try to raise as much of the money as possible, but as you see it was only because of your generosity, and that of a friend outside the Parish, that we were able to have this one week which means so much to us. We do appreciate your kindness though we cannot tell you how much.

We do not know what will happen until next July, and if we can help Uncle Sam by giving up that one week, we will do so willingly, but we are hoping for the best.

Receipts.

Balance 1917,	$17.17
Minstrel show,	35.00
Spring Sports,	7.85
Contributions,	89.00
Board,	50.50
	$99.52

Expenditures.

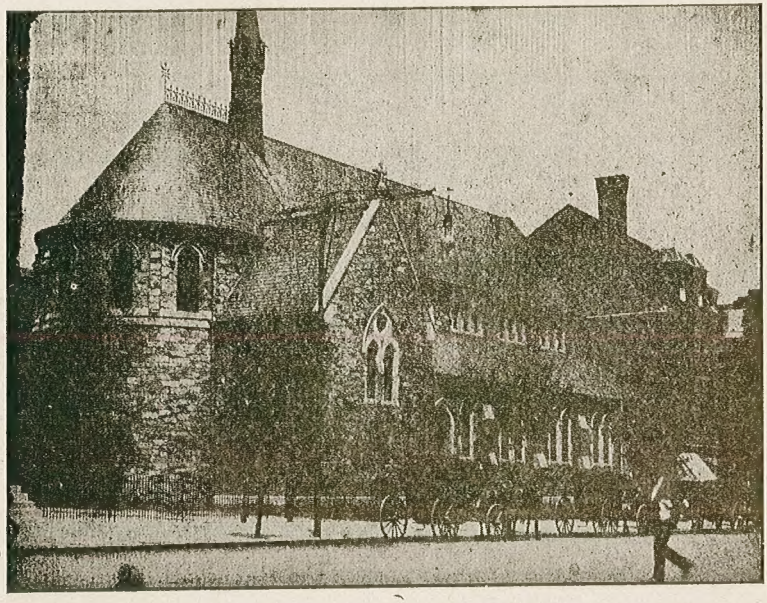
Equipment and Transportation,	$27.55
Rental and Storage,	9.00
Provisions and wages,	151.57
Balance,	11.40
	$199.52

We are afraid the letter of our Acting Scoutmaster, sent out under date of September 23rd to our parishioners and former parishioners may have been mistaken for a circular letter and may not, therefore, have received much attention. In this letter we asked that you make your subscriptions to the Fourth Liberty Loan thru our Troop 63, Boy Scouts of America, whose headquarters are at the Church of the Ascension, for by doing so you will bring glory to our Troop and indirectly also to the Church of the Ascension. We obtained 160 subscriptions for the Third Liberty Loan, but we want to get at least 320 and preferably 500 for this Loan. Won't you help us to do it, by dropping a line to R. B. Seyfert, 303-6 Morris Bldg., a Scout will call at any time and place for your subscription.

Now that all of the Scouts are home again, regular meetings were again resumed on September 16th, with an attendance of twenty-six. We do miss our Scoutmaster Reeves, but Scoutmaster Seyfert of Troop No. 244 is acting Scoutmaster of the troop with the aid of the veteran scouts and we are going to try to make great progress until "Pop" Reeves comes back.

The Ascension News

VOL. XXXII. PHILADELPHIA NOV., 1918. No 8



Church of the Ascension

Broad Street, Below South — All Seats Free

Services

Holy Communion

EVERY SUNDAY.....7.30 and 11.00 A.M.

HOLY DAYS.....7.30 and 10.30 A. M.

Morning Prayer

SUNDAYS .....10.30 A. M.

Daily.....10,00 A M.

Evensong

SUNDAYS (Choral).....4.00 P. M.

DAILY.....5.00 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE CLASS. 3.00 P.M.

All the Seats are Free at all Services. God's House is open to all its Children
The Church is always open for private prayer, and the Clergy can be seen after any service or by appointment.

The Ascension News

The Church of the Ascension

BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH

'Phone, Dickerson 5446

RECTOR

REV. G. WOOLSEY HODGE, D.D.

The Gladstone

CURATE

REV. RICHARD J. MORRIS

CHURCH HOUSE

WARDENS

MILLARD F. ROBERTS

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST

FRANCKE C. MORLEY

SEXTON

WM. J. MORGAN

2022 St. Albans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior . John's Guild ..... 8.00 P. M

Tuesdays, St. Agnes' Guild ..... 4.00 P. M.

Fridays, Girls' Friendly Society ..... 8.00 P. M.

Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew .. 8.00 P.M.

Thursdays, St. John's Guild ..... 8.00 P. M.

OTHER MEETINGS.

Wednesdays, Ladies' Aid ..... 3 00 P. M.

Wednesdays Mothers' Meeting ..... 8.00 P M.

Thursdays. Embroidery Class ..... 10.30 A. M.

First Friday Missionary Society ..... 10 30 A. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.

Superintendent ..... The Curate

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS

Taught by the Rector ..... 3.00 P. M.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Saturdays ..... 10,00 A. M.

LETTER FROM THE BISHOP.

Our hopes for the Diocesan Church seem in a fair way to be realized. Building operations are postponed till the War is over. But the new organization is to be set up and the work begun in the near future.

In the first stages, it will be on a modest and simple scale. The change from the Parish of the Ascension to the Diocesan Church of S. Mary will not be very noticeable. But a real beginning will be made along lines which can be easily developed to meet new openings and opportunities.

From the first our work will be marked by three chief features.

1. It will be in spirit and method entirely *Diocesan.* In theory every communicant of the Diocese is a member of the flock and has a personal part and place in the work. The Church, as far as it can, will serve all Diocesan interests and be at the disposal of the various Diocesan organizations and activities. Diocesan occasions and events will be celebrated and remembered. Diocesan causes will be presented and promoted. Not being anymore a *Parish,* the organization of S. Mary's Church will serve all the Parishes and compete with none. Everything which has a claim upon the Diocese will find a welcome and a home.

2. It will be *missionary.* In our ministry and appeal we shall have in mind those chiefly who are outside of or unattached to any regular organization of the Church. Strangers, visitors, wanderers, the unconvinced, the unconverted: all who will come and let us help them, of all ages and conditions, of all sorts and classes; will find us ready to minister freely to them with the best that we can give them in the name of our Diocese. There will doubtless be many who have for years found their spiritual home at the Ascension. These will be always welcome. But we know we speak for them

in putting the missionary aspect of the work in the very forepart of our plan. In S. Mary's Church the Diocese will always be at home to the community: with an open and free and loving invitation for every soul in need without distinction.

3. It wil be *flexible,* trying to meet as best it may the various needs of the various kinds of people whom we hope will come to us. The *regular* Services on Sundays and on week days will be at such time and of such character as may prove convenient and congenial to different groups of people. Worship, instruction, meetings for prayer and intercession, plain preaching on the simple essentials of religion; we shall try to provide all these week by week. And in addition special services will be arranged from time to time for groups of people, representing special interests or activities, or belonging to organizations or societies which may desire recognition or help on our part.

Much more remains to be said. In subsequent issues of this paper announcements will be made of the progress of our organization and of the immediate plans for the work. Meanwhile, I earnestly ask the prayers of all who have the interests of the plan at heart that God will guide and strengthen us by His Holy Spirit so that all we do may be in accordance with His will and for the glory of His Name.

Philip M. Rhinelander.

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PARISH NOTES.

The Epidemic, which has caused so much suffering and death in the city, has struck our parish as every where else. Only in our last issue we congratulated ourselves that we had had no sickness or death during the summer, that we knew of, and now we cannot enumerate all who have been sick during the last month. Fortunately, so far as we know, there have been only two deaths. One was Harry A. Ritsert, first a choir boy, then an alto voice for several years, and a member of our Sunday School and Young Men's Guild. He was just twenty-five and leaves a wife and young child. The other was Robert Zahn, aged eighteen. He had been a member of the Sunday and Industrial Schools, attending them even after his family had removed to Wissahickon. It seems very strange that these two young men should have been carried off and many others older and less strong should have recovered. May they rest in peace.

Our Rector was in bed five days on account of it, but we are thankful to say is again quite well.

The services in Church—except early Celebrations for a few people, were suspended by the civil authorities for three weeks. The Rector, in company with many other clergymen in the city, did not approve of this. He was, we think, the first one to write a letter to the Ledyer protesting against it. To close Churches, which are sanitary and well ventilated, and allow department stores and trolley cars, in which people are crowded in a foul atmosphere, to be undisturbed, seemed to him an unfair and unwise discrimination. It was as much as to say the Church is an unnecessary thing, whereas it and its services are, above all things in a time of trouble of the most vital importance.

This stoppage of Chuch services and activities for three weeks at the beginning of the winter has, of course, set things back, and it will take some time for us to get into our old routine again. The members of the congregation should remember in making their offerings that for three Sundays they gave nothing at all, and so should give what they would have contributed on those Sundays, the first time they come to the Church again.

The Sunday School resumes its sessions the first Sunday in this month.

Further changes in the Vestry. The Bishop has chosen Messrs. French, Newbold, Roberts and Bori, members of the present Vestry, to remain as representatives of the congregation. All the others have resigned, and in addition to the four elected in August, the following have been elected to represent the Diocese at large, Mr. Sidney Wright, Mr. Benjamin Rush, Mr. John J. Collier, and Mr. Andrew Wheeler. The Vestry, as thtus reconstituted, will meet on the first Thursday of this month with the Bishop to determine important matters connected with the future of the Church.

It is a great grief to us to have the old members of our Vestry, some of whom have been on it for many years, thus retire, but they have all done so most willingly because they believed it was for the best interests of the Church, and it does not mean that they sever their connection with, or give up their interest in, the parish.

The change of the name of the Church will probably be legally affected this month as the petition for it is now before the court. If this is done the next issue of this paper will be entitled St. Mary's News.

The death of Miss Matilda S. Wurts occurred in Washington, D. C., on Oct. 6th. She was one of the oldest and most devoted members of the parish. She became connected with it in 1880, and has been interested in it ever since. Even though for a number of years she has passed her winters in the south, she never failed to keep up her regular contributions for the support of the Church and its charities, to subscribe to this paper, and write from time to time enquiring about it. She also sent the Rector weekly the copy of the Churchman she subscribed to. A true and good servant of God we are sure she has entered into rest.

The annual meeting of the Woman's Guild on S. S. Simon and Jude's day was attended by only a few of our ladies as it was just the day after the ban on all Church meetings had been raised, and many doubtless forgot about it.

Mrs. Thomas Neilson, having been unable to leave her room for more than a year, declined re-election as President, and Mrs. Hodge was unanimously elected in her place.

There are one or two vacancies in the Missionary, Benevolent and other Chapters of the Guild. Who will supply them? Someone is especially needed to take the head of the Mothers' Meeting as Miss Alice Young, who has been its most efficient head for the two last winters, has returned again to Canada. And a Secretary for the Church Periodical Club is required, as Mrs. Samuel Wagner resigned last winter and no one has been found to take her place. We know many of our women are doing war work in various ways, but these regular and most essential branches of Church work should not be neglected.

The Men's Smoker on the third Thursday of this month, we expect to have as usual, though arrangements for it have not been made as yet.

The last issue of this paper was three weeks late in delivery, owing to a break down in the machinery of the printer, the Influenza and to miscarrying of the proof in the mail.

The Honor roll of the parish has been increased this month by Leon Shelton and William Boggs entering the service. We hope to have the service flag, with its twenty-four stars upon it, presented by a lady of the parish, in place this month. It will hang at the entrance to the Chancel, opposite the National flag.

The Rector has received a very interesting letter from James Hill, one of our boys at the front, of which thte following is an extract.

Sept 28, 1918

Dear Dr. Hodge:

I received your most welcome letter which I was glad to read, though I received it during the latter part of August, it was while an attack was on and we were busy, so I have not answered it sooner.

I am well and happy and working every day, which a cook always does.

I am with one of the best French divisions and from Aug. 20 until about two weeks ago they were busy making attacks against the Huns, nine attacks altogether that I counted, and they kept us very busy following them up over ground which they had captured.

Our sleeping quarters were usually in old houses or stables, wherever we could find a roof to keep out some of the rain, the Germans had occupied some of these places a few days before we came to them and such places were in a bad condition.

Our section was kept very busy during night and day driving their cars through shell fire, hauling wounded and gassed patients to the hospitals.

Last Wednesday morning all of the men of our section went to a large field near a neighboring village where the men of the French division were gathered and ceremonies were held during which the General of the division and other officers presented medals, ("Croix de Guerre, "Legion of Honor," and others) to officers, men, and small organizations of the division.

Thirteen of the boys of our section each received the Croix de Guerre for good work which they had done.

I often think of the days gone by at our dear old Church of the Ascension and its congregation, at which place I often long to be.

Bible Class. Miss Maria Gilpin, finding it impossible to continue in charge of the Young Men's Bible Class, the Rector hopes the young men of that class will come to the instructions he has been giving in the Church on Sundays at 3 P. M.

Gifts to the Church. A carved Prie Dieu, with a violet cushion, for the Bishop's seat in the Chancel, an office table a Morris chair, and two wooden chairs for the Parish building.

The Boy Scouts. Our Troop 63 is very proud of itself these days and you will agree that we are rightly so when we tell you that in the Fourth Liberty Loan we got 505 subscriptions for a total of $180,300. This is a pretty good increase, you will admit, when compared with 160 subscriptions for $12,000 in the Third Liberty Loan. We are especially proud because all of this work was done in practically ten days and all those people who tried to obtain subscriptions will agree with us that it is "some" work. The epidemic closed many sources from which subscriptions were gotten hitherto, but that only made us work harder. Some of us made a house-to-house canvass, some helped the Women's Committee of South Philadelphia; some helped at Liberty Loan headquarters and some at our own Troop headquarters. In addition, we toured South Philadelphia on two nights at the request of the Women's Committee of South Philadelphia, singing, and helping them to get their allotment. So you see, we worked individually and collectively, but we feel our efforts were well paid.

Our Troop is now on the map and we have taken steps to keep it there and to make it one of the best in Philadelphia. We thank our many friends in this Parish for the aid and encouragement they gave to us by making their subscriptions to the Loan through our troop. But won't you now take even a greater interest in us and let us know that we have your good wishes by making inquiries about us; by asking us to help you when possible; by visiting us on any Monday evening. We will be mighty glad to see you Our Scoutmaster Reeves is now in France and we know he ,too, will be glad to hear of our Success in the Liberty Loan.

We had a number of hikes during the summer, but those who went on the "over night" to Camp Morrell won't soon forget that one. It was "some" hike.

Our reputation as entertainers, because of our Minstrel Shows, is evidently spreading, for we were asked to assist Troop 125 in an entertainment and musical on September 26, in St. Timothy's Parish House at 8th ad Reed Sts. Scouts Bender, Holt, Simmers, and Biles volunteered, and of course put it over as usual.

Troop No. 244, which meets at the Mission of the Transfiguration down on Stonehouse Lane, is progressing splendidly. The enthusiasm of the fellows is fine and promises much for the future, and their enthusiasm is certainly a big help to the Scoutmaster.

The Girls' Friendly Sociey began its meetings on Friday evening, Oct. 4th at 8 o'clock. There was a service in the church, followed by a business meeting and a social time. We held a preliminary meeting Sept. 9th, at which it was decided to meet Friday evenings instead of Tuesday, and to devote our efforts to sewing for a hospital which is caring for wounded men who have returned from the war.

The G. F. S. of the Diocese is going to contribute an ambulance to be used "over seas", and each Branch is asked to take a share of the expense. In order to do our "best" and to reach a quota of $500, we have decided to obtain this amount by using the "nickel a mile strips". Each member will have these. Will you help to fill them? Each nickel means a mile, how many miles will you drive the ambulance? The cause is so humane and worthy we beg your co-operation. For the benefit of the Society, we will hold a Rummage sale some Tuesday afternoon and evening in December in the Parish and evening, Oct. 15th, in the Parish House. Any articles of wearing apparel or anything at all will be gladly received. Please leave them with Mr. Morgan.

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NOTICE.

The Bishop of the Diocese will preach at the morning service on Thanksgiving day. This will be his first official act in the Church in its new relation to him.